

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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By C. W. Lattin, Orleans County Historian

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Charles A. Gorman 1853-1906

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Charles Gorman was born at Great Bend, Susquehanna County, Pa., in October 1853. At the age of 15 he left his family farm and moved to Shelby Basin, Orleans County, where he took a job working in a stone quarry. Here he remained for 10 years, advancing himself not only in his trade and business but also in education.

He became foreman of a quarry and succeeded in obtaining a two-year course at St. Joseph's College in Buffalo.

During this course he made a number of business contacts selling and buying Medina sandstone in Buffalo. By the early age of 28 Mr. Gorman had

become the owner of a sandstone quarry. In due course of time he acquired or operated other quarries, including two in Albion. At the time of his death in 1906 he was considered one of the leading quarrymen in Orleans County. As a contractor he also gained a fine reputation both far and near. He provided and supervised the laying of over seven miles of paved streets in Cleveland, Ohio. All of this was Medina sandstone shipped either on the Erie Canal or New York Central.



Gorman

Charles Gorman was a civic-minded man who was involved in various activities. He served on the board of directors of the Medina Loan Association for 18 years prior to his death. The Gorman Hose Co. of Medina was named in his honor. He was active in St. Mary's R. C. Church, the C. M. B. A. and the Knights of Columbus. Active in Democratic party politics, he was once nominated for the NYS Assembly and received a large vote showing his popularity.

In 1883 he married Margaret Kearney of Medina who died in 1893 leaving Charles with two sons and two daughters.