

Evert Brown Dyckman: BIRTH 25 Sep 1799 Greenbush, Schoharie County, New York
DEATH 4 Oct 1881 (aged 82) Kalamazoo County, Michigan
BURIAL Schoolcraft Township Cemetery, Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County, Michigan
Findagrave MEMORIAL ID 45863116

Evert B. Dyckman was born in Greenbush, N.Y., September 25, 1799. When a child his parents moved to Onondaga County, N.Y., where he grew to manhood, enjoying only limited means of education. When twenty years of age he purchased one hundred acres of timber land, upon which he built a rude house to accommodate himself and his father and mother, who lived with him. During the first three years the land, which had been purchased entirely on credit, was paid for, the family supported, and some comforts secured. At this time Mr. Dyckman was married to Harriet Hinckley, of Liverpool, N. Y. Soon after this the Oswego canal was located through his land. This furnished an opportunity for his genius and enterprise. He assisted in the construction of the canal, and upon its completion established a boatyard, and was engaged in boating for several years, and also carried on an extensive coopering business.

He was, at the same time, engaged in the mercantile business, which was successfully conducted. In 1836 he fell in with the tide of emigration then settling west; came to Detroit, purchased a pony, and rode through the state, looking for a desirable location for future operations. In 1838 he closed up his business in New York, and, with his family moved to Paw Paw, Van Buren County, where he purchased one thousand acres of land.

While he resided in New York his wife had died, leaving seven children. Six of these, with his father and mother, two nephews and two nieces, made a family of thirteen, which he brought to Van Buren County, a very respectable addition to a frontier neighborhood. Mr. Dyckman changed his residence to Schoolcraft in 1841, where he resided until his death. His business interests have been scattered throughout several counties in the state. He had important interests in Van Buren County. At Paw Paw he built a grist mill and store and the Dyckman House. In 1853 he made an important purchase at South Haven of some six hundred acres of land, which includes what is now the principal portion of the village. He erected a steam saw mill, a store, and several houses; improved the river, built a pier, etc. He was interested in timber lands and a mill at Pine Grove.

At Schoolcraft he was interested in the firm of M. N. Duncan & Company in distilling high wines, in the firm of I. W. Pursel & Company in milling and buying and selling produce and merchandise, and also in other manufacturing. He was interested in the banking firm of M. R. Cobb & Company from 1867 until the First National Bank was organized; he was president of this bank during the five years it was doing business and president of the private bank of E. B. Dyckman & Company from the time it was organized until his death in 1881.

He was active in politics and interested in the affairs of the county; was elected representative from this county and voted for the removal of the capital from Detroit to Lansing. He was very active in promoting railroads and other improvements, spending much time and money in getting the railroad from Three Rivers to Kalamazoo established. When the village of Schoolcraft was first incorporated in 1866, Mr. Dyckman was elected as the first president.

Compendium of history and biography of Kalamazoo County, Mich. / David Fisher and Frank Little, editors. P. 517

The Late Judge Dyckman—Sketch of Busy Life.

Evert B. Dyckman, was born September 25, 1799, at Greenbush, Rensselaer county, state of New York, where he resided until 1838, and after arriving at his majority was engaged in clearing up a new farm, dealing in wood and lumber, and also contracting to build portions of the Oswego canal, all of which employments he prosecuted successfully. He removed to Michigan and settled on a farm in the township of Antwerp, Van Buren county in October, 1838.

In 1841 he located at Schoolcraft, where he has ever since resided, highly esteemed for the untiring energy he has displayed in the many pioneering enterprises he has been engaged in; Pine Grove, Paw Paw, Watervliet and South Haven owe very much of their growth and present prosperity to his mill building and other improvements prosecuted by him at a time when more timid men would have shrunk from the undertaking; he was more confident of the future wants of the country and was willing to undertake to provide for them in advance; and he was very successful in nearly everything he undertook.

He has also been engaged in a number of business enterprises at Schoolcraft, was one of the firm of M. N. Duncan & Co., M. R. Cobb & Co., and I. W. Purse & Co., engaged in merchandizing, distilling highwines, milling and in the buying and selling produce; the building of the railroads from White Pigeon and South Haven to this place was brought about as much through his untiring energy and pecuniary aid as that of any other man. Judge D. was one of the largest stockholders of the First National bank started at Schoolcraft, which was finally abandoned as a National bank, and is now known as the E. B. Dyckman & Co.'s bank, and which now enjoys and deservedly so, the entire confidence of its patrons.

He took a lively interest in the affairs of the country, was an active politician but not an office-seeker; he held the office of associate judge in Van Buren county, and was a member of the legislature from this county, and voted for the removal of the state' capital from Detroit to Lansing.

Judge Dyckman has had four wives. He had six children by his first wife, five of whom survive him; his second wife had two children when he married her— both survive him; his third wife, widow of the late Lyman I. Daniels, had two children when he married her, and one by him, two of whom who survive him; by the present Mrs. Dyckman he had one son, the late C. C. Dyckman, a very promising young man, one who was universally beloved by all who knew him, and whose death was one of the severest trials to both the judge and Mrs. Dyckman that they had ever been called on to bear.

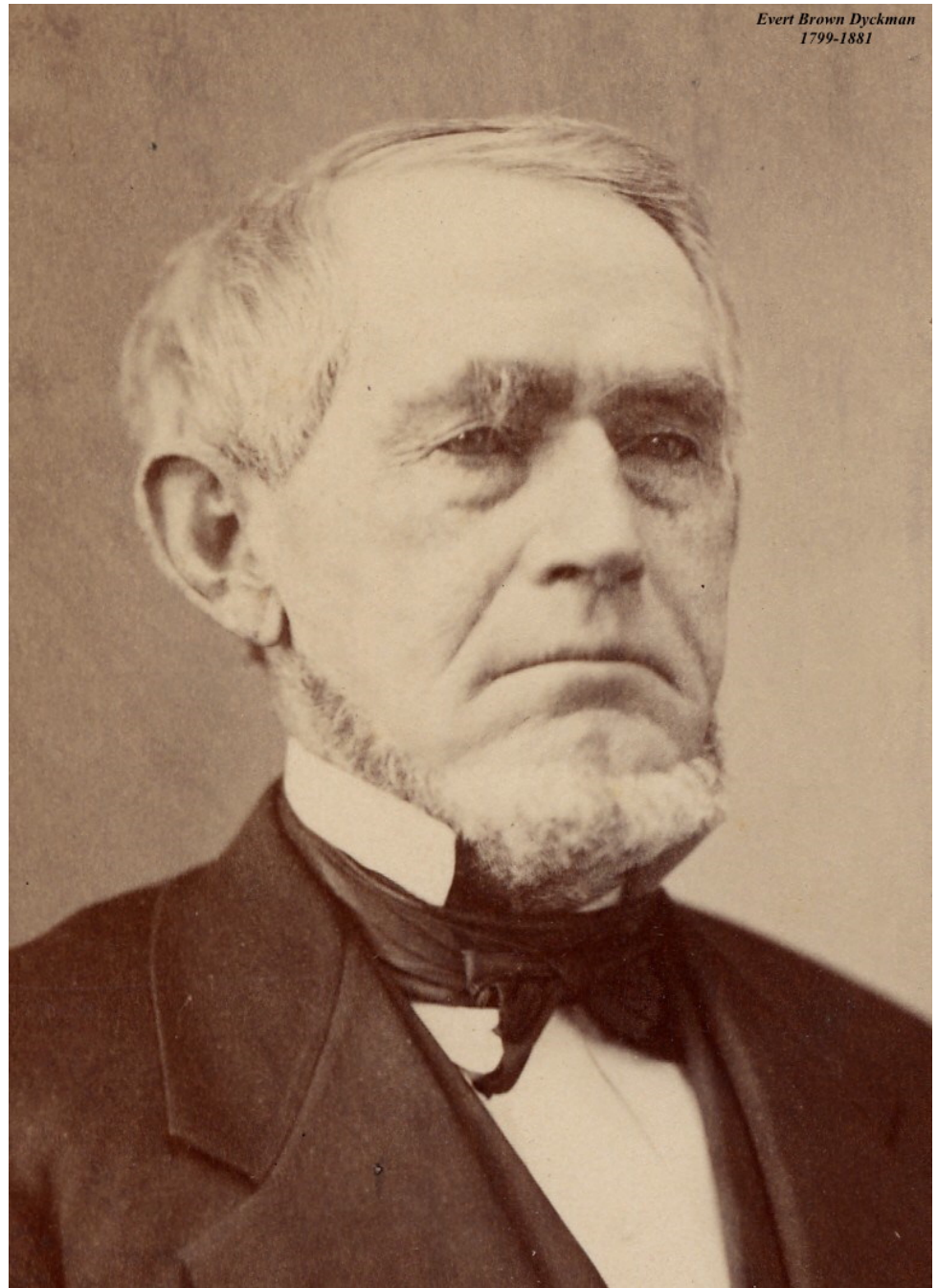
The judge possessed some noble qualities, particularly in the management of his large family; he was a devoted husband, a kind and affectionate father.

His son, A. S. Dyckman, and all his daughters, now all married, are a family of whom he felt justly proud, as they are one and all an honor to their parents, their families and their country. He was also very kind and considerate to all in his employ; his table was always large enough to have the hired man and girls take their meals with the family. He was also a great lover of the animal creation, and all owned by him had the best of care, particularly the old faithful horse when passed service. He was a good neighbor, and was frequently called on to settle difficulties between neighbors and his decisions were seldom if ever appealed from; he was of good moral character, and was always through his long life strictly a pattern temperance man, using neither ardent spirits or tobacco; he was one of Schoolcraft's main supports, and in his loss they must realize that they have lost their best friend and counsellor.

Kalamazoo Daily Telegraph
October 5, 1881 page 2

Evert was married four times and had 10 children.

Findagrave 45863116 has links to his parents, brother, sister, four wives and 8 children



Tavern" was known far and wide, it being one of the principal stopping places along the whole line of that famous thoroughfare, which is known to this day as the "Territorial road." This tavern was a board shanty containing four rooms and measured about sixteen by twenty-four feet. It was enlarged in 1835 and rebuilt in 1836. Travel by stage along the route was very brisk. It is said that sometimes Dodge had as many as a hundred people to entertain and Mrs. Dodge did the cooking for all of them. The tavern stood on what is now the south side of Main street and was nearly hidden by trees. Indeed, trees were so abundant in Paw Paw, that even after the village was platted travelers often passed through it without knowing there was any village there, and frequently inquired at the tavern for the location of the town.

During Dodge's career as a landlord, Dr. Warner opened another public house in the village, but it had only a brief existence. James Crane put up the Exchange Hotel on the site of the present Dyckman House, which latter was built by Judge E. B. Dyckman and John Smolk, after the destruction of the Exchange by a disastrous conflagration that burned a number of the business places of the village.

Judge Evart Brown Dyckman, from whom the hotel, the principal public house in the village, takes its name, who was of the old Knickerbocker stock, was born on the 25th day of September, 1799. He assisted in the construction of the Erie canal, and when that work was completed he established a boat yard and carried on the business of boating and an extensive coopering establishment for a number of years. He came to Detroit in 1836, where he purchased a pony and rode across the state on the Territorial road to St. Joseph. Receiving discouraging reports of the country beyond the lake, he concluded to settle in Michigan, buying about a thousand acres of land in Van Buren county. His wife died in 1838, and the following autumn, with his seven children, his father and mother, two nephews and two nieces, he settled on lands near Paw Paw, where he began farming operations. He was elected an associate judge of the circuit court in 1841. He married his second wife in 1839, who lived less than a year. In 1841 he was again married, and changed his residence to Schoolcraft, in the county of Kalamazoo, where he died at a ripe old age. Judge Dyckman was the grandfather of Evert S. Dyckman, who was the first mayor of the city of South Haven and who is one of the leading citizens of that prosperous "City by the Lake."

Another improvement that Mr. Gremps desired to have was a store, and so he procured the services of Williamson Mason, a young man from Wayne county, New York, who had been working in