The Ferguson name came to America from Scotland, “Celt Fearghus”, meaning “a man of strength”. William Henry Ferguson was born December 19, 1840 in Waterloo Seneca County, New York, son of Jeremiah G. and Sallie J. nee Honestead. William Henry served in the Civil War from May 1861 to June 1863. In 1865 he married Mary Anna King who was born in Lancaster, England in 1842. In recognition of his service in the Union Army, William was given a 40 acre land grant in Birch Run Township. William and Mary made this land grant their homestead. They had seven children: William H. Jr., Louisa, John K., George, Lucinda, Clara and Maude.