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Nunda News, Thr 2/16/1956

Woman Says, by M.C.F.

"... Also at the canal meeting were two Barrons—Jonathan and Quartus H, father and son.

Jonathan Barron—who went by two titles, sometimes "Captain" and sometimes "Squire"—like Walter Whitcomb, was a Vermonter, coming here by ox team in 1824 to settle on the Creek road in the town of Mt. Morris, later purchasing a large farm on the same road in the town of Nunda. In 1837 he moved to the village and bought a new house in Church street built by the aforementioned B. P. Richmond and afterwards owned by Peter DePuy. Later called "Dormer Cottage," it was moved to East street where it is now the home of Ivan Warren and family. Moses Barron, who may have been the first schoolmaster in all of present Nunda—but certainly was one of the first—also was Jonathan Barron's son.

Quartus H. Barron, born in May 1810, came to Nunda in 1824 with his father and lived several years on the Creek road farm now owned by W.M. Blair, later engaging in the mercantile business in the village, where he built the cobblestone house owned by Fred Short in East street, and the Bonadonna store at the corner of State and East streets. He was a trustee of the Baptist church and played the bass viol in the old meeting house which had no pipe organ.

In 1835 he married Sylvia Ashley, daughter of Judge Daniel Ashley, another of Nunda's very early settlers, who built the house in East street—Mrs. Sarah Hinkley's—where Quartus Barron died in 1890. Mrs Barron commented that "the wing was added to the house especially for us by my father" when they returned here from Fox Lake, Wis., in 1885 to live with and care for his sister, Mrs. George Gilbert.

The Barrons had gone to Wisconsin in 1844. He was twice elected to the legislature in that state and held several other influential offices. ...

However, a pattern begins to emerge of sturdy, reliable New Englanders who became the leading citizens here. Their influence cannot be over-estimated, writes one historian adding, 'They formed for their day and generation a strong and united force in fostering a high type of life in this community.'

There are several descendants of Johnathan Barron now living in the area—Miss Cora Dowling, Mrs. D.F. Paine, Mrs. Merrick McMaster, Mrs. Walter Stamp and others—but we know of no one who is descended from Quartus Barron or any of the Whitcombs."

Nunda News - 9/20/1973

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Photo with caption: "... Link residence at 45 East street, shown in the photo, and the Beardsley residence at Oakland. ... The Link house was built by Quartus Barron about 1839 and the Beardsley house by Elias Fitch at about the same time. ..."