The above pictures are the before and after repairs of the headstone of John Hawley who is buried in Potter Cemetery, Ash Township, Monroe County, MI. Mr. Hawley was born in 1822-23 in New York. In 1850 he was living in Mayfield, Fulton County, NY with his wife Tirzah/Tersey (Robertson) Hawley. John was 27, Tirzah was 21. In 1860 they were still living in Mayfield but now had three children, Francelia age 8, Irvin (Irving) age 6 (born Dec. 5, 1853) and Ella age 4. Another son, Simon, (Sam) was born Oct. 23, 1861.

Sometime after 1860 the Hawley family moved to Michigan. John died of an accidental gunshot on Nov. 20, 1867. He had been a member of the Masonic Lodge. His wife, Tirzah, survived him and died Dec. 17, 1917. Daughter, Francelia, died Nov. 20, 1916 at age 64. Son Simon died July 28, 1930. All of them are buried in Potter Cemetery and their markers will also be restored. Son Irving died June 15, 1934 at age 80. He had married and had a family, but we do not know where he is buried. According to the county death records, Irving is buried in Newport, but the cemetery was not reported.

The repair work was done by David Carter of Carter Cemetery Preservation, Inc. of Commerce Township, MI. Mr. Carter has been to Potter Cemetery several times and has now been retained by the group to repair, restore, & clean all of the approximately 70 headstones & monuments in Potter Cemetery.

The headstone of Mr. Hawley was broken off its base and lying on the ground in 3 pieces. Mr. Carter took it home to work on it in February and the pictures here are the results of his work with just some finishing touches left to be done. Work on the entire cemetery is scheduled to begin in July 2013 at a cost of $13,000.