

TERESA HALLORAN

SABINA QUINN AND JAMES GARRY

I do not know the Irish counties nor the parishes they came from. They came over, I believe, around 1842. Sabina died when she was 95; I was in nurses' training at the time, January 1916. James had died in 1895.

When they came, they landed in Canada. On the way over, they lost their only child, Catherine, who was buried at sea. Because of the English and Protestant atmosphere of Canada, they left and moved to Brookfield in Essex County, New York. There they lived on a 40-acre plot. James was a stonemason by trade and Sabina a housewife and marketer. She churned butter, made cheese, dried apples and peaches and took them to market. They marketed at Birmingham, which they had to reach by boat on Lake Champlain. My mother, Hannah Garry Ryan, recalled those trips as something and exciting.

John, Hanna, Julie and Frank were born in New York. Sabina, Mary and Tom were born in Minnesota. It was very much against James Garry's inclination that they moved to Minnesota. They moved because of the persistent urging of Mrs. Patrick Hyland, Sabina Garry's sister. Shortly after arriving in St. Paul, James Garry went scouting for a place to locate. While he was searching, he came upon an Indian settlement where he witnessed a white man being scalped. He immediately returned to St. Paul intending to go on back to New York. However, at the same time the banks closed and they were penniless.

Unable to return to New York, they pre-empted a piece of land 30 or 40 miles from St. Paul on Cedar Lake. After they had settled there for a time John and Hannah were sent to St. Paul to attend school. John attended Jefferson School and worked for Governor Ramsey. Hannah went to Jefferson the first year and then transferred to St. Joseph Academy. Hannah helped Mary Teresa Higgins, who delivered laundry to the Merchants' Hotel. Mary Teresa later became the wife of J.J. Hill, the "Empire Builder."

The education in St. Paul was terminated by the death of John, who died suddenly and unexpectedly in St. Paul. Governor Ramsey rode to Cedar Lake on horseback to relay the news of John's death to the Garry family.

Sabina Garry (Sister Stanislaus) was sent to New Ulm to attend school. From there she entered the Visitation Order in St. Paul. Bishop Grace was instrumental in her pursuing her vocation.

"I think this is correct information. I have only the words of my mother, Hannah Garry."

MOTHER OF THE YEAR

“MOTHER OF THE YEAR,” that is truly what Mrs. Walter Halloran has been for a long time. It’s not how many social affairs she belongs to, but what a mother she has been to her family and friends. She has raised her large family well. After they left to make their own homes, she opened her home and heart to a few handicapped children. Her good works were soon known and she had to make room for more.

She is very devoted to them, administering to their call no matter how tired she may be. She has to see that they are fed, clothed and have a clean, comfortable home. She tenderly wraps their sores that may never heal and gives them medicine to ease their pain. She also takes care of a staff of ladies working for her with motherly interest. Someday she will be rewarded for her good works, when our Lord will say, “Well done, my true and faithful servant,” and there homeless children will come and lay their heads on her lap and say, “Thank you, Mother.” For truly she is a mother who cares.

By Helen Kolander

(This tribute was written by Helen Kolander, a friend and worker with Mrs. Halloran at the Julie Billiard Home. In the 70’s Helen wanted to nominate Teresa for the annual “Mother of the Year.” Teresa would not let her do it. This tribute was shared at the time of Teresa Halloran’s death, February 13, 1990.)