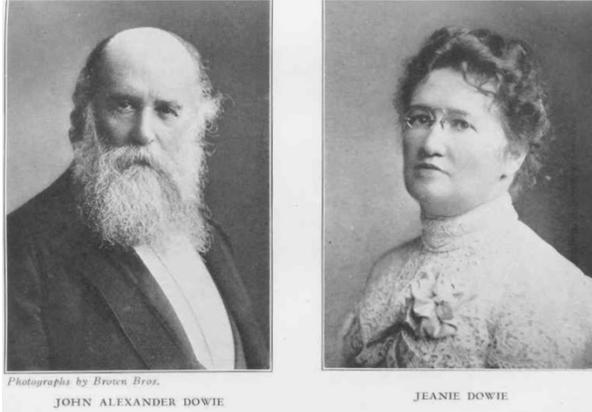


John Alexander Dowie and Ben Mac Dhui

By Barbara Bedau Brow

White Lake Area Historical Society

The Dowie family consisted of: John Alexander Dowie, his wife Jane, son A. J. Gladstone, and daughter Esther. He was the founder of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church (now Christ Community Church) and the city of Zion, Illinois. Ben Mac Dhui was the summer home owned by the Dowie family.



Dowie was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on 25 May 1847. He moved to Adelaide, South Australia, with his parents in 1860. Around 1868, he returned to Edinburgh to study theology. He returned to Australia and was ordained pastor of a Congregational church in Alma, South Australia in 1872. He married his cousin, Jane Dowie, on 26 May 1876, and they had three children: Gladstone (1877-1945), Jeanie (1879-1885), and Esther (1881-1902).

In 1878, he became a full-time non-denominational evangelist. His daughter Jeanie Macfarlan Dowie was born in 1879 in South Australia and died in 1884. She's buried in Carlton, Melbourne City, Victoria, Australia.

In 1888, he moved to the United States, settled in California, and built up a following by performing faith healings across the state from San Diego to Oregon. In 1890, he went to Chicago for a divine healing convention before going on to England. His plans changed when he was asked to pray for a lady who was suffering from a fibroid tumor after doctors had given up on her. She was healed after Dowie prayed for her and he felt that Chicago was where God wanted him.

With the opening of the World's Fair in 1893, Dowie opened Tabernacle Number One which came to be called "The Little Wooden Hut" across the street from the Fair entrance. Since Dowie's Divine Healing Association was not recognized as being a church, he was denied a place on the Avenue of Churches at the Fair. Gradually the crowds grew and he leased one of the largest auditoriums in Chicago for six months, from October, 1895 to April, 1896. During this time Dowie organized a church passed on apostolic principles and in February, 1896, he organized the Christian Catholic Church in Zion.

In 1897, J. A. Dowie came to the town looking for property to buy. Mr. F. D. Pryor refused the \$6,500 offer for the Cook property and Mr. Gilbert was not anxious to sell Long Point at \$12,000. The "Grey Gables", better known as the "old Dalton place", was an 80 acre parcel of land with a commanding view of White Lake for the price of \$10,000. This would come to be known as "Ben Mac Dhui".



In 1900, Dowie secretly bought ten square miles of lakefront land about 40 miles to the north of Chicago and founded Zion, Illinois. The land was surveyed, laying out lots, planning for utilities and preparing for the opening of the City. It would be a city where his congregation could worship, work, and play free from the temptations of the world. He imported a lace mill from England as a source of employment in addition to factories for bricks, chocolate and soap, provided schools, and recreational facilities, all under the control of John A. Dowie. The land the people built their houses on was leased to them for 1,100 years. The leases specifically forbade gambling, dancing, swearing, spitting, theaters, circuses, the manufacture and sale of alcohol or tobacco, pork, oysters, doctors, politicians and tan-colored shoes. The city police carried a billy club on one hip and a Bible on the other; their helmets were adorned with a dove and the word "PATIENCE."

People would share in the profits of the industries in Zion City and the profits, tithes, and offering would be sufficient for the support of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion.



In 1901, construction of 25 room mansion known as "Shiloh House" was begun in Zion City as the main residence of John Alexander Dowie and his family – wife Jane, son A. J. Gladstone, and daughter Esther. They moved in July 1902. It is during this time that Dowie proclaimed himself "Elijah the Restorer" and began to wear High-Priestly robes.

In 1902, Dowie's daughter Esther Allum Dowie suffered severe burns on her head and face when her hair caught fire from a gas jet. Dowie, who was not home at the time of the accident, was summoned.

Upon his arrival he went to his daughter's bedside. Believing in his own teachings, a physician was not called to provide medical treatment. He did, however, allow for salve and bandages to be applied to her wounds. He then spent many hours praying over his daughter. She did not survive. She was 23 years of age and a student at the University of Chicago.

At the height of his power and influence, Dowie was worth several million dollars and claimed 50,000 followers, 6,000 of who lived in Zion City. Their savings went into the Zion bank. Dowie visited New York and went on a European tour in 1903. He traveled to New Zealand and Australia in 1904. These trips were taken using Zion bank money, even though the bankers assured him that the bank could not support the drain.

In 1905, John Alexander Dowie suffered a stroke from which he never fully recovered. He retreated to Mexico where he bought a large tract of land for a "plantation paradise." He had a second stroke which immobilized him. He was removed as the head of Zion and died a broken man at Shiloh House on March 9, 1907. At his request, his grave was filled with concrete after his coffin was put inside, to stave off anyone taking his body and suggesting he had miraculously arisen. He left Ben Mac Dhui to his wife while his son was left the sum of \$10 to be paid in gold.

It was when Dowie died that the family learned the estate was bankrupt. The house and furnishings were sold. Jane and her son Gladstone spend some time in the White Lake area before reportedly moving to Oklahoma in 1914. In 1930, she and her son Rev. A. J. Gladstone, an Episcopal minister, returned to Chicago. One report stated that she stayed with friends while another said she repurchased Shiloh House. Jane died in March 1933. She is buried in Lake Mount in Zion City where her husband

was buried years before. Her son Gladstone, who at one time practiced law in Whitehall from around 1908-1910, died in 1945.

A wealthy lady from Philadelphia purchased the Shiloh House and lived there until her death in 1942. The Great Lakes Bible Institute took possession of the house for a school and dormitory until 1954. The house was then purchased by Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Huntley, loyal friends of Dr. Dowie. Mr. Huntley died in 1967 and the house was again for sale. Mr. Wesley Ashland, a Zion jeweler made arrangements to purchase the house for \$18,500 for the purpose of restoring it and organizing the Zion Historical Society. Today Shiloh House has been restored to its Victorian era splendor and stands as a silent monument to Dr. Dowie, serving as the headquarters of the Zion Historical Society and the Zion Historical Museum.

Following the death of John A. Dowie, his wife Jane tried to keep up Ben Mac Dhui, but it ended up being sold around 1913. In 1915 it was announced that the Ben Mac Dhui property had been leased and a public health resort or sanatorium was being contemplated. In January 1916 Ben Mac Dhui Health Resort Company of Whitehall received its incorporation papers.

It must have proved to be an unsuccessful venture as it was reported in June 1918 that H. L. Cavanaugh of the Boston Store in Chicago had purchased the property. He was not only beautifying the ground but also adding pet stock and a poultry farm.

In 1925, saw a plot of the Dowie property with 700 feet on White Lake sold to Stephen Bull of Racine, Illinois. In 1937, Albert Pack and Mr. Dunham purchased the property but nothing was done to restore it. It also listed the Netcher Estate as owning the property at one time but it was not occupied.

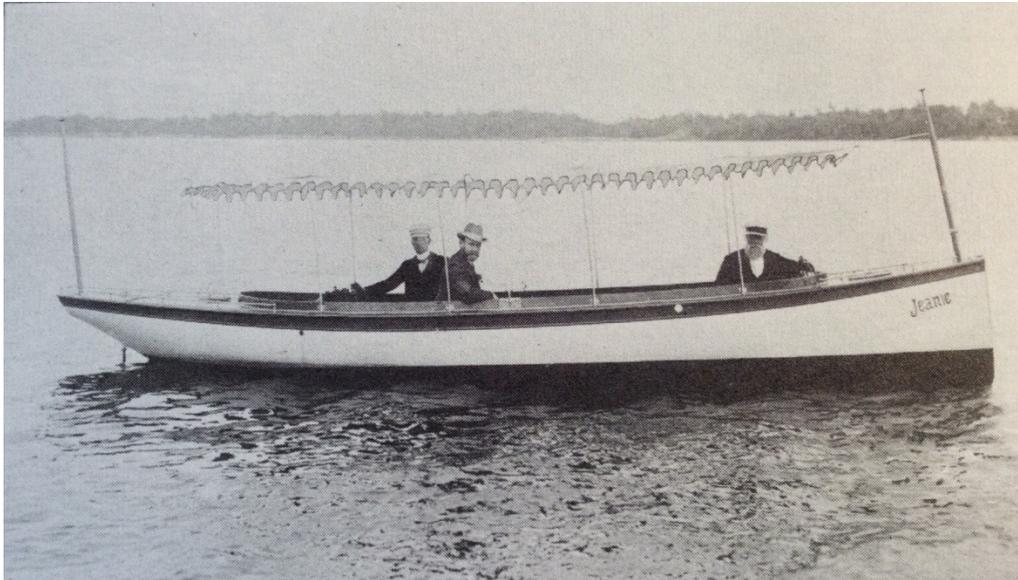


In 1944, Mr. & Mrs. Adolph A. Struven purchased the Dowie Estate. At the time it consisted of 100 acres with 1,300 feet on White Lake. During the years the house stood empty vandals had broken windows, door and torn boards from the porch. Plumbing has been removed, floors torn up to remove wiring and the tiles in the master bath had been smashed. It was during the ownership of the Struven's that a fire broke out which destroyed the house on August 2, 1948.

The property was eventually purchased in 1950 by the former Hooker Chemical Company.

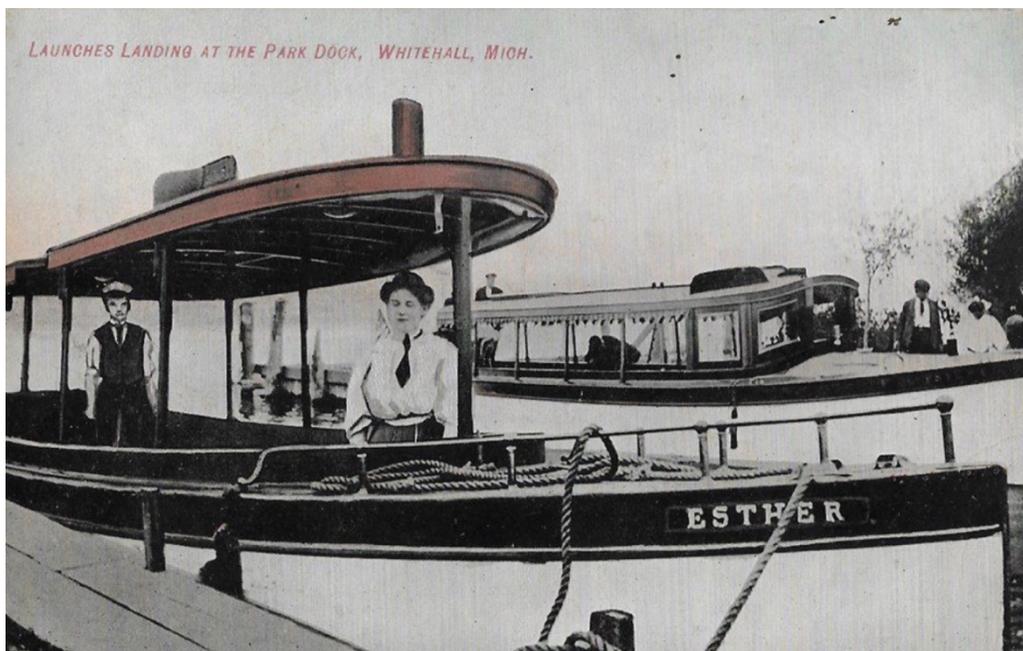
(Additional pictures of his launches and residence; his summer revivals; & a picture of the Ebony piano that once belonged in the Dowie home, and which can now be found in the Montague Museum.)

Dowie had two launches that he used on White Lake. The first one was named for his first daughter Jeanie. It looks like Dowie is sitting in the front.



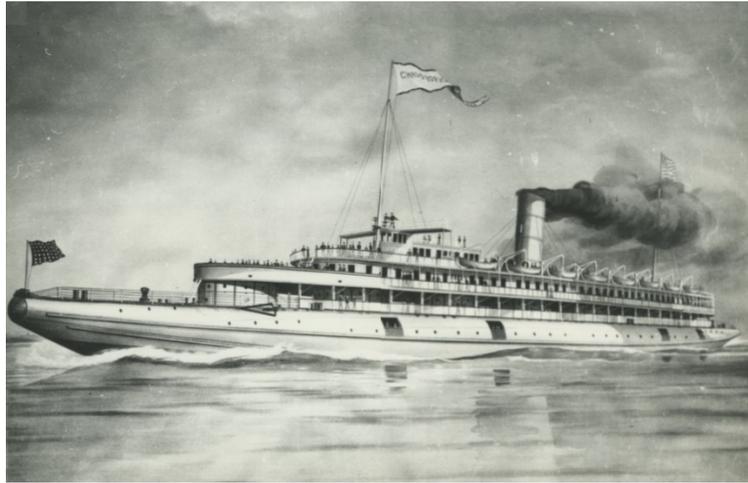
Dowie Launch Jeanie

The second launch was a 30 foot electric launch which he named after his other daughter Esther. It was purchased from the U.S. Government in 1903 and was formerly used in marine maneuvers at Long Island. The launch had a storage battery which would run about 90 miles at a speed of 10 MPH. His smaller gasoline launch (Jeanie) was used by the hired help as a run-about.



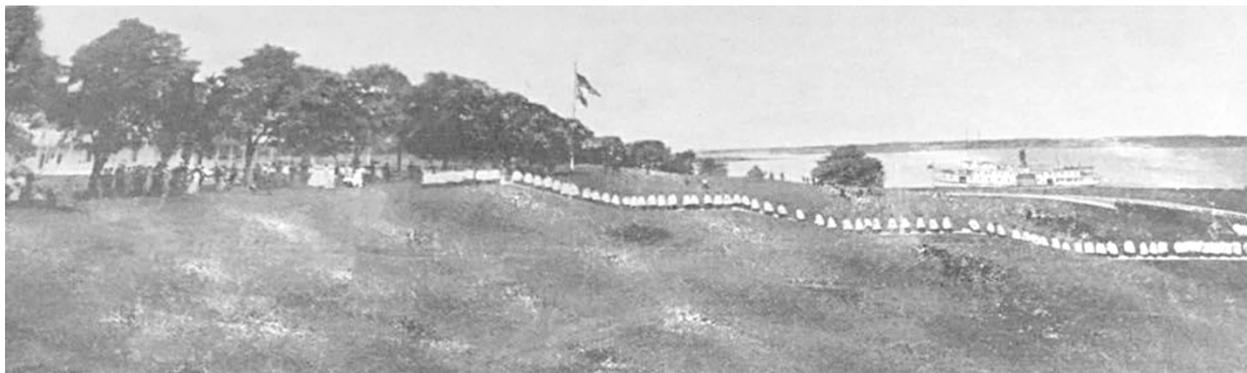
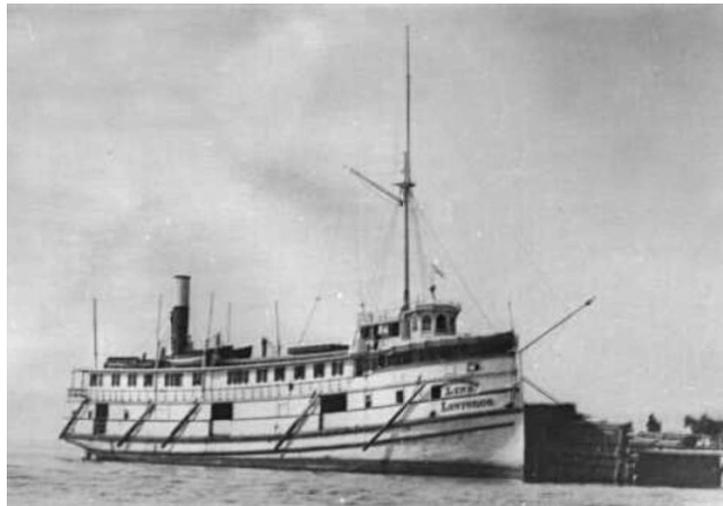
Dowie Launch Esther . Woman standing in front could possibly be Mrs. Dowie.

In September 1904, Dowie chartered the Goodrich Steamer Christopher Columbus to bring his followers to Ben Mac Dhui for a religious revival.



Goodrich Steamer Christopher Columbus

In August 1905 he chartered the Steamer Frontenac to bring his White Robed Choir and followers to their annual revival.



1905, Aug 20 – The White Robed Choir Arrives. The local paper reported the event on August 24, 1905.

BIG CROWD HEARS DOWIE.

The big meeting at Ben Mac Dhul last Sunday attracted an enormous crowd, conservatively estimated at 5000 all told. The day was an ideal one for the outdoor service and people flocked to Dowie's beautiful summer home from town, resort and country. The ferry boats were inadequate to handle the crowds and many were disappointed.

Promptly at 2:30 o'clock the long procession of white robed choir emerged from a building in the rear of the grounds and with slow and measured tread, singing over and over again the words of a hymn. The choir clothed in white robes over black, streamed in a slow moving line of fours down the terraces into the full view of the people, then back upon the level and down the steps leading to the level below, where a small booth had been erected to protect the apostolic head from the sun.

The choir comprised over 800 persons of all ages. Negresses marched arm in arm with their white sisters.

Everything was as theatrical as it was possible to make it. While there was no need of marching the singers down the terrace and back again it made one of the most striking pictures of the afternoon.

Following the choir came elders, rising in importance as the line advanced, clothed in gowns and mortar-board caps, all in black.

Then followed a little knot of elders, Mrs. Dowie, Gladstone Dowie and John Alexander himself. Dressed in a rich purple and white silk gown with a miter of the same colors and material upon his head, with his white patriarchal beard floating in the fresh breeze of the lake and his ruddy face glowing in the sun, came the modern Elijah. Looking neither to right or left he paced slowly down the steps to the booth that had been built for him. He mounted the platform and faced the expectant multitude.

On a tower near by the official Zion City photographer worked overtime with revolving camera of his own invention.

This being over with, a prayer from the prayer book was recited. Then band, orchestra, choir and many in the crowd on the terrace rendered a hymn, the singers stopping between the verses to allow the apostle to read the next verse. After this everyone repeated the ten commandments and the eleventh, one of Dowie's own manufacture.

"Look in compassion," he said, "upon the Russian and Japanese peace envoys, enable them to make peace in the war."

Later in the prayer he called Russia "a travesty on Christianity," and said the old form of Christianity should be "swept from the Russian empire."

Fervently he prayed "have mercy on the scoffing fools and stop their wicked mouths. The prayer closed with the singing of the Lord's prayer. Then the measures of "Heavens Resound" swelled over the lake.

After several announcements by one of the elders Dowie arose and delivered his message.

The address, for Dowie, was tame. He said nothing about "the vipers of the press" and modern day methods received scant attention in his discourse.

"The prophet is here and the restoration has begun," he assured the people complacently. Later he tore the Declaration of Independence to shreds.

"A government of the people, by the people and for the people, is a failure," he said. "It is being demonstrated daily."

He then lauded Zion City, without liquor, without tobacco.

"No stinkpots there," he said emphatically if not elegantly. "No liquid fire and liquid damnation. If a man smokes he is fined \$5."

It was then Russia's turn.

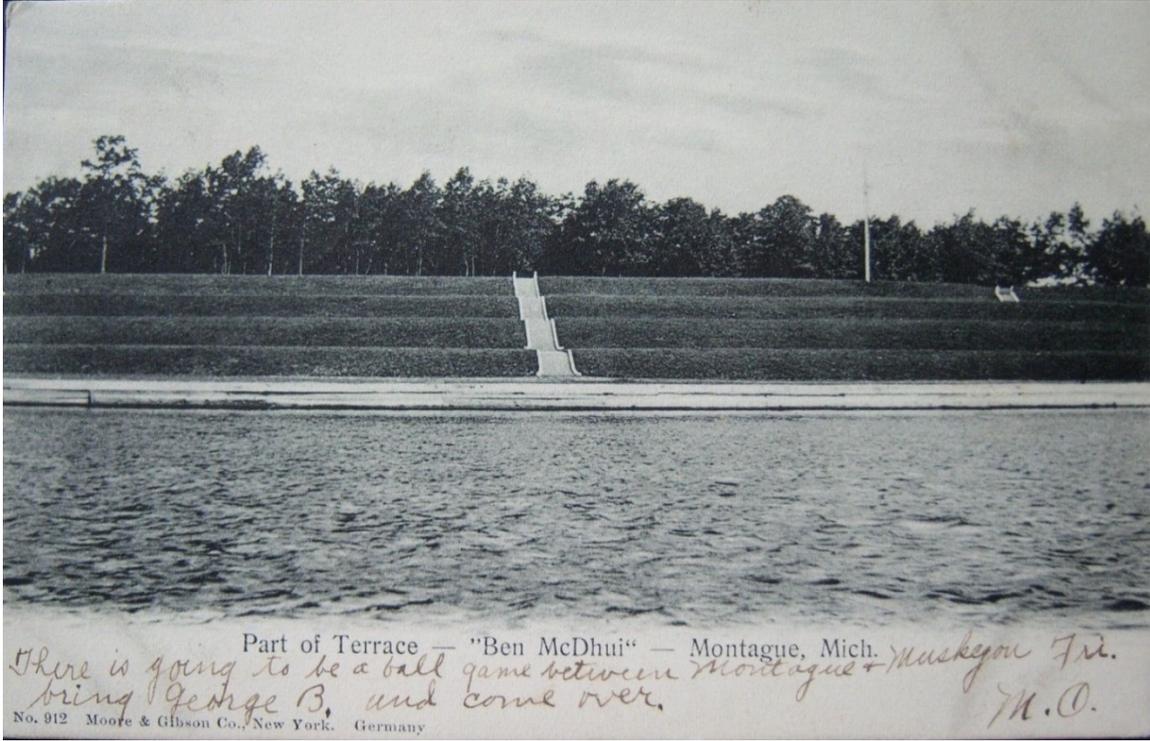
"Russia is a disgrace to all liberty, life and law," Dowie said. "She is getting her just deserts. Russia's church is a church of the devil. A church that says God can be made out of dough and water. The Japanese are being used as a scourge by God to strike the Russians at the heart."

He then impressed on his people that this was the appointed time to get a foothold in Asia.

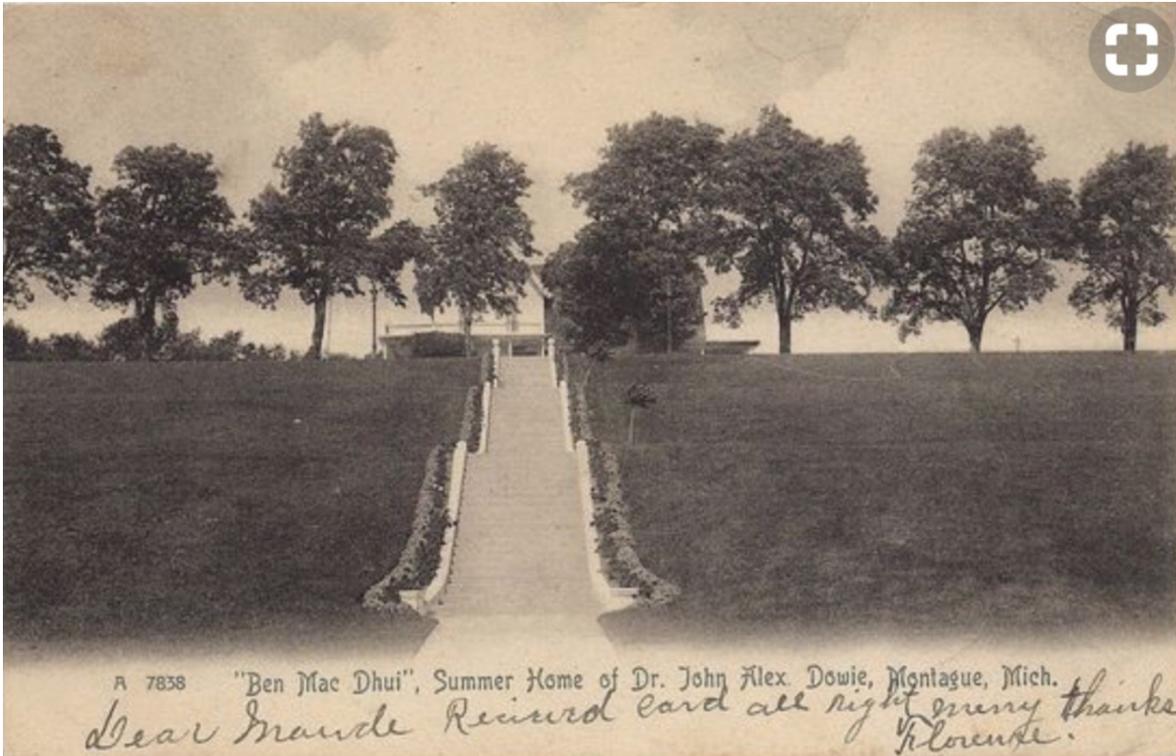
At the close of the discourse the prophet said "Peace to thee," and "Peace to thee be multiplied" was chorused back from the terrace.

After some little maneuvering by the choir the ceremonies were ended. In his silken robes the prophet was driven down to his launch to see his people off for Chicago. As the boat pulled out Elijah doffed his miter to his people and they cheered him lustily.

Pictures of Ben Mac Dhui



1906ca



1908ca



Terrace, Ben Mac Dhui, White Lake, Mich.

1909ca



BEN MCDHUI, WHITE LAKE, MONTAGUE, MICH.

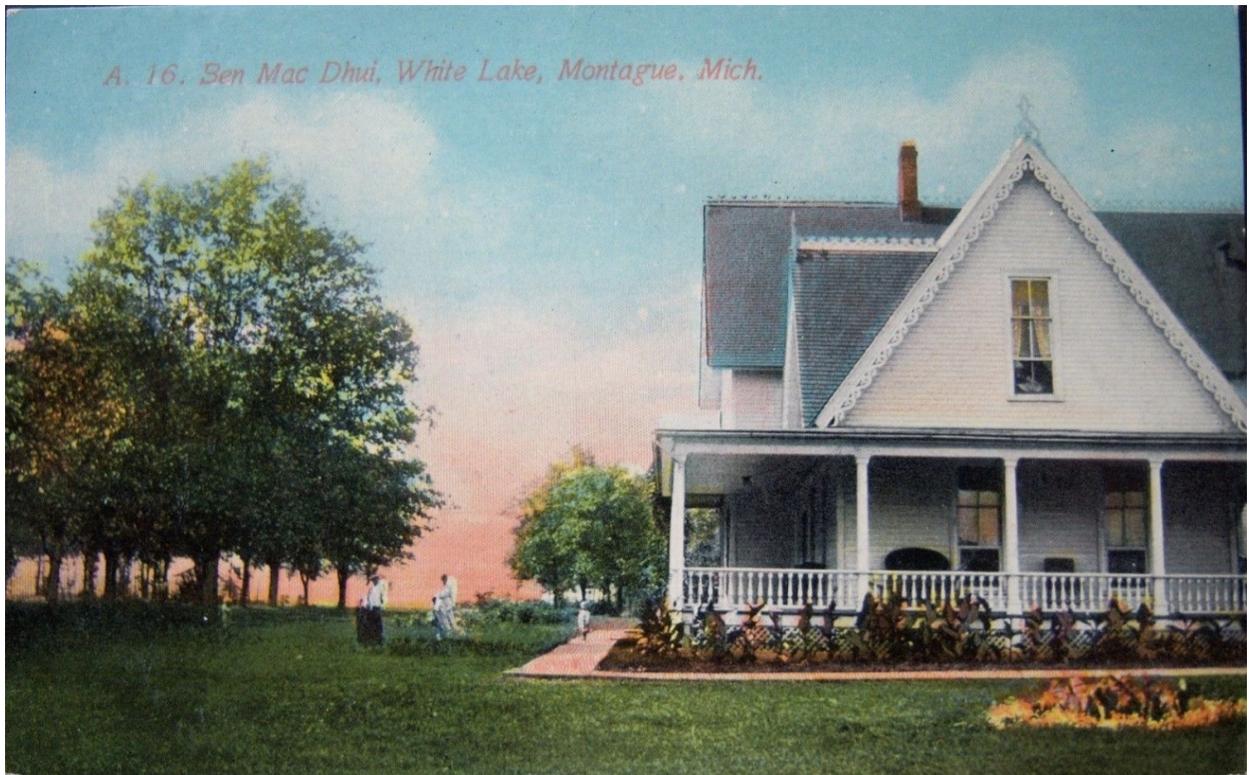
L. G. RIPLEY & CO., MONTAGUE, MICH.



1907ca



1910ca



1913ca



1915ca



Nov 12, 1903.

DOWIE AND NEIGHBORS.

The following very interesting and slightly exaggerated article appeared recently in a Detroit paper:

Montague people and people at Whitehall and on White Lake generally are very frequently asked what attitude they take toward John Alexander Dowie, the self-styled Elijah III, whose magnificent summer home is on White Lake, and what attitude John Alexander Dowie takes toward them. Those who have seen the leader of Zion hurling defiance at \$20-a-week reporters imagine him walking about Montague hurling the aforsaid defiance at the peaceful citizens of White River and Montague townships.

As a matter of fact Dowie is ferocious for revenue only. Citizens of this village who have crossed Lake Michigan on the steamers in his company have found him approachable and even affable. He sticks to his summer home pretty closely when at Ben MacDhui and is not seen much about Montague. He comes to White Lake to rest and apparently puts away the ferocious thunder of the prophet when the walls of the new Zion disappear from view.

Dowie, however, has made no heroic effort to save Montague. A class of nine Montague people was organized a year ago to join Zion but most of them back-slid at the last moment. Dowie and his hosts don't come to Montague to fight sin and tobacco and pork and reporters. They come to Montague and White Lake to rest and that accounts for Dowie's summer home on White Lake, which is one of the most impressive examples of American luxury in the middle west. He calls it Ben MacDhui, after the Scotch clan MacDhui, of which he claims to be the only living descendant, although Mrs. Dowie is a first cousin and her name was also Dowie before marriage.

The great Queen Anne house is set in the midst of 600 wonderfully cultivated acres. Seven beautiful terraces lead down to the lake, and a notable bed of 20,000 aster plants, bespeaks, as does the new pine grove and much landscape gardening, great care. There are 10 buildings on the place, the servants' quarters being set back from those of the family and housing 40 servants. Six gardeners are among these and innumerable stable men. The stables are immense, containing much blooded stock and a humber of fine collie dogs, for which kennels are being built.

The dining room, however, is the impressive feature of the home. An array of old English plate is wont to dazzle the casual guest. The meals are served in eight to ten courses by well trained attendants. Pork, oysters or wine are never served. Dowie says pigs gather the filth of the earth and oysters the filth of the sea.

Most of the furniture there and elsewhere is of carved mahogany, and in the drawing room the rare old paintings picked up abroad. Dowie's own room is hung with tapestry of old gold tones, and the bathroom leading from it is as large as the living room below. It is furnished with a marble tub, which alone cost the prophet \$1,000, and solid silver fixtures. Every bedroom in the house has a separate bathroom. All of the beds are fitted out with gorgeous canopies, and that over Mrs. Dowie's bed is in the shape of a coronet and is set with costly jewels which her husband has collected at much expense of time and money.

Continued on last page

Continued from first page

"In all the dinners and the suppers and the outings I have had with Mr. Dowie," said Mr. Matzene, the artist photographer, "I have never heard him refer to religion. He puts it away in social intercourse as effectually as a pork-packer leaves off shop."

He associates very little with the Dowieites except professionally. One scarcely ever meets a member of Zion at the high priest's table, though one of them stands behind each chair in meek and lowly service. This is not a matter of snobbishness, but of calm judgement. With the majority of men, he agrees that it is better not to mix business and pleasure.

As a man of family, there could be no more genial, kindly person, and his devotion to Mrs. Dowie is remarkable. A constant topic of conversation, always introduced in the simplest, most natural way, is the subject of their

deceased daughter, Esther.

A plate at the table is always laid for her, and her room is exactly as she left it, both at the house in Zion and at Ben MacDhui. They are banked with flowers winter and summer. She is always referred to as if she were in the next room, and one cannot talk with the religious leader for 10 minutes without being affected by his constant reference to her.

She was indeed, a most cultured young woman, having lived a year in Paris and speaking several different languages. Nothing was spared in the education of either her or the son, Gladstone, who is a doctor of law, new degree conferred by the University of Chicago.

The 600 acres are fenced in. Ninety acres are laid out in parks, with fine drives and arc lights. He has his own irrigation system and lives like a king.

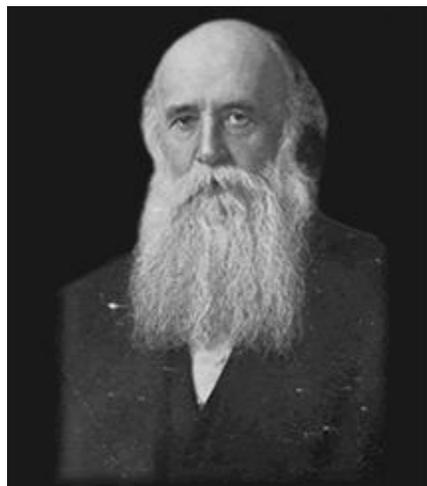
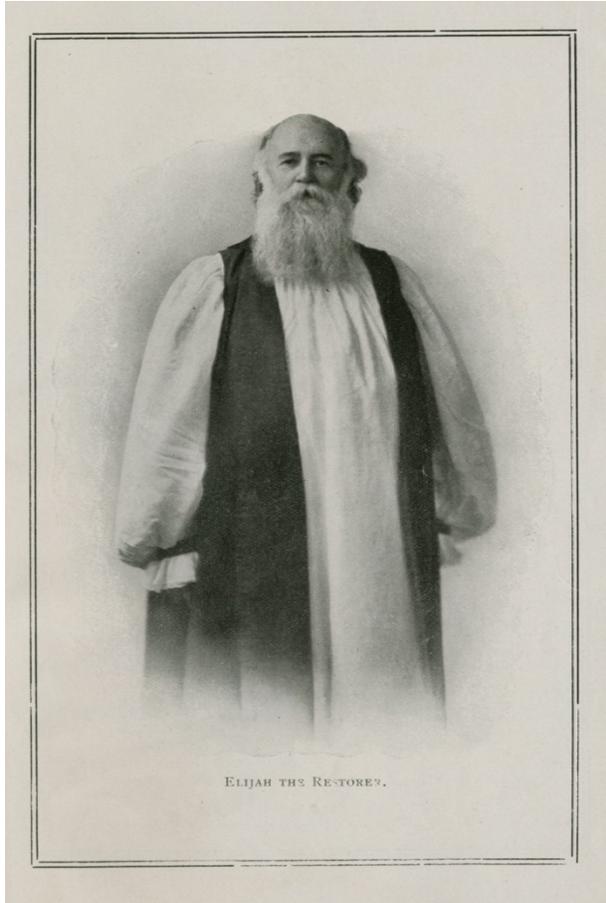
Pictures of the Rev. John Alexander Dowie Family



1873 - John Alexander Dowie – in Australia



Jane Dowie, wife of JA Dowie





A.J. Gladstone Dowie
Jane Dowie – John Alexander Dowie
Esther Allum Dowie
1889ca



Dowie Family

A. J. Gladstone (son of JA), Elizabeth (2nd wife of JM), John Murry Dowie (father of JA)
Esther Allum (daughter of JA), John Alexander Dowie, Jane (wife of JA)

1900ca

The Tragic Death of Dowie's Daughter Esther was reported in the Montague Observer on May 22, 1902.
(See next page)

A TRAGIC DEATH.

Awful Fate of Esther, Daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Dowie.

The tragic death of Esther, the only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Alex. Dowie, last week Wednesday, was a great shock to her many friends and acquaintances in this vicinity.

While curling her hair at an early hour last week Wednesday Miss Dowie accidentally overturned a small spirit lamp which she was using to heat her curling iron with. On falling the blaze came in contact with her night gown which she had on, enveloped her in flames. Her screams brought servants to her aid but her body had been fatally burned before the fire was extinguished. She lived until the following evening when she died at nine o'clock. The funeral occurred last Friday. A special train bore the remains and the funeral party from Chicago to Zion City where the services were held and the body interred.

The deceased was 21 years old and was born in Australia. In order to pursue her studies at the University of Chicago she had lived at the Tabernacle.

The following details of the fatal accident of Esther Dowie were brought out at the coroner's inquest:

"Dr. J. G. Speisner told of the injuries which Miss Dowie suffered. His testimony was that three-quarters of the girl's body was burned.

"What did you do on first entering the room?" he was asked.

"I prayed first," replied the witness. "Falling to my knees I asked, imploring for divine aid and followed this by the application of the bandages and vaseline."

When "Dr." Dowie called an outside physician it was the first act of its kind in the history of the Michigan avenue temple. Dr. A. W. Campbell told the jury that he examined the sick girl and found that her condition was too low to admit of relief by medicine or otherwise.

The treatment which she received consisted of prayers, the bandaging of the burned parts, the application of vaseline and frequently the rinsing of her mouth in cold water.

In giving his testimony "Dr." Dowie appeared much affected. Several times he broke down and it was necessary for the coroner's deputy to remain inactive until the father could recover himself sufficiently to go on with the evidence.

A pathetic feature of the girl's death was brought to light when in a trembling voice the overseer told of the penitence exhibited by his daughter in disobeying his orders.

According to Deacon Speisner's testimony the victim was relieved of apparent pain soon after the accident. Later she was seized with convulsive chills followed by fever.

Speisner was asked if he applied any remedies to relieve the fever or chills and replied that he did not.

Dr. Campbell testified that on arriving at the victim's bedside he found

her suffering from the shock but without pain. Her pulse was imperceptible and he gave it as his opinion that nothing could have saved her life.

"Had you administered medical treatment could you have saved the girl's life?" asked the coroner.

"I could not," was the reply. "There was not the slightest chance."

Miss Dowie was conscious to within a few minutes of her death. Before lapsing into unconsciousness she sent a message to her brother Gladstone,

Resolutions of Condolence.

The Montague common council met in special session Tuesday night and passed the following resolutions of condolence on the death of Esther Dowie:

WHEREAS, the sad intelligence has come to our community that death by accident, has removed from the home of our distinguished and public-spirited fellow citizen, Dr. John Alex. Dowie, and taken from their esteemed family a beloved daughter and sister, Esther A. Dowie, and

WHEREAS, the departed young lady during the comparatively short sojourn in this village, has by her cordial greetings, purity of life, ability of character, and a manifest desire to make all happier and better has endeared herself to the hearts of all who knew her,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that this council, by resolution express to Dr. and Mrs. Dowie and their son, Gladstone, our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy, in this their hour of sorrow and that we further give token of our high regard for them as citizens, and our appreciation of the loss this community and the world has sustained in the death of one who was a model of purity, grace and goodness, and whom to know was to love and respect.

Be it further resolved that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the meeting and a copy of the same be presented to the family of the deceased.

Wm. Fink,
Jas. D. Watson,
ADAM BLOOM

Committee.

Attest: W. E. GORRIS, President,
W. E. SWIFT, Clerk.
David Montague, Mich., May 20th, 1902.

LOST—A black and brown shepherd dog. Anybody giving information or returning same will be liberally rewarded.
E. S. GILBERT.

HEADQUARTERS

FOR

Fresh Groceries and Provisions

Smoked and Dry Meats,

Oranges, Lemons, Confections,

Choice Fruits & Vegetables.

We handle only the BEST.

Chisholm's CASH
GROCERY.

Obituary for Jane Dowie appeared in the Montague Observer on March 16, 1933.

Mrs. Jane Dowie Dies

Mrs. Jane Dowie, widow of the late John Alexander Dowie, died last Saturday in Zion City, Ill., aged 78.

Mrs. Dowie was born in Australia. She was a first cousin of her husband. They came to America late in the 19th century and to Chicago at the time of the World's Fair in 1893. Dowie established a church there and later preached to huge crowds in the Auditorium. He organized the religious colony at Zion City in 1896.

Following the death of her husband in 1907 and the ascension to leadership in the church of Wilbur Glenn Voliva, Mrs. Dowie moved away from Zion City. She returned three years ago with her son, the Rev. A. J. Gladstone Dowie, an Episcopal minister, and purchased Shiloh house.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday at 10 a. m. in Christ church, Waukegan. The Rev. Howard Ganster officiated. Burial was in Lake Mound, Zion City, where Mrs. Dowie's husband was buried 26 years ago.

The Dowies were well-known here as they bought the place later known as Ben MacDhui, which became noted as a mecca for the Dowieites.

Obituary for John Alexander Dowie appeared in the Montague Observer on March 14, 1907, as follows:

Death Takes Dowie.

John Alexander Dowie, the self-styled prophet, and founder of Zion City, died suddenly of heart failure last Saturday morning.

It was not publicly known that his condition of late had been more critical than for several months and not even his wife and son here realized that his end was so near.

His death occurred at 7:40 at Shiloh house, Zion City. There were present with him when he died only Judge D. N. Barnes and two personal attendants.

It had been Dowie's custom all winter to hold religious services every Sunday afternoon in the parlor of Shiloh house. About 350 of his original followers remained faithful and attended these services. Dowie always wore his apostolic robes and made a characteristic address.

Five weeks ago these meetings ceased and Dowie appeared no longer in public. The Sunday meetings, however, were still held by his adherents.

Since that time Dowie had gradually been failing. Friday afternoon, however, there was no indications of approaching death. He received a few followers, and prayed for some people. His condition seemed to be about the same as for the last two or three weeks.

Mrs. Dowie, Judge Dowie, the prophet's father, and his son, were at once notified at Ben Mac Duni.

Mrs. Dowie and Gladstone left here Saturday afternoon for Zion City to make arrangements for the funeral which will be held today and interment will take place at Mt. Olive cemetery, Zion City. John Murray Dowie, the aged and feeble father, will be unable to attend the funeral or look upon the face of his eccentric son. He says he has forgiven all, even though his own son disowned him.

John Alex. Dowie was born in Edinburg, Scotland, May 25, 1847 and was nearly 60 years of age.

In 1860 the Dowie family moved to Adelaide, Australia, where John Alex. professed conversion to religion. In 1867 he returned to Edinburg, taking a five year university course in arts and theology. In 1872 he became settled pastor of a Congregational church in Newtown, a suburb of Sydney, Australia. In 1878 he gave up his pastorate to become a faith healing evangelist. He came to the United States, landing in San Francisco where he failed in his efforts to found a church. Dowie then moved on to Chicago, landing there friendless, unknown and almost penniless in 1890 and starting in as a street corner preacher. This was the starting point of his spectacular career. Feb. 22,

1890, Dowie organized in Chicago a new sect which he named "The Christian Catholic Church in Zion." Its chief tenet is belief in healing of all diseases by prayer.

He first became known on White lake in 1897 when he bought the old Dalton homestead which he converted, at a considerable cost, into a magnificent summer home. His efforts to get much of a following in this vicinity met with scant success, but all recognized his great success and his meetings were always well attended.

In July, 1901, he bought a large tract of land 42 miles north of Chicago and founded Zion City, where his will was to be supreme, where tobacco chewers, smokers, pork eaters and unbelievers were to be excluded. At one time he had 10,000 followers in this town.

In 1906 his health failed just when he was preparing to found another city in Mexico. He had placed Wilbur Glen Voliva in supreme charge in Zion City. In his absence Voliva led a revolt which was joined by Dowie's son and wife. He failed to regain his throne of power. Creditors got hold of the revenue of Zion City. The people broke up into jarring sects, Dowie's reign was over. His property was divided between his wife and his creditors. Death found him as poor as the day when he was born.

Communication.

I take this opportunity of expressing my hearty and sincere thanks to the voters of Montague, Whitehall, White River, Fruitland and Blue Lake townships for the magnificent support given me for the nomination for the office of county commissioner of schools at the primary election recently held in this county.

It is especially gratifying to me to know that my old friends in said townships, many of whom have known me for years, approved of my candidacy, supported me at the primary election, and used their influence with their friends and neighbors in my behalf, all of which I gratefully acknowledge and most heartily appreciate.

If elected to the office of county commissioner of schools, all who are interested in the educational affairs of this county may rest assured that I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of said office in a fair and impartial manner and thus merit the approval of all who supported me, and the confidence of the public in general.

Respectfully submitted,
Nellie B. Chisholm.

Card of Thanks

We wish to express our thanks to the friends who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and death of our beloved father. Ed. Martin, Joe Martin, Hugh Martin, Maggie Martin and Mrs. J. J. Bailey.

Found—A child's gold set ring. Owner may have same by proving property and paying for this notice.

High grade Clover and Timothy seed at Gee & Cars, Whitehall.



Gladstone Dowie has moved his law office to the rooms over the jewelry store in the Ripley block. Mr. Dowie was at Lansing Tuesday and received his commission as a full fledged lawyer of this state.

From May 1908

A. J. GLADSTONE DOWIE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
NOTARY PUBLIC,
LINDERMAN BLOCK
WHITEHALL, MICH.

Ad from February 1910

Obituary for A. J. Gladstone Dowie who died in Chicago, Illinois, on June 4, 1945.

Rev. Dowie, Zion City
Founder's Son, Dies
Chicago, June 5 (AP)
Rev. A. J. Gladstone Dowie, 67, only son of the late Dr. John Alexander Dowie, who founded Zion City, Ill., and the Christian Catholic Apostolic church, died yesterday.
An Episcopal minister, Rev. Mr. Dowie had suffered an extended illness resulting from an automobile accident seven years ago.

This Obituary appeared in several newspapers, but none of them locally. He never married and was the last surviving member of his family.

The only surviving item that once belonged to the Dowie family is this Ebony Piano which can be found at the Montague Museum.



Ebony Piano owned
by Alexander Dowie in
the 1900's. Please Note
the hand carding on the
legs and pedal stem.