

Jr., (although Martin, Jr. died shortly after birth).<sup>23</sup> In 1870 two of the children, Dennis and Ann, were staying with their grandparents in Chilton,<sup>24</sup> the eldest son John had struck out on his own.

After Martin's marriage in 1864 he doesn't show up again in public records, recognizably, until the 1875 Rhode Island state census.<sup>25</sup> There we find him living in Providence, Providence County, with Bridget and his son Dennis (who was now 17 years old and working as a wool picker in one of the factories). Sadly, none of the other children are ever heard of again other than John and Dennis. Did they all die of diseases prevalent at the time? Were they farmed out to other families? Did the girls marry young and have families of their own and the other boys go west to make their fortunes? Nothing is known. Directories have listings for a Martin Cain from 1865 until 1900, however, there is no way to be sure it is the correct Martin Cain, as there were several living in the area. Bridget is found living in an insane asylum, which she had entered some time after 1875. She died there 25 January 1883 of consumption.<sup>26</sup> Did she have a breakdown resulting from the deaths of the children? Was she alone and ill and the only way to get care was to enter the asylum? The records don't exist that might inform us of the reasons. Her entry in the death registration indicates that she was married, but it is unclear *how* to read the entry, as by this time she could have been a widow and they were merely indicating she *had been* married.

So Martin Cain remains a mystery, where did he come from and where did he and his children go. The hunt is still on.

#### Children with Winifred:

- +4. John Paul (1852-1918)
- 5. Sarah (~1854-)
- 6. Winifred (~1856-)
- +7. Dennis (~1857-1908) possibly twin
- 8. Julia (~1857-) possibly twin
- 9. Amy (Ann) (1859-)
- 10. James (1861-1863)

#### Children with Bridget:

- 11. Thomas (1865-)
- 12. Martin (1869-1869)



John Paul Cain, photo courtesy of Robert Cain of Oconto

### Third Generation

4. John Paul CAIN was born on November 1, 1852 in Providence County, Rhode Island.<sup>27,28</sup> Family lore had him moving to Oconto at age 19, but in 1870 at the age of 17 he is found living in a boarding house in Oconto, Oconto County, Wisconsin.<sup>29</sup> It must have been those visits to his grandparents farm in Chilton, Wisconsin that influenced his decision to head to Oconto. After all who would want to spend dreary hours on end toiling in a dark factory for a few dollars a week, in a crowded city like Rhode Island, when you can work outdoors in the wilderness with plenty of fresh air and a wide open sky. So, like his father, John struck out on his own at a young age, heading up to the wilds of Wisconsin to make a life for himself in the burgeoning lumber industry in Oconto County.

After arriving in the north woods he wasted no time getting a job in a sawmill, one that would jump-start his lifelong career in lumbering. He could have been working at the Oconto Company which was in operation out of Oconto from 1866 to 1943 in lumber. There is a John Kane found in a time roll ledger dated Sept. 1873.<sup>30</sup> The ledger kept track of every day worked in the month by each person and lists their wages at the month's end. Most men were making between \$30 and \$43 per month, some as much as \$60. Although the money was pretty decent, the accident rate of employees