Lewis Young Whitehead (1833-1908)  
[Menominee Range Historical Museum]

Lewis Young Whitehead was one of the earliest mining explorers and settlers on the Menominee Iron Range, but his story prior to arriving on the Range helps illustrate the complexity and scope of the lives many of our pioneer settlers lived in the nineteenth century.

Lewis Young Whitehead left instructions for his own funeral and epitaph, wanting the latter to read “Explorer of Menominee Range,” but his life included much more.

Whitehead began writing a diary on January 1, 1876, which included detailed records of dates and places he traveled between 1853 and 1860, as well as recording family history information. His granddaughter, Mrs. Henry Miller, daughter of Mrs. Harry K. (Nella Phoebe Whitehead) Myers, of Spread Eagle, Wisconsin, submitted the diary for publication by the Mid-Peninsula Library Federation in Iron Mountain in 1976, a century later.

Another rich source of information was Whitehead’s biography, published in the “Memorial Record of the Northern Peninsula of Michigan” in 1895.

Lewis Young Whitehead was born in Hurdtown, Morris County, New Jersey, April 6, 1833, a son of Silas and Susan (Little) Whitehead. Silas Whitehead, a son of John and Phoebe (Turner) Whitehead and a native of Morris County, was a farmer and wood and charcoal contractor.

Lewis attended public schools until his father died at 37 years of age on August 20, 1845. Lewis was twelve years old and was soon engaged in mining in the winter and boating in the summer.

At 16, Lewis became the captain of a canal boat on the Morris Canal. The Morris Canal, sometimes called the Morris and Essex Canal, was a 107-mile canal across northern New Jersey, stretching from Phillipsburg on the Delaware River eastward to Jersey City on the Hudson River, which officially opened May 20, 1832.

Lewis, at 19 years of age, was a foreman in the Hurdtown Mine, an iron mine in magnetite ore located at Hurdtown, about 6½ miles northwest of Dover. Started before 1855 and worked until 1903, it was one of New Jersey’s major iron mines.

In 1853, when Lewis was 20 years old, his mother died.

On August 1 of that same year, Lewis left Hurdtown, arriving in Illinois on August 6. He then traveled to Grand Traverse Bay on Lake Michigan, crossed the lake and arrived in Chicago on October 5. In 1853 and again in 1854 he worked at lumbering at Traverse Bay, working with the Hannah,
Lay & Company’s mills. He also spent some time in grading the Illinois Central Railway.

The Hannah & Lay Company began as a partnership between Perry Hannah, Albert Tracy Lay, and James Morgan in the burgeoning Chicago lumber trade around the middle of the nineteenth century. At first the company purchased lumber from ships that docked in the Chicago harbor. Hoping to eliminate middle-man profits, the partners planned to operate their own mill. After some investigation, Hannah and Morgan in 1851 decided to purchase an inactive sawmill in Michigan’s Grand Traverse Bay area, as well as surrounding timber-rich acreage. The Hannah & Lay development would provide the foundation for Traverse City.

The following year Lewis’s records show him leaving Grand Traverse Bay on October 25, 1854, and, following a heavy storm on Lake Michigan, arriving in Chicago on October 30.

Leaving for Aurora, Illinois, on the same day he arrived in Chicago, Lewis then departed from Aurora by rail on December 9, 1854, arriving at St. Louis, Missouri, his next stopping point, on December 17.

He then traveled to Alton, Illinois, a city on the Mississippi River about 15 miles north of St. Louis, on December 19. He crossed the Mississippi River the following day and continued toward Jackson County southwestern Illinois, finally deciding to take up winter quarters at Waverly, Morgan County, Illinois, on December 29, 1854.

While there is no record of Lewis’s activities during that winter, he left Waverly on March 15, 1855, for Aurora, Illinois, arriving there on March 21 and remaining there for a year.

According to his 1895 biographical sketch, Lewis spent 1855 and a portion of 1856 farming and peddling in southern Illinois.

The need for lumber to build the fast growing cities of Milwaukee and Chicago, along with the large expanse of available timber in the pine stands near Marinette, Wisconsin, provided the impetus for major sawmilling activity along the Menominee River. Realizing the enormous potential of the Menominee River pineries, lumbermen from the East began to harvest the region’s white pine.

On May 15, 1856, Lewis left Aurora for Green Bay in Lake Michigan, sailing on the F.B. Gardner and landed at Pensaukee, Oconto County, Wisconsin, on May 23. On June 16 he started work for the New York Lumber Company at $30 per month in a lath mill, sawing on the circular saw. He left Pensaukee for Marinette and Menominee, 30 miles distant, arriving on June 10, 1856.

In that year the New York Lumber Company built a steam-powered sawmill on the main shore of the Menominee River at Menekaunee, on the Wisconsin side, now Marinette’s east end. Lewis probably found employment at this new mill, and, according to his 1895 biography, spent summers as a circular sawyer and winters logging up the Menominee River.

However, his diary indicated he left Menominee for Aurora, on November 27, 1856, landing there December 6, 1856, to spend the winter.

On May 4, 1857, Lewis once again left Aurora for Green Bay, taking passage on a steamboat and arriving in Green Bay on May 7, with ice still floating in the waters of the bay. Four days later he left Green Bay for Pensaukee on a small sailboat, arriving there May 9, and then four days after that he left Pensaukee for Sturgeon Bay, making the 30-mile trip in one day.

On July 11, 1857, Lewis left Sturgeon Bay for Oconto, a distance of 33 miles,
arriving the same day and then took a steamboat to Menominee the following day. He apparently remained in the Menominee area, perhaps still spending summers as a circular sawyer and winters logging up the Menominee River, as indicated in his 1895 biography.

On June 6, 1859, he left Menominee for Chicago and on to Aurora, landing there June 12. Evidently he spent the summer there, and on November 2, he again left Aurora for Green Bay, landing at Oconto three days later and then taking a steamboat for Menominee, arriving that same day.

On November 20, 1859, Lewis left Menominee for the Suamico River, a distance of 23 miles, arriving there three days later.

Apparently Lewis spent the winter in Suamico, leaving there on June 5, 1860, for the city of Green Bay, and then proceeding to Marquette, Michigan, on Lake Superior, a distance of 220 miles. His diary noted that he walked half the way, arriving in Marquette on June 14 after what he termed “a hard tramp.”

From 1860 to 1862 Whitehead engaged in the charcoal business in Marquette County, Michigan. In 1862 he was employed as an explorer for iron and copper by the St. Mary’s Canal & Mineral Land Company. He also examined timber on lands owned by the Company with Houghton, Michigan, serving as the Company’s headquarters.

Sometime in the winter of 1866-1867, Lewis left Negaunee, going to Lawton, Van Buren County, Michigan, located in the extreme southwestern part of the state, as an officer of the Michigan Central Iron Company. This company was engaged in making charcoal pig iron from Lake Superior ores.

Jennie Mary (Rice) Whitehead (1843-1918)  
[Vulcan Centennial Book]

While working in Lawton, Lewis met Jennie Mary Rice, a school teacher there. They fell in love and were married in Lawton on September 26, 1867.

Born July 31, 1843, in Tecumseh, Lenawee County, Michigan, about 25 miles south of Ann Arbor, Jennie was a daughter of Thomas and Phoebe Rice.

In 1868 Lewis and Jennie went to Negaunee, where he entered the service of the Iron Cliffs Company.

Formed in 1865 by financier Samuel J. Tilden and other influential New Yorkers, the Iron Cliffs Company opened the
Barnum Mine, named after the president of the new mine, William H. Barnum, in the summer of 1867.

Lewis became chief explorer for the Iron Cliffs Company, and did much work on the topographical and geological map of the Marquette Iron Range under Major Thomas B. Brooks in the early 1870’s.

In the 1870 U.S. Federal Census for Lawton, Van Buren County, Michigan, the Lewis Whitehead household consisted of Lewis Whitehead, the 35-year-old head of the household, born in New Jersey in about 1834-1835 (estimated); Jennie, his 27-year-old wife, born in Michigan in about 1842-1843 (estimated); Lewis J. Whitehead, their 2-year-old son, born in Michigan in about 1867-1868 (estimated); and Nellie Rice, probably Jennie’s 20-year-old sister, born in Michigan in about 1849-1850 (estimated).

Walter R. Nursey interviewed Lewis Young Whitehead while researching his book *The Menominee Iron Range*, published in 1891 to promote or “boost” the development of the area. Much of the following information was taken from Whitehead’s interview.

In the fall 1872 Dr. Nelson Powell Hulst, of the Milwaukee Iron Company, engaged Lewis Whitehead as chief of a party of explorers headed for the new iron range. Whitehead hired twelve men and left Negaunee September 18. The exploring party first traveled to Escanaba and then took a tug boat from there to Menominee. Traveling along the tote road, later called the State Road, the party followed the Menominee River north for sixty miles to the property known as the Breen Mine, located where Waucedah was later established.

The exploring party arrived at the Breen Mine September 23, 1872, finding a camp already prepared large enough to accommodate twenty men. Whitehead noted that “of the few pits sunk at that time one was in brown hematite.”

Daughter Nellie (Nella) Phoebe Whitehead was born in Negaunee on July 8, 1872. At a reunion of early Menominee Range pioneers in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry K. (Nella Whitehead) Myers in November, 1950, Nella stated that sometime in the late fall of 1872, the Whitehead family made the trip from Powers to the Breitung Mine in a wagon pulled by oxen. She also mentioned that the family spent the winter of 1872-1873 in a log cabin near the site of the present (1950) Vulcan railway depot.

In a letter dated May 19, 1927 to his sister Nella, Louis Grant Whitehead, a son and the oldest child of Lewis and Jennie (Rice) Whitehead, wrote: “Mother was first white woman and May and I the first white children on range.” (Actually, Mrs. Thomas (Margret) Rice, who lived at the mouth of the Sturgeon River, was the pioneer white woman of the Menominee Iron Range.)

In the same letter Louis stated they came up the Menominee River by ox team “the year of the Peshtigo Fire.” Louis may have been a year off in his calculations, as the Peshtigo Fire occurred October 8, 1871 in and around Peshtigo, Wisconsin. Occurring the same day as the more famous Great Chicago Fire, the Peshtigo Fire, the deadliest in United States history, claimed an estimated 1,500 people, but possibly as many as 2,500.

Louis also remembered that “the oxen ran away with us in [the] sleigh” and that the family “lived in a cabin on the site of Dr. Jones’ office.”

At that time the right of way for the branch line of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway had been cut two-thirds of the way from Powers on the main line of the Peninsula Division to the Breen Mine, and
camps for the railroad workers were constructed. However, the work was discontinued and the camps were burned the following summer.

Whitehead “marked a tree near the present Vulcan depot” on October 15, and “began the erection of camps for forty men. At the same time a supply road was cut to the Breen mine, over which the men were brought to Breitung, as the camp was then called. A road was also cut to the mouth of the Sturgeon river, the New York farm of today,” where Whitehead was surprised to find a logging camp belonging to the Menominee River Lumber Company. Thomas Rice was in charge, and had his wife and family with him.”

On November 1 explorations were stopped, “leaving a showing of brown hematite one hundred feet wide north and south, although the pits exposed jasper and quartz mixed, along the belt for three-fourths of a mile.”

“Our supplies at this time, together with the mail and the doctor, came from the mouth of the Menominee River. Seven days were allowed the teams to make the round trip. On January 1st, 1873, our buildings consisted of a dining camp, sleeping shanty, smith shop, supply shed, and a ten by twelve foot office, built of logs and situated in the midst of dense forest and swamp, from which issued swarms of tormenting flies. The camp was covered with ‘shakes’ – cedar slabs four feet long, and as wide as the cut would permit – and caulked with moss. The Indians supplied us with plenty of venison and the wolves with music.”

“In March of 1873,” Whitehead continued, “a saw mill was erected with a four-foot circular and a capacity of 10,000 feet per day, and here was cut the lumber used in the first frame structure built upon the range. This building was used as a store and office. The mill sawed in all about 100,000 feet. This same month trains were running between Menominee and Escanaba.”

On April 14, 1873 the Breitung Mine, the first mine in what was then called Breitung, employed 10 to 15 men.

“The summer of 1873 was spent on many sections of the range,” Lewis Whitehead stated in his interview. “Groups of men in parties of from five to ten were sent out. Mr. Clark Roland was foreman at Section 10, while Mr. Daniel Bundy was assistant explorer, and divided his time either with Dr. Hulst or myself in running section lines, taking topography, or locating camps.”

“In the same year [1873] a wagon road was surveyed and cut out to Felch Mountain, section 22, township 42, range 28, now known as Metropolitan,” Whitehead recalled. “This road was called the Iron Road. Its length from Vulcan to Metropolitan was 23 miles, and its cost to the Milwaukee Iron Co. was $1,300.”

“Camps were put in, and in the fall of 1873, a shipping ore was found. Iron Mountain or the Ludington Mine property was tested by Dr. Hulst the early part of this winter, but a banded ore only was found.

“One October 8th I was sent by the company to test Mr. Buell's working at the Quinnesec. Deepened the shaft to 35 feet, and then drifted north 39 feet, all through shipping ore. On January 4, 1875 [sic – 1874], we broke camp, and the wilderness of the Menominee Iron Range was abandoned until 1877.” Lewis Whitehead and his family returned to Negaunee.

In 1877 Whitehead returned to Vulcan and mining operations resumed. On May 2, 1877, Charles Mather, superintendent of the three mines of the Range, (the Breen at Waucedah, the Breitung at Vulcan, and the Quinnesec at Quinnesec) selected Vulcan
as the headquarters for these three mines, placing Captain Lewis Whitehead in charge of the Vulcan Mine. On May 26, 1877, John A. Armstrong came to Vulcan as the first mining captain, bringing his family with him from Negaunee.

In its June 16, 1877 edition The Escanaba Tribune reported that Capt. Whitehead had stripped nearly 100 feet in length along the vein at the Breitung Mine, and had commenced the building of docks, anticipating everything would be ready when the railroad reached the mine.”

On the same date, under “The Menominee Range” caption head, Marquette’s The Mining Journal noted: “Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead has charge of the Breen, Breitung and Quinnesec mines, and no doubt will gladly welcome the first train of cars at the Quinnesec, so that his now tedious tramps will be no longer necessary. Some seven to eight miles of track is laid, and the prospect is that the cars will be running to the Breen by the first of August, which will save the ‘old times’ pull through the swamp on the winter supply road.”

The first railroad through Vulcan was completed on June 16, 1877, linking together the three mines – the Breitung, the Breen and the Quinnesec. The first trains to use these tracks were freight trains. On August 4, 1877, the name Breitung was changed to Vulcan. On September 12, 1877 the first carload of freight consisting of hay, bar iron, and etc., arrived at Vulcan.

Under “Menominee Range Items” in the August 25, 1877 issue of Marquette’s The Mining Journal, it was reported that the Breen Mine began shipping ore on August 16, with anticipation that tracks would reach the Breitung Mine in a short time.

Taken in May, 1886, this view, looking northeast, shows the Vulcan Mine, located on the E ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 9, T39N, R29W. Notice the huge timbers with rough sides in the foreground and the large number of logs piled in the upper left of the photograph. [Marquette County Historical Society]
In its September 1, 1877 edition, *The Escanaba Tribune* noted: “The Breitung mine is opening splendidly under the superintendency of Capt. Whitehead. This mine is located in a hill which rises up between two and three hundred feet in the highest part. The arrangements for handling the ore are excellent, and when all the plans are completed, it can be worked very economically. Several hewed log buildings are going up for the accommodation of the men.”

An item in the April 12, 1879 edition of *The Menominee Ranger*, a newspaper published within The Marquette Mining Journal, Marquette, Marquette County, Michigan, the following item appeared:

“On election day, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Whitehead, a son, weighing twenty points and four drams by a large majority. Dr. McLeod well.”

The son was Roy Gurley Whitehead, born April 7, 1879 in Vulcan, Menominee County, Michigan.

The Vulcan Hotel, opened by Lewis Young Whitehead in the fall of 1878, was the first hotel on the Menominee Range. In late November, 1879, workmen were putting up a large addition to accommodate guests. A printed caption on the cardboard mount below this photograph reads: VULCAN HOTEL, Mich., Lew Whitehead, Proprietor. Photographed October 1st, 1880, by L.C. Miller, Green Bay, Wis. The hotel was located on the west side of Mission Street, and some early log residences typical of early settlements on the Menominee Range are visible to the north of the hotel. In addition to serving as a hotel, the structure later served as a store and was Vulcan's post office until the new town hall was erected in 1904. In October, 1905, Whitehead razed this pioneer landmark. [Dr. John Newkirk]
In the fall of 1878 the Whiteheads opened the Vulcan Hotel, the first hotel on the Menominee Iron Range. In early April, 1879, Whitehead was digging a well close to the hotel, and in mid-May was building a henhouse in the rear of the hotel. By late November, 1879, workmen were putting up a large addition to accommodate more guests. He also worked a homestead farm and did some township office work.

An item in the August 9, 1879 edition of Escanaba’s The Iron Port, under the heading “Menominee Range” noted the following:

“–We neglected to mention last week that Capt. Whitehead, of the Vulcan House, Vulcan, was running a ‘bus line between Vulcan and Quinnesec.”

In the 1894 Michigan Census, the Lewis Whitehead household in Norway Township, Dickinson County, was listed as follows: 

- Lewis Whitehead, husband, 61 years old;
- Jennie Whitehead, wife, 51 years old;
- Nellie Whitehead, daughter, 21 years old;
- Gussa [sic – Gussie] Whitehead, daughter, 17 years old;
- Roy Whitehead, son, 15 years old;
- Jeffie Whitehead, daughter, 13 years old;
- Harry K. Meyers, boarder, 24 years old;
- Herman Herbst, boarder, 33 years old; 
- Ernest Gall, servant, 15 years old;
- John Keiser, hired man, 30 years old.

Lewis Whitehead was appointed Vulcan postmaster on December 15, 1897, serving until his son-in-law, Harry K. Myers, was appointed on December 11, 1903.

Mrs. Lewis Whitehead posed at the barn on the Whitehead farm, called Gold Hill Farm, with her son, Lewis Whitehead, Jr., and farmhands in about 1900. [Dr. John Newkirk]
In the 1900 U.S. Census for Norway Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, the Lewis Whitehead household included: **Lewis Whitehead**, the 67-year-old, married head of household, born in April, 1833, in New Jersey, married in 1868 (estimated), father and mother both born in New Jersey;

**Jennie Whitehead**, his 57-year-old wife, born in July, 1843 in Michigan, father born in New York and mother born in Michigan, married in 1868 (estimated), mother of 9 children, 5 of whom were living;

**Roy Whitehead**, their 21-year-old, single son, born in April, 1879, in Michigan, father born in New Jersey and mother born in Michigan;

**Annie Menghini**, an 18-year-old, single servant, born in August, 1882, in Austria, father and mother both born in Austria.

On June 5, 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitehead moved into their new home, a three-story frame building which replaced the old log building as a hotel, called the Penn Inn.

In later years the hotel was kept as a boarding house, and was “home” for many single local teachers.
This side view of the Vulcan Hotel and Lewis Young Whitehead home on Mission Street shows the front porch covered with ivy and two dormers. This photograph probably dates between 1905 and 1910. [Dr. John Newkirk]

Lewis Young and Jennie (Rice) Whitehead had nine children, five of whom were still alive when the 1900 Michigan State Census was taken. They were:

**Louis Grant**, born September 28, 1868, in Lawton, Van Buren County, Michigan; married Ellen Lisle Smith, daughter of George Potts and Laura (Gridley Rountree) Smith, April 30, 1902, in Grant, Wisconsin; of Duluth, Minnesota; died January 19, 1928, in Duluth, Saint Louis County, Minnesota;

**May**, born August 7, 1870, in Van Buren County, Michigan; died October 20, 1876, in Vulcan, Menominee County, Michigan;

**Nellie (Nella) Phoebe**, born July 8, 1872, in Negaunee; married Harry Kissinger Myers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel (Kissinger) Myers, in Vulcan, Dickinson County, Michigan, on June 18, 1896; died December 26, 1954, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan;

**Gussie Rice**, born June 7, 1876, in Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan; died September 22, 1901, in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan;

**Roy Gurley**, born April 7, 1879, in Breitung (Vulcan), Menominee County, Michigan; married Lydia May Horder, daughter of John and Barbara (Kalb) Horder, on June 27, 1907, in Delavan or Darien, Walworth County, Wisconsin; died March 14, 1945, in Crystal Falls, Iron County, Michigan;
Fay, born August 5, 1885, in Vulcan, Menominee County, Michigan; died September 20, 1885, in Vulcan, Menominee County, Michigan; Bessie [1887-1889]

Laurette Glen, born May 26, 1887, in Vulcan, Menominee County, Michigan; died March 11, 1889, in Vulcan, Dickinson County, Michigan;

Jeffie Jane/Jennie, born May 12, 1881, in Menominee, Menominee County, Michigan; married George Allen Goodrich, son of Frank S. and Anna M. (Allen) Goodrich, on June 27, 1906, in Vulcan, Dickinson County, Michigan; died in 1959;

Cloa.

The wedding party and guests posed outside of Vulcan’s first Bethany Episcopal Church June 26, 1906, when Jeffie, daughter of Lewis Young and Jennie (Rice) Whitehead, married George Allen Goodrich. Bridesmaid Mary Flanagan and best man Roy Whitehead stood to the side of the bridal couple, pictured in the center. The first Bethany Episcopal Church in Vulcan was established some time prior to 1902, and a small shingled church was built. This structure was remodeled and was the home of Clifford Diedrich on Main Street at the time of the Vulcan Centennial in 1972. In about 1908, this building was replaced by a brick church located at the northeast corner of Central Boulevard and Park Street. The Episcopal church in Vulcan was always a Mission church, served by clergymen from Iron Mountain. [Dr. John Newkirk]
Lewis Young Whitehead died August 9, 1908, in his home at Vulcan from stomach cancer.
Jennie (Rice) Whitehead died May 23, 1918, in her home at Vulcan from cancer of the tongue and face.
They are buried in Quinnesec Cemetery, Breitung Township, Quinnesec, Michigan.

**WHITEHEAD LOT BURIALS AT THE QUINNESEC CEMETERY, BREITUNG TOWNSHIP BLOCK 7, LOT 178**

**Position 1:** Bessie Whitehead  
Date of death: 1889

**Position 3:** Jennie Whitehead  
Date of death: May 24 [sic – May 23], 1918  
Age: 75 years  
Residence: Vulcan, Michigan  
Place of death: Vulcan, Michigan  
Cause of death: cancer  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**Position 4:** Lewis Whitehead  
Date of death: 1918 [sic – 1908]  
Age: 85 years  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**Position 5:** Fay Whitehead  
Date of death: 1885  
Age: 2 months  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**Position 6:** May Whitehead  
Date of death: 1886  
Age: 6 years  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**Position 7:** Glen Whitehead  
Date of death: 1889  
Age: 2 years  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**Position 8:** Gussie Whitehead  
Date of death: September 22, 1901  
Age: 26 years, 3 months, 17 days  
Birthplace: Michigan  
Residence: Iron Mountain, Michigan  
Place of Death: Iron Mountain, Michigan  
Cause of Death: appendicitis  
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

**LEWIS YOUNG WHITEHEAD**
Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13,
MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 13: LEWIS YOUNG
WHITEHEAD, MENOMINEE IRON RANGE PIONEER
By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

Number 12 [Thursday, August 13, 1908], page 8, columns 3-4

Oldest Citizen Dead.

Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead, probably the oldest resident of the Menominee range, died at his home in Vulcan last Sunday morning of cancer of the stomach. He was seventy-five years of age and had resided in Vulcan for thirty-two years. He conducted the village hotel during this period. Mr. Whitehead was also a pioneer explorer and was in charge of the first work in the Vulcan district, opening several mines for the old Menominee Mining company. He also explored the Felch Mountain range. He is survived by a wife and five children – three daughters and two sons.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 24, Number 29 [Saturday, August 15, 1908], page 8, column 1

Vulcan Notes.

Lewis Y. Whitehead, Vulcan’s pioneer resident, died Sunday, aged 75 years, and the remains were buried at Quinnesec, Tuesday afternoon with Masonic honors. Mr. Whitehead was born in Herdtown, Morris Co., New Jersey, April 6th, 1833. He went to Marquette county, Mich., in the early 60s and in 1866 went to Lawton, Mich., as one of the officers of the Michigan Central Iron Co., then operating a charcoal iron furnace there. He was married there in 1866, to Miss Jennie Rice, of Battle Creek, who was then a teacher at Lawton. In 1868 they went to Negaunee, Marquette Co., where Mr. Whitehead entered the service of the Iron Cliff Co. In the early 70s Mr. Whitehead came to the present "Menominee Range" to do exploratory work for iron ore and in 1875 settled at Vulcan and built the first hotel on the range. For some time he was captain of the West Vulcan mine. During late years he has devoted his time to his hotel and to his farm just south of Vulcan. He was a man of pronounced traits of character, but had the faculty of making many friends and but few enemies, and many will regret his demise. He left a widow, two sons, Louis G. of Duluth, Minn., and Roy of Amasa, Mich.; and two daughters, Mrs. H.K. Myers, of Vulcan and Mrs. George A. Goodrich, of Milwaukee. The funeral services were under the auspices of Quinnesec Lodge No. 362, of which he was a member; and Franklin Copeland of this village, conducted the ceremony, as desired by Mr. Whitehead before his death.

MRS. JENNIE MARY (RICE) WHITEHEAD

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23, Number 2 [Thursday, May 30, 1918], page 5, columns 3

RANGE PIONEER DEAD.

Mrs. Jennie Whitehead, of Vulcan, Died Last Thursday.

After an illness covering many months, Mrs. Jennie Mary Whitehead, relict [widow] of Lewis Whitehead, died at her home at Vulcan last Thursday.

Mrs. Whitehead was the pioneer woman of the Menominee range, having come to Vulcan in 1872, leaving it after a short time and returning in 1876, since which time she had been a continuous resident. She was born, Rice, on July 31st, 1843[,] at Tecumseh, Mich., and during her young
womanhood she was a school teacher. She was married Sept. 26th, 1867, at Lawton, Michigan, to Lewis Whitehead and after two years residence there they moved to Iron Cliffs, Marquette county, moving later to Negaunee in the same county. In 1872 they moved to the then newly discovered iron district the Menominee range, but after a short sojourn, became of a money panic, they returned to Negaunee. In 1876 they came back to Vulcan, where[,] as before noted, the family has resided continuously since.

Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, of whom five – May, Cloa, Gussie, Fae and Glen, are deceased. The survivors are Lewis G., of Duluth, Minn., Mrs. H.K. Meyers, of Vulcan, Roy, of Alpha, and Mrs. G.A. Goodrich, of Iron Mountain.

Mrs. Whitehead was of Dutch-English descent, coming down from the Van Dykes of the settlement of that name in the State of New York. She had two brothers, Uriah and Gurley Rice.

Deceased had been a long time member of the Order [of] Eastern Star having been affiliated with a Chapter at Lawton, in 1868, and was a charter member of Norway Chapter, No. 251, of this city, the members of which attended the funeral and assisted in the last rites.

She was a woman possessed of the qualities which endear one to family and friends and in the early days the Whitehead Hotel, of which she was the moving spirit, was the mecca for many a weary pioneer cruiser and explorer.

Her life has been one of unremitting ministration to the happiness of those around her. – Current.

**LOUIS GRANT WHITEHEAD**

*The Current*, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume II, Number 23 [Saturday, July 3, 1886], page 1, column 3

**VULCAN.**

Lewis [sic – Louis] Whitehead, Jr., returned from Ann Arbor, where he has been attending the State University.

*The Current*, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume V Number 22 [Saturday, June 29, 1889], page 8, column 3

**VULCAN.**

Louis G. Whitehead, Jr., returned from Ann Arbor, where he has been attending school, on Saturday last, having finished his studies and graduated. He is to return again, we are informed, and take up the study of law in the state university. Louis is an ardent student and he has many friends hereabouts who wish him success in his study of Blackstone.

*The Current*, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume IX, Number 20 [Saturday, June 17, 1893], page 1, column 4

Mrs. Jennie Whitehead and youngest daughter leave Friday for Ann Arbor to attend commencement exercises at the University. Her son L.G. Whitehead graduates in the classical course on June 29th. Mrs. Whitehead intends to visit friends near Detroit and relatives at Battle Creek, returning with her son to Chicago to spend a few days at the fair.

*The Current*, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume X, Number 21 [Saturday, June 23, 1894], page 8, columns 1-2
Vulcan.

Lewis [sic – Louis] G. Whitehead, who a few years ago was in the primary school at this place, is now a graduate of Ann Arbor. His many friends will be pleased to learn of his success, particulars of which is given below and that he will visit his parents this summer. One of his aims will be an attempt to retrieve some 30 lbs. of lost weight, and to generally strengthen up physically, by maneuvering [sic – maneuvering] around his father’s farm. The following will be of interest:

Lewis [sic – Louis] G. Whitehead, a graduate student of Ann Arbor, has just received notice that he is appointed to take care of a scholarship in philosophy at Chicago university next year. The money value of the appointment is $250. – Kalamazoo News.

Mr. Whitehead is a native of Lawton. His father was one of the officers of the Michigan Central Iron Co., and his mother taught in our village school. They still own their homestead in Union street and other property here.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 21 [Saturday, June 22, 1895], page 8, column 1

L.G. Whitehead, who is connected with a Chicago educational institute in the capacity of an instructor, is daily expected home by his family in Vulcan.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XIII, Number 30 [Saturday, August 28, 1897], page 1, column 5

PERSONAL POINTERS.

We failed to note in our issue of last week the marriage of Louis G. Whitehead, eldest son of postmaster Lewis Whitehead of Vulcan. Louis needs no introduction to our readers in this vicinity, everybody knows him as one of our model young men and everyone will be pleased to note that he has “taken to himself a wife.” The following from the Patteville (Wis.) Journal will be of interest. THE CURRENT wishes the young people unalloyed happiness.

SMITH-WHITEHEAD.

“The marriage of Miss Ellen L. Smith, eldest daughter of Mrs. Rountree Smith[,] to Louis G. Whitehead took place yesterday at
noon at the home of the bride’s mother in the presence of a small company of relatives. The ceremony was performed by the Episcopal clergyman, Rev. Davis. The bride is too well known to need special mention, having lived here a number of years and being a granddaughter of Major Roundtree. Mr. Whitehead taught in the Normal a year and is now located at Vulcan, Mich. A host of friends wish them much happiness. A short wedding trip was enjoyed to Chicago, after which they will make their home at Vulcan, where Mr. Whitehead has built a new home."

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XX, Number 2 [Saturday, February 13, 1904], page 1, column 6

VULCAN NOTES.

Today (Friday) the residence on the Whitehead farm just being vacated by Prof. L.G. Whitehead, was burned to the ground. The local fire department was called as was also that from Norway but before the arrival of either the flames had made so much headway that nothing could be saved and attention was given to saving the adjacent buildings. The amount of insurance if any has not been learned. Unknown to the persons fighting the fire, there was some dynamite in the building and this, exploding, injured one man, not seriously.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXI, Number 49 [Saturday, January 6, 1906], page 1, column 1

Prof. L.G. Whitehead, who is now superintendent of schools at Amasa, has moved his household goods from Vulcan to that place and Mrs. Whitehead accompanied him there, yesterday.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXIII, Number 44 [Saturday, November 30, 1907], page 1, column 5

Awarded Diploma.

Prof. L.G. Whitehead, formerly of Vulcan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitehead, but now a resident of Duluth, Minn., was notified last week that the Board of Regents and the Faculty of the University of Michigan had granted to him a diploma, as a pedagogue, which really amounts to a life certificate as a teacher in Michigan. Prof. Whitehead is an alumnus of the University, having taken several degree [sic – degrees] there[,] but his pedagogical course of about three years was taken in Illinois and the Michigan University, being satisfied that the work done was in full that required by that Institution, gave Mr. Whitehead a diploma. Many of his friends hereaway are pleased to note this act of just recognition of ability.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXXV, Number 27 [Saturday, August 9, 1919], page 1, column 4

VULCAN AND VICINITY.

Louis Whitehead of Duluth, [sic] visited this, his old home, Thursday, having come here from Spread Eagle Lakes, where he had spent some time at the Myers cottage.

MAY WHITEHEAD

Breitung Township Cemetery
Block 7, Lot 178, Position 6
MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 13: LEWIS YOUNG
WHITEHEAD, MENOMINEE IRON RANGE PIONEER
By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

May Whitehead
Date of death: 1886
Age: 6 years
Owner: Louis [sic] Whitehead

NELLIE (NELLA) PHOEBE
WHITEHEAD

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XII, Number 16 [Saturday, May 16, 1896], page 1, column 6

Miss Nellie Whitehead, who has been teaching school at Dagget [sic – Daggett], finished her school year on Friday of last week and returned to her home at Vulcan, Saturday.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XII, Number 19 [Saturday, June 6, 1896], page 1, column 3

Myers-Whitehead

At the hour of 4 o’clock on Wednesday [June 10] afternoon next, Miss Nella Phoebe Whitehead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lew Whitehead[,] and Mr. Harry Kissinger Myers, [sic] will be joined in wedlock. The bride to be is a loveable young lady and has a legion of friends in this community, where she has lived since girlhood. Mr. Myers is a popular young man and is a valuable employe [sic - employee] in the Penn.Co.’s store at Vulcan. The marriage will take place at Whitehead’s Inn, Vulcan, and be performed by Rev. Caspar, of this city. Miss Gussie Whitehead will be the bride’s maid of honor, and Mr. Lewis Whitehead is expected from Chicago to officiate as best man. After the ceremony, the couple will take a wedding tour on the lakes and announce that they will be "at home" after July 1st. Mr. and Mrs. Myers purchased Chas. H. Treiber's cottage in Vulcan. The Current extends congratulations in advance.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 1, Number __ [Thursday, June 11, 1896], page __, column __

Miss Nella P. Whitehead, daughter of Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead, the veteran explorer and hotelkeeper of Vulcan, was married yesterday to Harry Kissinger Meyers [sic – Myers], a salesman in the Penn Company’s store. They will be at home to friends after July 1st, at Vulcan.

GUSSIE RICE WHITEHEAD

Breitung Township Cemetery
Block 7, Lot 178, Position 8
Gussie Whitehead
Date of death: September 22, 1901
Age: 26 years, 3 months, 17 days
Birthplace: Michigan
Residence: Iron Mountain, Michigan
Place of Death: Iron Mountain, Michigan
Cause of Death: appendicitis
Owner: Louis [sic -Leewis] Whitehead

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 21
A Close Call.

What would surely have resulted in a serious, if not fatal, accident, [sic] was averted Monday. Miss Gussie Whitehead, who attends the Norway high school[,] was returning to her home in Vulcan in the evening, when the horse she was driving became frightened at a yelping dog that had been run over. The horse started off at a runaway gait down the Vulcan hill and in some unaccountable manner the young lady found herself between the front wheel and foot board of the vehicle, which is of the buckboard pattern. Miss Whitehead clung to the seat but her feet were dragging along the ground. She was in a dangerous predicament and of course was loudly screaming for help. Thanks to the bravery of a Norway lad who saw all, driving in the same direction, and who proved himself a Lochinvar [sic] on the occasion. It was Alphonse Deroeck, who managed to overtake the runaway steed and stop it. Miss Gussie received an uncomfortable jarring but hers was a providential escape. It might be well to add in connection, that she did not faint away, and was in attendance at school next morning as usual. Miss Whitehead is considered one of the brightest pupils in school, faithful and earnest in all her work and is one of the graduating class.

Died.


In our issue of last Saturday we chronicled the approach to Death's door of this greatly beloved young woman, but there was still hope that she might be spared. The hope was a vain one and with the going down on the sun on Sunday the pure spirit left the beautiful casket, obeying the summons, "Come up higher." The parents[,] Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitehead[,] and the brothers and sisters of the deceased have the most hearty sympathy of the community. As to the life and work of the departed, we quote the words of a life long friend, but not the pathos in the voice which expressed them.

"Gussie Rice Whitehead was born at Negaunee, Mich., June 7, 1876. In October 1877 she was brought by her parents to Vulcan, then an almost unbroken forest. She entered the Vulcan school in 1882 and after completing the course of instruction, attended the Norway High School from which she graduated in 1895. In September of the same year she again entered the Vulcan schools, this time as primary teacher, which position she held at the time of her death, being counted among the best of our many successful home teachers. She was greatly beloved by the little ones, who evinced their regard by pleased obedience and the many pretty childish gifts. She was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in May, 1900, and the services at the church were conducted by Rev. Charles of that Church. She was a loved member of Norway Chapter O.E.S., the members of that body attending the services in a body and rendering their beautiful floral service at the grave. The members of her graduating class also attested their love and sorrow at this last parting by their attendance as a Class. The
floral tributes from the fraternity, class, teachers, scholars and friends were many and beautiful, expressing their deep affection which exists in the hearts of all for the deceased. Her character was of the loveliest, unmarred by even a trace of unselfishness or vindictiveness. Her kind thoughtfulness of others was one of her most pleasing traits, while her gentle manner and forgiving heart made her our most beloved friend. We cannot but feel that her class motto of '95, “Rowing, not Drifting” was but too truthfully exemplified and she was born all too swiftly from our presence, but not from our love or our hearts, which will ever treasure her memory.”

The internment took place Tuesday afternoon at Quinnesec, after services in the Vulcan M.E. Church. The funeral cortege was probably the longest ever seen in Norway, and many hundreds attended the services who could not obtain conveyances to the cemetery. The floral offerings were beautiful.

Iron Mountain City Hall

Whitehead, Gussie
Age: 25 years, 3 months, 17 days
Died: September 22, 1901
Teacher
Single
Birthplace: Michigan
Place of Death: hospital
Cause of Death: appendicitis and heart failure
Buried: Quinnesec, Michigan
Parents: Lewis Whitehead and Jane [sic – Jennie] Rice

ROY GURLEY WHITEHEAD

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 2, Number 9 [Thursday, July 22, 1897], page 8, column 4

VULCAN NOTES.

Roy Whitehead has been appointed assistant postmaster at Vulcan.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXI, Number 7 [Saturday, March 18, 1905], page 1, column 4

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Roy Whitehead, who is employed by the Pickands Mather & Co., at Amasa, visited with his parents at Vulcan, over Sunday.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 12, Number 6 [Thursday, July 4, 1907], page 4, column 1

Around the Range.

Roy Whitehead, a former well-known resident of Vulcan, was married recently to Miss Lydia Harder [sic – Horder], a teacher in the Amasa schools.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 24, Number 27 [Saturday, August 1, 1908], page 1, column 2

VULCAN NOTES.

Mrs. Roy Whitehead of Amasa, who has been visiting here[,] was called away Thursday by the death of her father.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 24, Number 37
MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 13: LEWIS YOUNG WHITEHEAD, MENOMINEE IRON RANGE PIONEER
By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

[V]S[A]TURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1908, PAGE 1, COLUMN 4

VULCAN.

Mrs. Roy Whitehead of Amasa and her mother Mrs. Horder visited here this week.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 2
[Saturday, February 13, 1909], page 1, column 4

VULCAN.

Roy Whitehead, [sic] was down from Amasa, to spend Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Lewis Whitehead.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 27, Number 48
[Saturday, December 30, 1911], page 1, column 4

VULCAN NOTES.

The Misses Nona and Ruth Myers, and Anna Goodrich went to Amasa Tuesday where they will visit until after New Years [sic] at the home of their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Whitehead.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 30, Number 22
[Saturday, July 4, 1914], page 1, column 4

VULCAN NOTES.

Born – to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Whitehead, at Alpha, on Wednesday, June 24th[,] a daughter. (Vulcan Notes)

FAY WHITEHEAD

Breitung Township Cemetery
Block 7, Lot 178, Position 5
Fay Whitehead
Date of death: 1885
Age: 2 months
Owner: Louis [sic] Whitehead

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume I, Number 34
[Saturday, September 26, 1885], page 1, column 6

Died.

An infant child of Mr. and Mrs. L. Whitehead of Vulcan was buried on Monday last. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead have the sympathy of the entire community.

GLEN L. WHITEHEAD

The Current, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume V, Number 7
[Saturday, March 16, 1889], page 8, column 1

VULCAN.

On Monday, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead lost by death their two year old daughter, Glen. The little one died of pneumonia and was buried at Quinnesec, [sic] Tuesday.

JEFFIE JENNIE WHITEHEAD

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume IX, Number 20
[Saturday, June 17, 1893], page 1, column 4

Vulcan.

Mrs. Jennie Whitehead and youngest daughter leave Friday for Ann Arbor to
attend commencement exercises at the University. Her son L.G. Whitehead graduates in the classical course on June 29th. Mrs. Whitehead intends to visit friends near Detroit and relatives at Battle Creek, returning with her son to Chicago to spend a few days at the fair.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XVII, Number 21 [Saturday, June 22, 1901], page 1, column 2

Miss Jeffie Whitehead of Vulcan was among those graduating from the Marquette normal this week. A number of her friends from here and Vulcan were present.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXI, Number 25 [Saturday, July 22, 1905], page 1, column 3

VULCAN NOTES.

Miss Laura Smith, of Platville, Wis., is visiting at the home of Lew G. Whitehead. Miss Smith is the sister of Mrs. Whitehead.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXI, Number 29 [Saturday, August 19, 1905], page 1, column 2

VULCAN NOTES.

Miss Jeffie Whitehead entertained a number of her young lady friends, Tuesday, at which time she announced her engagement to Mr. George Goodrich of Milwaukee. Mr. Goodrich is a representative in this district of the National Biscuit Co. and has a host of friends who congratulate him on his good fortune.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXII, Number 22 [Saturday, June 30, 1906], page 1, column 4

VULCAN NOTES.

MARRIED.

GOODRICH-WHITEHEAD – At Bethany Chapel, Vulcan, Michigan, Wednesday, June 27, 1906, Rev. William Poyseor officiating, Jeffie Jennie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Young Whitehead, to George Allen Goodrich, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The bride needs no introduction at the hands of the reporter; or for that matter does the groom for he has been much in evidence for “lo these many days.” It may be only just however to say that the bride is one of Vulcan’s most talented, pretty and popular girls who has spent all her life here except a portion of her school days and that the man who induced her to link her fate with his, [sic] is indeed fortunate. Of the groom it may be said that he is a bright young business man [sic – businessman] in the service of the National Biscuit Co., that he has for some time been combining business and pleasure by selling crackers and winning a wife, and has proved himself a master hand at both. While some may envy him his success, even they must join with the majority in saying that he fully deserves it, and in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich the best life affords.

The ceremony was performed in Bethany Chapel at an early hour and Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich drove to Iron Mountain to take the C. M. & St. Paul train for Milwaukee[,] where a portion of the
honeyymoon will be spent. The father and brother of the groom came up from Milwaukee to be present at the wedding.

The bride was attended by Miss Mary Flanagan of Sagola and the groom by Roy Whitehead, brother of the bride.

Atty. and Mrs. H.M. Pelham of Iron Mountain were in attendance at the Whitehead-Goodrich wedding Wednesday.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 6 [Thursday, June 28, 1906], page 1, column 5

A CHARming WEDDING

Marriage of Miss Whitehead and Mr. Goodrich at Vulcan.

Miss Jeffie Whitehead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitehead, of Vulcan, and George Goodrich, of Milwaukee, were married yesterday morning at the Episcopal church by Rev. W.E. Poyseor, of Crystal Falls. The bride was attended by Miss Mary Flanagan of Sagola, and the groom by Roy Whitehead, brother of the bride. The affair was a quiet one, only immediate relatives and a few friends being present. The bride was dressed in a beautiful gown of white Persian lawn and the bridesmaid in white embroidered lawn. Both wore hats. After the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the Whitehead home and this newly married couple left on the midday train for Milwaukee, and Chicago, where they will visit friends for a week, and will then return to Vulcan and make their home with the bride’s parents. Among the out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Pelham and Mrs. Newberry, of Iron Mountain, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitehead, of Duluth, Minn., and Miss Mary Flanagan, of Sagola. The bride was born and reared in Vulcan, her parents having settled in the old Whitehead home in the early seventies, and both bride and bridegroom are held in high esteem by a large circle of friends who wish them a happy married life.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXIII, Number 30 [Saturday, August 24, 1907], page 1, column 2

VULCAN ITEMS.

Mrs. Lewis Whitehead and daughter Mrs. George Goodrich (and the baby) left yesterday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Roy Whitehead at Amasa. They will be gone several days.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 28 [Saturday, August 14, 1909], page 1, column 4

VULCAN NOTES.

Mrs. George Goodrich of Milwaukee is visiting her mother, Mrs. Lewis Whitehead.

CLOA WHITEHEAD

Breitung Township Cemetery
Block 7, Lot 178, Position 7
Gen Whitehead
Date of death: 1889
Age: 2 years
Owner: Louis [sic – Lewis] Whitehead

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume IX, Number 21
[Saturday, June 24, 1893], page 1, column 2

CURRENT NOTES.

Capt. Whitehead of Vulcan recently finished the beautifying of the grave at Norway cemetery of Capt. William Ross, who died about three years ago. He planted trees and shrubs...