

they were detained for a time by a great gale. They came up Lake Erie on the steamer North America to Monroe, from which place they proceeded on horseback. Not being used to riding, they found it tough work, over hard roads and mud-holes, nevertheless they had a merry time. Camp's horse was a tumbler, and pitched the rider over his head several times. On the way they met Orson Peck, with whom Camp traded horses. (Peck was a peddler, and in later years lived here and at Lowell.) At Gull Prairie they found snow, left two of the horses, procured sleighs, and engaged Robert Scales to pilot them through. At the Thornapple, December 1, they found the stream frozen over, cut brush and laid it upon the ice, and thus contrived to push their sleighs across. They cut a channel through the ice for the horses, and called to a Mr. Jackson who lived on the other side. Jackson went over to ride one horse and let the other follow. The rear horse plunged, and went over Jackson's horse, and the latter turned and went back. They finally got across, and as the weather was piercing cold, they ran the horses to Edward Robinson's at the mouth of the Thornapple, where they found warm stabling, a good fire in the house, and had a supper of venison, which the hungry men declared the best meal they ever ate. They spread robes on the floor and camped with feet to the fire, rose refreshed, and arrived at Joel Guild's at Grand Rapids the next afternoon. Here Mr. Smith was so well pleased with the town, that he decided to stay, and opened a store near the Eagle Hotel on Market street. He was an accomplished bookkeeper, and engaged as such most of the time for about twenty-five years after coming here. In the summer of 1850 he was Captain of the steamboat Algona on Grand River. He was the second City Clerk, elected in 1851. In 1862 he was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, and in that capacity served about ten years, and afterward about fifteen years as Deputy Collector, making about twenty-five years of continuous service as an Internal Revenue officer. He was vestryman and clerk of the vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal church for 17 years. In 1836 he started the first Sunday School in Grand Rapids. He married, in 1839, Mary M. Nelson, who died in 1887, in this city. Mr. Smith was a native of Berlin, Connecticut, born March 30, 1812. He died August 29, 1900.