

## **Another “Do You Remember” and Home-Coming Interview**

**August 26, 1913**

Probably no woman living in Lansing at the present time saw Lansing at as early a date as Mrs. Phoebe Lott Murphy, 89 years of age, who lived at DeWitt for years but who for the past three years has lived with her daughter at 946 Center st. When Mrs. Murphy as a small girl passed through Lansing on her way to DeWitt with her parents, Lansing was mostly a collection of rude dwellings and the roads were mere trails.

Mrs. Murphy was born August 25, 1824 in Hamilton, Canada. When she was a small girl her parents decided to come to Michigan. They arrived from Hamilton in Detroit by a long and tedious route. At that time there was but one railroad out of Detroit, a small line that ran to Ypsilanti. After a week's rest in Detroit the family started for DeWitt where the father had taken up land. The route lay through this city and according to Mrs. Murphy Lansing was just beginning to appear on the map.

At DeWitt there was one log house. When the first frame house was built the settlers celebrated the event by a dance and the house was “warmed” to the tune of a fiddle and the clatter of home-made shoes. With her parents she came frequently to Lansing to trade and has seen the place grow from a collection of log houses to a modern city. She says that the only road was a sort of trail from Delta to Detroit that was much frequented by both whites and the Indians. Mrs. Murphy's husband at one time carried the mail, what little there was, to the DeWitt settlement and one winter was treed by the wolves before he could make the settlement.

Although within a year of being 90 years old, Mrs. Murphy is quite active.