



Obituary of Edward Kirk Warren 1847-1919

The Acorn, Three Oaks, Michigan
Courtesy, Three Oaks Library

BIOGRAPHY.

Boyhood.

Edward Kirk Warren was born at Ludlow, Vermont, on April 7th, 1847. He was the son of Rev. Waters and Caroline Parsons Warren and was the youngest of four sons, the others being Charles Henry, Frederick Parsons and Albert L.

The father was a Congregational minister and when Edward was six years of age the family moved to East Berkshire in the northernmost portion of Vermont whither he was called as pastor.

Waters Warren was a man of rugged honesty and stern ideals and at an early age espoused the cause of the Negro slaves. He was so forceful and unyielding against slavery that he, like many another man of that day, found himself misunderstood by many and somewhat isolated.

Finally determining to seek a home for himself and his sons in the new West he offered himself as a Home Missionary pastor and in 1858 started for the pastorate to which he had been assigned at Three Oaks, Michigan.

The family made the journey from East Berkshire to Troy, N. Y. by horse and wagon; from there the father and one of the older sons drove all the way through while the rest of the family continued to Buffalo by train; thence by boat to Detroit and again by train over the newly constructed Michigan Central Railroad (then having its western terminal at New Buffalo) to Three Oaks.

For a number of years the family lived in a log cabin which stood on what is now the J. B. Crosby place about half a mile south of the center of this village. There the family lived the life of hardship and privation known only to those sturdy souls who have faced a wilderness and by almost superhuman endeavor wrought out for themselves a home.

An event of much importance to the boy, Edward, and to which he frequently referred in later life, was the entertaining of the new minister's family at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chamberlain on Thanksgiving day following their arrival here. There Edward became better acquainted with the man with whom he was later to be closely associated for fifty years and there for the first time he saw the baby girl, Mary

Louise, who was later to be his wife.

In the spring following the coming to Three Oaks the older brother, Charles Henry, died.

Edward attended school in the log school house and considering that he had to leave school before he was sixteen he must have applied himself diligently to the absorbing of all that was offered him there—primitive though it must of necessity have been, for it enabled him to lay the foundation upon which he built for himself a practical and workable knowledge of life and men and affairs which has been alike the admiration and envy of all who have known him in his mature years.

Besides attendance upon school whenever that was possible, Edward worked early and late at whatever offered—and in those days of wresting a home and a scanty living from a wilderness of timber there was no need of looking afar for something to do. The first work for which he received pay was in the sawmill then operated by Pomeroy and Bird and later known as the Olmstead mill, where he was given a job at piling scantlings at the rate of fifty cents per day. An accident which nearly resulted in his death upon a circular saw cut short his career in this direction.

Young Manhood.

Despite the fact that there were no young men of his age there Edward continued to attend Church and Sunday School regularly—perhaps because he thought that as the son of the minister he must, but he felt lonely and found it irksome. He has often told, in his humorous manner, of the Young Men's Class to which he then belonged and which was composed of "four other young ladies and myself."

At this critical time in his life there came to the rescue the large heart and keen perception of the Superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. William Chamberlain. He saw the situation and promptly made the young man LIBRARIAN—gave him full and complete custody of the School's library which at that time numbered seven volumes; but it gave him something to do and helped to carry him over a restless period and perhaps even saved him for the big things which he later did for and through the Sunday School.

On January 24th, 1864, Edward who was then not quite seventeen,

began his business career as the junior clerk or apprentice in the general store owned and operated by Mr. Henry Chamberlain. How often he has told of the thrill that was his when Mr. Chamberlain sought him out and offered that coveted position! The senior clerk in this store was Mr. James L. McKie and here began another friendship which brought with it later many years of close business association and ripened into a mutual regard and affection which has outlived death.

As the junior clerk it was Edward's duty to do the sweeping out and general cleaning up. Also, he had to sleep in the store and for a number of years knew no bed other than a bare counter. But it all spelled discipline and later in life, secure in the possession of a well rounded and completely mastered character, he used to dwell with fond enjoyment on the experiences of these days.

Later in the same year (1864) Mr. William Chamberlain and Mr. McKie became partners of Mr. Henry Chamberlain in this store and Edward continued with them as clerk. This arrangement ran on for some four years when he joined with Mr. McKie in a partnership and, having purchased the stock of general merchandise of Horace R. Pike, they began business as McKie & Warren in the building one door north of the old Chamberlain store.

By this time Waters Warren had retired from active preaching and with his wife lived for a time in the clearing that is now the Riverside cemetery. Later they moved to a frame house which stood until a few years ago on the southwest corner at "Drew's Corners" and still later moved back to the village. Despite hard work and confining hours this young man ever found time to care for and visit his parents. At one time when the condition of the roads would permit he made the trip on a vehicle which was the forerunner of the modern bicycle. It had two wooden wheels of the same size and was propelled by pedals placed on the front wheel. It offered slow and uncertain progress at best. This particular "velocipede" was built by Mr. George Black of Buchanan (brother of Mrs. James L. McKie) and was brought to Three Oaks by him for use in a Fourth of July celebration in 1868 or 9.



Henry Chamberlain Edward K. Warren James I. McKie
In 1864

Manhood.

On November 3, 1867 Mr. Warren was married to Sarah E. Stevens of Three Oaks, and they commenced housekeeping in the rooms above the store and with furniture largely fashioned by him from dry goods boxes, but even at that time this unusual young man had discovered that which he never forgot: that happiness consists in having something vastly deeper than the mere possession of things or wealth, in fact one of the Scriptural passages which he most frequently quoted and which was a part of his whole long and honorable life was—"for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are unseen are eternal."

However, the young couple were happy and a modest prosperity gradually permitted of the enjoyment of some of the few comforts of those days and to them came two children—Charles K., born July 17, 1871, and Edna M., now Mrs. George A. Lackey of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., on June 7, 1873.

The business partnership of McKie & Warren lasted until 1879 when Mr. Warren severed his connection and, purchasing the business of Mr. Henry Chamberlain, returned to the building in which he had begun his business life as a clerk and for the three succeeding years conducted a business there as E. K. Warren.

On January 3, 1879 Mrs. Warren died, leaving the two children, and on February 17, 1880 Mr. Warren was married to Miss Mary Louise Chamberlain, the oldest daughter of

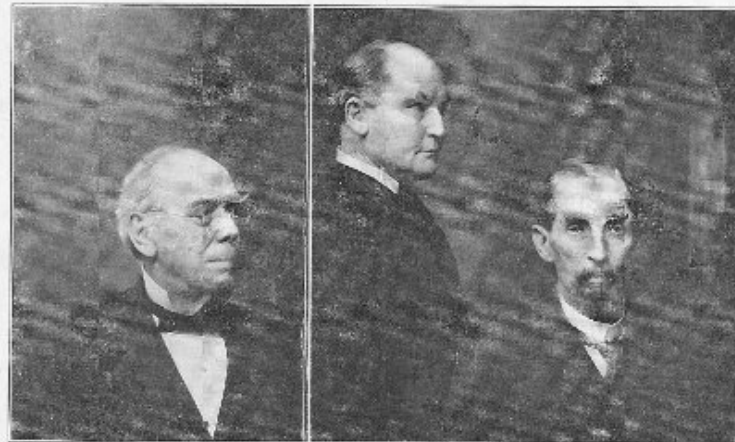
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chamberlain. To them three children were born: Paul Chamberlain on January 24, 1883, Lydia, now Mrs. Frederic W. Chamberlain on July 26th, 1885 and Frederic Parsons on May 16, 1887.

In 1882 an idea which had been slowly germinating in Mr. Warren's brain for some years took shape: In his retail experiences he had been frequently confronted with a customer's complaint that a piece of whalebone purchased from him had dried out and splintered or had not held up and he often considered what might be substituted for whalebone as an elastic stiffening or dress stay. On his trip to Chicago to buy goods he frequently visited the Chicago Feather Duster Company and there

he would often see large piles of turkey wing pointers being burned and upon inquiry was told that there was no use for them as they had insufficient plumage for duster purposes. Therefore in his busy brain stuck two facts—an elastic material needed and an elastic material going to waste—and one day the two facts became one in an idea which produced Featherbone.

There followed a year of experimenting and in 1883 Mr. Warren organized the Warren Featherbone Co. He sold his store interests to a partnership consisting of himself, Mr. William Chamberlain and Mr. J. H. Hatfield and for some years this concern continued in business as Chamberlain, Warren and Hatfield, but with the organization of the Warren Featherbone Co. Mr. Warren ceased his mercantile life.

The following ten years were spent in developing the business and its processes and finding a market for the new product. There were almost insurmountable difficulties to be met—lack of capital, no previous manufacturing experience and all the many problems confronting any new business which must work its way through an experimental stage. However, indomitable will and an unwavering confidence in the ultimate success of the idea won out and at the end of the ten year period a product was being made which was acceptable to the trade and some accounts established with a few of the stronger wholesale houses which gave new heart and practical assurance that success had been attained.



After Forty Years (1904)

From that day there has been a steady development and with the hearty co-operation of his son, Charles K., who has been the active manager of the business for twenty years, Mr. Warren has had the satisfaction of seeing the idea of 1882 grow into the large and firmly established business of today.

In 1886 Mr Warren bought from Mr. Henry Chamberlain a part of the latter's farm lands lying east of Three Oaks and known as Oak Meadow Farm. During the early years of his ownership of this land he was so badly handicapped for funds that he could not accomplish with it what he hoped to and it became a heavy burden for him to carry.

In 1891 Charles Warren, then a young man of 20 went onto the farm as resident manager and by the time he left it in 1895 to take a position with the Warren Featherbone Company he had succeeded by his own effort and ability, coupled with Mr. Warren's advice and counsel, in putting the lands into a good state of production.

Mr. Warren was always a great believer in the wisdom of real estate investments and from time to time made large purchases of agricultural lands. He was always progressive: he believed in the farmer and his opportunities and was ever ready to try out any idea which spelled advance, either from the standpoint of production or that of better living conditions and opportunities for the farmer and his family.

While never active in the actual management of a farm, he possessed a broad knowledge of general agriculture and had in this, as in other fields, an unusual foresight—he could plan for the future and plan well—and his counsel when coupled with energetic and sane management always produced results.

This farming venture grew and gradually more and more land was added until for the past eight or ten years these farms, operated as a partnership with his son, Charles, amount to some two thousand acres of highly fertile and productive farm lands under the management of Mr. E. L. Kelley who came to Mr. Warren about twenty years ago from Massachusetts where he was manager of

the Mt. Hermon farms at Northfield. Under his management Mr. Kelly has seen this enterprise expand from a few hundred acres to its present size; growing a wide diversity of crops and the home of two fine herds of pure bred cattle, one of Herefords and one of Holsteins.

Mr. Warren never lost his interest or his contact with his farms and one of his chief delights during all of his later years was to drive over them and see what was "going on"—riding on a tractor or watching some new piece of farm machinery at work, asking questions or giving advice..

checks that have been readily accepted during the past few years of turbulence in that unhappy country.

Mr Warren always took great pleasure and comfort in the reputation which this institution enjoyed and because he always guarded his credit jealously, meeting all his obligations when due—borrowing the funds needed when he had to, but always caring for all debts in some manner and on time—his personal credit and that of the various enterprises with which he was connected enjoyed a sound and enviable rating everywhere.



Street scene in the sixties. The second building from right was first occupied by McKie & Warren and beyond it is the old Chamberlain store. The horse in the foreground is the black mare "Fannie," driven through from Vermont by Rev. Waters Warren.

In 1902 Mr. Warren, together with Mr. Alec Watson and Chas. K. Warren, organized the banking firm of E. K. Warren and Co. which has conducted along conservative lines the business of a country bank and which has steadily grown in the volume of business done. This partnership has continued to the present, Mr. Watson being the only person not of Mr. Warren's immediate family to be thus connected in his enterprises. The bank has been the natural medium of exchange and clearance in many of the affairs of the Warren Featherbone Company and it is doubtful whether any similar bank in the country is so widely and favorably known, its checks finding their way to every part of this country and to Mexico as well, in fact in a certain section of northern Mexico it is said that the checks of E. K. Warren & Sons drawn on this bank are the only

In this connection it is perhaps fitting to quote from two letters, one from Mr. H. H. Hitchcock, Vice President of the First National Bank of Chicago who knew Mr. Warren intimately for many years and the other from Mr. James L. Parsons, Assistant Cashier of the Chemical National Bank of New York with which institution Mr. Warren had a business relation covering a long period.

Mr. Hitchcock wrote—"I knew Mr. Warren when he first started out in his featherbone business and have watched his progress with a great deal of satisfaction. I remember well the days, long ago, when he was not as strong financially as he might have been and am glad his career ended so successfully. His integrity and honor were never questioned, and as events have shown, his judgement was excellent."

Mr. Parsons wrote—"It is not only on account of the par-

ticularly satisfactory and cordial business association which has existed between us that we feel the termination of this close relationship, but the consciousness that a life of such wide influence, Christian character and great usefulness in the world has come to a close."

In 1903 Mr. Warren purchased a large tract of grazing land in the so-called Panhandle country of north-western Texas. This was stocked with a cow herd of beef grade cattle and in the course of a few years a very fine grade herd was built up. In 1905 another purchase was made of land adjoining the first ranch and the enterprise assumed larger proportions.

In 1909 a big land settling movement swept that portion of Texas and land values became too high for grazing purposes and a sale of a portion of this property was effected to a large land company. Subsequent years have been such that considerable of this land is unsold and Mr. Warren has been operating a portion of it.

That same year a large ranch property was purchased in the northern part of the state of Chihuahua in old Mexico and the cow herd and the main ranching operations were moved there. The following year an adjoining property was bought and in 1913 he bought what is known as the Alamo Hueco ranch in New Mexico. This is located on the international border and lies some twenty five or thirty miles directly north of his Mexican properties.

For some years past these properties have been operated under a partnership with his son, Charles K. Warren, and here again high ideals and straight forward business dealings have brought his name into high standing among men and banks engaged in the cattle industry.

Despite the fact that Mr. Warren terminated his active life as a merchant when he took up the development of featherbone, he never ceased to think in terms of the merchant and missed the personal contact with people which that occupation gives. He always felt that no other experience could give a man such broad knowledge of men and affairs. For some years he saw that the application of the broader idea of the department store could be successfully

applied to general merchandizing in a country town.

In 1909 he determined to try the experiment and having first invited his old associate, Mr. McKie, to join in the enterprise, he founded the partnership of Charles K. Warren & Co. and there has been built up a business of quality and extent almost unparalleled in the experience of country merchandizing.



Office of the Warren Featherbone Co. Built in 1905 on the site of the store in which Mr. Warren began his business life in 1864.

As a Citizen.

As a citizen Mr. Warren was ever on the alert to meet any obligations or perform any duties which devolved upon him or upon his leadership. He was in no sense a seeker after public office—in fact he never con-

sent to accept public office if another candidate of the necessary qualifications was available—and only accepted an office when he felt that in so doing he was clearly serving the best interests of the community.

In his earlier life he filled various township offices—those of clerk, treasurer and one or more terms as supervisor.

He labored consistently for fair and efficient administration of village and township affairs and at an early age threw his whole influence on the side of civic righteousness and a clean and morally safe community.

He saw the demoralizing influence of the liquor traffic as only those who have encountered it in a new and undeveloped country can know it and as a very young man set himself to the unpopular task of combating the saloon.

His position as clerk and store-keeper brought him into close contact and acquaintance with every person for miles about and he was a natural maker of friends but his stand on the liquor question brought him many personal enemies as well as much abuse and humiliation. On at least one occasion an attempt was made upon his life as a result of his outspoken attitude and his business interests naturally suffered to some extent.



M. C. R. R. Station—from Dewey Park. The Dewey Cannon in the foreground.

Despite discouragements he persisted in what he believed to be the right and continued the fight for a saloonless town and in 1896 he headed a campaign to vote out the one remaining saloon at the spring election. The force of the attack was launched against the argument, so long a favorite with the supporters of the liquor traffic, that unreasonably high taxes would result if the the license money from saloons was cut off from the village treasury.

To oppose this argument Mr. Warren offered, in behalf of the Warren Featherbone Company, to pay to the village treasury a sum equal to that which would otherwise be received from the saloon license. After a spirited campaign the town voted dry and from that day has been without a saloon, Mr. Warren continuing to pay into the treasury the equivalent of the license money until 1915, when the county voted dry under the Local Option law and in this result he was probably the largest individual factor.

Mr. Warren was equally ardent in any matter of civic or municipal betterment and his whole life was a story of constant and loyal effort to make Three Oaks the "best village in the world in which to live."

In 1896 he was instrumental in giving to Three Oaks a municipal water and lighting plant. He headed a ticket which was successful at the polls and secured the necessary authority for bonding the village and building the plant.

During the following year he was instrumental at least in hastening the building of a much needed depot by the railroad company.

Good roads were almost a hobby with him and no man hereabouts has done more to bring about the road building era of the past ten years.

He worked for better roads when a bitter opposition met every attempt to vote any considerable improvement in this direction and there was never an opportunity for advance which he did not embrace.

He made large private subscriptions whenever necessary to give the needed impetus and was a large individual factor in bringing the County road building program to accomplishment, his purchases of the road bonds during a period of financial depression helping materially in making it possible to finance it.

Mr. Warren believed in Three Oaks. He helped in the creation and establishing of a good name for this village and he not only guarded that name well, but was ever anxious to enrich it.

In 1899 he saw an opportunity to do a unique piece of community advertising and at the same time develop a larger and livelier civic consciousness.

A national committee had been employed with the authority to raise funds for the erection of a memorial to those sailors and soldiers who had lost their lives the previous year in the blowing up of the U. S. S. Maine in the harbor of Havana and it was offering to the city or town making the largest per capita subscription to this fund an ancient brass cannon, of Spanish origin, which had been taken from the Corregidor Island in Manila Bay by Admiral George Dewey.

Mr. Warren called a mass meeting of citizens and presented his proposal that Three Oaks enter the race. It was enthusiastically received and endorsed and a committee of action appointed, consisting of Mr. Warren, Mr. Henry Chamberlain and Mr. James L. McKie.

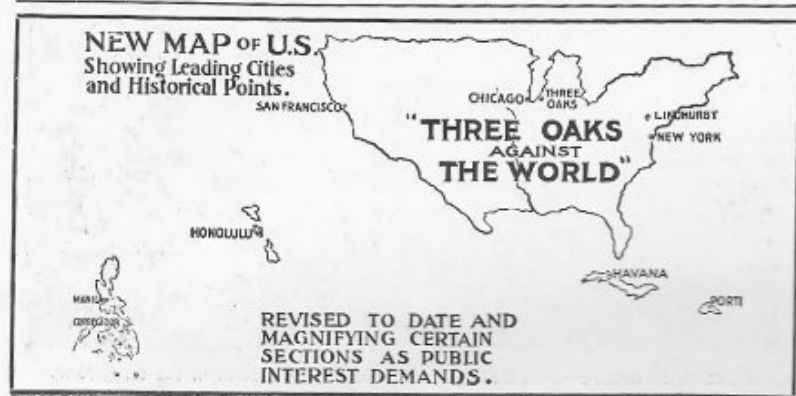
This committee got into action and there followed a most interesting campaign under the slogan "Three Oaks against the World." Considerable publicity of a wide spread and favorable nature was given and shortly the large metropolitan papers all over the land began to take notice, scarcely a day passing without some comment on their part—captious or admiring—on the refreshing audacity of this small Michigan village which dared to throw down the gauntlet to the world.

While enjoying all this unusual publicity the committee was not inactive at home. The call for subscriptions was generously responded to and finally the announcement came naming Three Oaks as the winner with a per capita subscription of \$1.41.

Encouraged by this signal success and seeking now to complete the task in a proper manner the committee set about providing a suitable mounting for the cannon and arranging a fitting ceremony of unveiling.

It was at this juncture that Dewey Park came into being. The land was secured and set aside as the permanent home of the historic little cannon, trees were planted, and walks and paths laid out and the location of the trophy decided upon. A fine base of Vermont granite was secured and suitably marked and the committee began the attempt to get a promise from Admiral Dewey that he would come to Three Oaks as the guest of honor at the unveiling ceremony. Mr. Warren secured an audience with Admiral Dewey on board his flagship the U. S. S. New York and was most graciously received. Before he left he had the Admiral's assurance that he would accept the invitation, the date to be later decided upon, but it was hoped that it could be the following spring.

However, the committee was letting no good opportunity get by and learning that President McKinley would be passing through Three Oaks in October, accompanied by a number of the members of his cabinet, they extended an invitation to him to stop and make a speech. This invitation was graciously accepted and on the afternoon of October 17, 1899, thousands of people from all over this section of the country, welcomed to Three Oaks the President of the United States



and his party. The President made a speech and a short program was carried out amid the greatest enthusiasm and excitement, but so well had the committee on arrangements done its work that the huge crowd which would have taxed the facilities of most good sized cities was handled in an absolutely orderly manner and the whole event passed without a single accident or hitch.

Interest was then centered on the great unveiling ceremony which was to occur in the spring following. Owing to duties Admiral Dewey was unable to be present, but the committee was successful in securing as its guest of honor, Miss Helen Gould, whose generous gifts of herself and her wealth to the Naval Relief work during the Spanish-American war had won for her wide admiration and affection.

The day of unveiling was set for June 28, 1900, and careful preparations were made for the handling of another large crowd. Seats were erected around the three sides of the park, leaving the center for those standing and every precaution was taken for the safety and comfort of visitors. The day was all that could be asked of a June day and a crowd of many thousand was present when the train to which Miss Gould's car was attached drew into the station. The guests were conducted to the speakers' platform beside the veiled cannon and the following program was carried through with a precision and effect which would have done credit to any city in the land:

Band

Chorus—Battle Hymn

Prayer

Rev. M. M. Martin, D. D.

Greeting

E. K. Warren.

Chorus—Columbia

Welcome

Gen. Russell A. Alger.

Chorus—To Thee, O Country!

Address

Rev. William E. Barton, D. D.

Unveiling

Miss Gould.

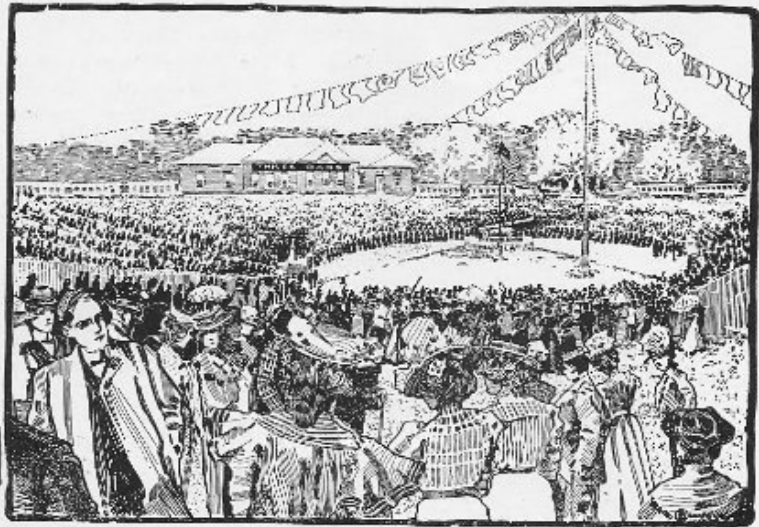
Chorus—America

Benediction

Dr. Martin.

Band

Every phase of the day's plans passed off beautifully and Three Oaks had made good her challenge to the world.



Unveiling of the Dewey Cannon.

Friend and Neighbor.

As a friend and neighbor Mr Warren attained—as nearly as any man can—that standard of the apostle Paul who sought to be “all things to all men.” Possessed of a nature which always regarded the world with eyes of friendliness, he had an unbounded capacity for making and holding friends.

He was entirely unaffected in manner and speech; his personal habits, tastes and pleasures were simple; he accepted life in a cheerful vein and found his own joy in the every day relationships—in the things by many persons regarded as merely commonplace; he despised sham and deceit; he had tasted of hardship and privation and he understood people—he loved people and he could always get the point of view of the other person.

His loyalty to his friends was most beautiful. He loved and remembered them for what they were to him, for what they had meant to some one of his family or for just what they were or sought to be.

He was utterly regardless of self in his devotion and service to his friends and nothing was ever too hard or too much trouble for him to undertake if, in the doing of it, he brought some pleasure or comfort to others.

His heart was the heart of a mother and he helped to carry the trials and hardships, the problems and sorrows of a multitude of people. His sympathy and counsel were readily drawn upon and no appeal

for aid or advice was ever denied a hearing and most appeals were granted. His charity was boundless and the larger part of it was known only to himself and the person or cause he helped, but if known would make a story of sympathetic and intelligent service to mankind, which would in itself make a fitting tribute to any man. Scores of persons who read these lines will recall with grateful appreciation help given them at some critical period of their lives by this good friend—not too much help, nor too little if he could avoid, but just enough to help over the hard place with a word of advice and a cheery “God bless you.”

Mr. Warren early learned that it is indeed “more blessed to give than to receive” and the fullest joy was found in the giving of himself or his means. He regarded himself as a steward with a certain trust and as his ability to give of his means increased, his love of giving increased in an ever growing ratio. There is still in existence an old ledger which he kept when he first engaged in business for himself in which appears an account with his “Silent Partner” and to that account was credited one tenth of all his income. In later years this percentage was largely increased, though none but he knew just what his benevolences totaled, but he never lost sight of his stewardship and felt that as he was prospered of the Lord his obligation to the Lord's work increased. He used to ask of himself in the greatest earnestness—“What shall I

render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" His life proved that he tried to answer that question honestly.

He never ceased to take an absorbing interest in his friends and was always ready and eager to stop and visit with them, frequently making calls upon them—especially the friends of the old days.

During the past ten years Mr. Warren has spent the fall and winter months in Evanston, Illinois, where he had a beautiful home, but during the spring and summer which were always spent at "Vine Cottage" at Lakeside he kept in close touch with all that was going on here and was never too busy to call on old friends, particularly any who were ill or confined to their homes.

He knew intimately much of the personal or family history of most of the older residents and often remembered a birthday or some special occasion with a call, a letter or some other evidence of his thoughtfulness. He tried to show his love and regard for the living and most of the flowers which he sent and the kind words which he spoke were to them and not over their biers. In this spirit he organized many events to give recognition or to celebrate some special day, such as receptions to the older residents, to his former business partners or to some one who was observing some anniversary.

One of the happiest days of his life was that when his friends tendered him a reception on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the commencement of his business life. An interesting program was presented and hundreds of his old friends from all over the country attended. It was a great day of reminiscing and he had, as he expressed it, "the time of my life."

A Man of Vision.

Reference has already been made to Mr. Warren's ability to plan in terms of the future and as he grew older he had in a remarkable degree the power to detach himself from the present and project himself into the days far ahead. During the last ten years of his life he planned and wrought much in the interests of the generations yet to be.

He saw many years ago, not alone the wondrous beauty of the shores along Lake Michigan, but the day when because of rapid industrial

development of the territory surrounding Chicago these lands would be of great benefit and value to thousands of people as a place of retirement and recreation. He not only purchased considerable tracts of shore lands as an "investment in the future" but he encouraged other owners to so handle their lands that they might be preserved in their natural state for years to come.

Some forty years ago he bought the tract of timber which has of late years been known as "Warren's Woods." For some years he manufactured charcoal from timber cut on the south side of this woods but it was not a

story of the pioneer days as told by the furniture and utensils they used, the clothing they wore, etc. They felt that if the right start were made an interest could be aroused and a wealth of forgotten, if not discarded, things secured for the instruction of those who even now know but little of the conditions under which their grandparents lived and wrought in a new land. Accordingly they planned and established the Chamberlain Memorial Museum, named in honor of Mrs. Warren's father, the late Henry Chamberlain, and housed in the building which was his home during all the latter years of his life. On



In Warren's Woods.

successful venture financially and, with a growing appreciation of the great beauty of this piece of virgin hardwood timber, he ceased these operations. Later he even stopped the tapping of the maple trees there lest they be injured. He carried the property for many years at a time when even the payment of the taxes on it was a real burden for him but all the time there was a growing conviction that he was saving it for the future. For the past few years he gave much thought to ways and means for preserving this forest for the enjoyment and education of those who should come after him.

In some years both Mr. and Mrs. Warren felt that some definite steps should be taken to preserve the

March 1, 1916, the Museum was opened to the public under the direction of Mr. George R. Fox and with the hearty co-operation of the public, it has grown apace in the extent and value of its exhibits.

During the last year Mr. Warren's plans for these three things took definite shape in the creation of what is to be known as the Edward K. Warren Foundation. This foundation, with the guarantee of sufficient funds for the proper carrying on of its functions for an indefinite time, will have the management of a large tract of land in the Dune country which lies to the north of Sawyer and embraces several hundred acres with a frontage of nearly a mile on Lake Michigan, the forest and the Museum.

—thus insuring to the future, in so far as he could provide for it, that which he saw to be of inestimable value to those of tomorrow.

The following letter from Prof. Alexander G. Ruthven of the University of Michigan was published in the December number of "Science." It indicates the importance of Mr. Warren's plan as it appears to those who are concerned with science and research work.—

**"The Edward K. Warren Foundation
and Two Wild Life Reservations
in Michigan.**

"It will be of interest to zoologists and botanists, particularly ecologists and those interested in the flora and fauna of the Middle West, to learn that two areas in southwestern Michigan have been set aside as wild life preserves. The tracts comprise 300 acres (150 or more of the original forest) situated two and a half miles north of Three Oaks, in Chikaming Township, Berrien County, and over 250 acres in the sand dune region on the shore of Lake Michigan, in Lake Township, two miles north of Sawyer, in Berrien County.

"The preserves have been established by Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Warren of Three Oaks, Michigan, and are incorporated in the 'Edward K. Warren Foundation,' which also includes the Chamberlain Memorial Museum at Three Oaks, founded in 1915 and opened to the public in 1916.

"The forest has been in Mr. Warren's possession for forty years, and has been preserved by him for its great natural beauty, and both tracts have been set aside that future generations may have an example of the primitive floral and fauna conditions in southern Michigan, that nature lovers may find here many of the animals and plants which are being exterminated elsewhere, and that students of biology may have available a place where they can study native animals and plants in their natural habitats. Some of the sand dune area has been more recently acquired, and it is typical of the good judgment and foresight of Mr. Warren that this area includes the best developed dunes and is the least disturbed tract in the sand dune region.

"The forest is a remnant of the original beech-maple forest of south-

Michigan. It has never been cut or burned over and many of the trees are splendid specimens, fifty to seventy feet in height to the first limb, and from two to four feet in circumference. The Galien River flows through the forest for about one and one-half miles and there are numerous springs.

"The sand dune tract has a frontage on Lake Michigan of about 3000 feet. It includes probably the highest dunes in the State of Michigan, the largest of which are from two hundred to three hundred feet in height. Much of the tract is wild and with little doubt the original vegetation prevails in most places.

"The Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan has been asked to make a detailed survey of the reservations and it is planned to extend this survey over an indefinite number of years. Field laboratories will be provided by the foundation, and the museum will send specialists on the groups represented in the preserves to these laboratories at different times. The object of the field work will be to obtain a complete inventory of the plants and animals and to secure data upon the causes of fluctuations in the numbers of individuals, that the flora and fauna may be maintained as nearly as possible in the primitive condition. At the same time it is expected that ecological data and information on the original biota will be obtained which will be of specific interest. The specimens will be deposited in the Museum of Zoology and the Chamberlain Memorial Museum, and the published results of the work will appear from the Museum of Zoology under a common title.

"Future generations will not fail to appreciate the good judgment and public spirit which have led to the recognition of the desirability of insuring the perpetuity of the wild life of these areas and the establishment of the preserves."

ALEXANDER G. RUTHVEN.
Museum of Zoology,
University of Michigan.

The Samaritans.

Perhaps none of the many things in which Mr. Warren was interested have in them more of vision and romance than his interest in and connection with the Samaritan people.

In 1901, with Mrs. Warren and his

three younger children, he visited Palestine and the party camped one night at Nablus or what was the ancient city of Shechem, once the capital of the Kingdom of Samaria. There he visited the remnant of that once large nation and met the venerable high priest, Jacob, son of Aaron, with whom he conversed at length through an interpreter.

Many questions were asked and answered and a most unusual feeling of interest, mutual understanding and confidence was there established. A correspondence followed after Mr. Warren's return home and it was several years before there was any opportunity for further contact with the old high priest save by letter. Then Dr. Wm. E. Barton of Oak Park, Ill. visited Palestine and a little later Prof. Frederic Goodrich of Albion, Michigan, and both visited Shechem and presented letters to Jacob from the friend whom he had seen but once but in whom he appeared to place great confidence.

Both Dr. Barton and Prof. Goodrich were cordially received and obtained much information as to the conditions of this people, some new facts as to their more recent history and a good deal about some of the manuscripts which they possessed—some of which were said to be of great age, but about which very little was definitely known.

At the time of Prof. Goodrich's visit the Samaritans were in great need of financial assistance (they having been much depleted by persecution and famine) and through him Jacob sent a plea to his friend that he summon and send him aid.

Throughout these years Mr. Warren had been reading and thinking about the Samaritans. He had thoroughly familiarized himself with their ancient history, particularly of their break with the Jewish nation, and he became convinced that the existence of the little band, after all these centuries and despite the deliberate attempts to exterminate them, was in itself a proof that they were yet destined to play a definite part in the divine plan of things. He dreamed, and saw visions of a reunited and repatriated Jewish nation assuming the place which prophecy gave it and in all this he saw the finger of Destiny pointing to this forlorn and almost forgotten little people.

The writer is unable to explain or



Chamberlain, Warren & Hatfield's, Three Oaks, Michigan

Featherbone Corsets

New Model
 Lengthens the
 Waist
 Gives Beautiful
 Form
 Best Sateens
 Fast Black, White
 Ecru and Drab
Only \$1.00

For sale by first-class
 retailers, or sent post-
 paid on receipt of price.
 Twenty different styles
 of corsets and waists.
 Send for price-list.



FEATHERBONE CORSET CO.
 Sole Manufacturers Kalamazoo, Mich.

1900s Featherbone Ad

Warren Featherbone Logo

