Bethinking of Old Orleans

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By C.W. Lattin, Orleans County Historian

Dr. Edward Whittier, 1866 - 1942

Dr. Edward Whittier was bom Feb. 14, 1866, in Kendall. He took his early education in the common schools and earned his medical degree from the University of Buffalo Medical School in 1889.

He and Dr. William O. Burbank, a physician in Gaines for many years, were in the same graduating class at U.B.

Dr. Whittier began his career in Kent and spent 17 years there. He also spent 3 years as a physician in LeRoy. In February 1909, he opened an office in his residence at 17 West Bank St., Albion, at the northeast comer of West Bank and Liberty streets. The house was torn down more than 50 years ago to accommodate George Grimes' gasoline station; that has since been removed for the present HSBC parking lot.

At the time of his death, Dr. Whittier had practiced medicine in Albion for over 33 years. He was one of the oldest doctors in Orleans County, having been in practice for over 53 years.

Dr. Whittier was the son of Hial T. and Sarah Ann Thomas Whittier, who had eight children. In September 1891, he married Clara Bell Reed of Kent, to whom seven chidren were born. She died in January 1934. Two years later, Dr.



Whitter married Mrs. Fannie Boswell of Chicago. Upon his death he left two daughters, Mrs. Pearl Gregg and Mrs. Mabel Ann Thompson; four sons, Edward, Lovell, Charles and John; and three sisters, Minnie Price, Laura Waldron and Mattie Haight.

Dr. Whittier was a member of the Alpha Omega Delta Fraternity of U.B. and the Orleans County Medical Association. He was a past exalted ruler of the Albion Lodge of Elks, a member of Renovation Lodge No. 97 and a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Albion.