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COUNTIES

OF

LA GRANGE AND NOBLE,

INDIANA.

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HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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CHICAGO:  
F. A. BATTEY & CO., PUBLISHERS.  
1882.

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## PREFACE.

THIS volume goes forth to our patrons the result of months of arduous, unremitting and conscientious labor. None so well know as those who have been associated with us the almost insurmountable difficulties to be met with in the preparation of a work of this character. Since the inauguration of the enterprise, nearly one year ago, a large force have been employed—both local and others—in gathering material. During this time, upward of three thousand persons have been called upon in the two counties, to contribute from their recollections, carefully preserved letters, scraps of manuscript, printed fragments, memoranda, etc. Public records and semi-official documents have been searched, the newspaper files of the counties have been overhauled, and former citizens, now living out of the counties, have been corresponded with, all for the purpose of making the record as complete as could be, and for the verification of the information by a conference with many. In gathering from these numerous sources, both for the historical and biographical departments, the conflicting statements, the discrepancies and the fallible and incomplete nature of public documents were almost appalling to our historians and biographers, who were expected to weave therefrom with any degree of accuracy, in panoramic review, a record of events. Members of the same families disagree as to the spelling of the family name, contradict each other's statements as to dates of births, of settlement in the county, nativity and other matters of fact. In this entangled condition, we have given preference to the preponderance of authority, and while we acknowledge the existence of errors and our inability to furnish a *perfect* history, we claim to have come up to the standard of our promises, and given as complete and accurate a work as the nature of the surroundings would permit. Whatever may be the verdict of those who do not and *will* not comprehend the difficulties to be met with, we feel assured that all just and thoughtful people will appreciate our efforts, and recognize the importance of the undertaking and the great public benefit that has been accomplished in preserving the valuable historical matter of the county and biographies of many of its citizens, that perhaps would otherwise have passed into oblivion. To those who have given us their support and encouragement, and they are many, we acknowledge our gratitude, and can assure them that as years go by the book will grow in value as a repository not only of pleasing reading matter, but of treasured information of the past, that becomes a monument more enduring than marble.

MAY, 1882.

THE PUBLISHERS.





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ADDENDUM.—Mr. J. M. Weaver, father of Charles E. Weaver, Clay Township, was born in Richland Co., Ohio, in 1827. Mrs. Mary A. (Charles) Weaver was born in Mifflin, Ashland Co., Ohio, in 1831. (See page 441, Part I.)





## PART I.

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# HISTORY OF LA GRANGE COUNTY.

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### CHAPTER I.

BY J. H. BERICK, M. D.

PHYSICAL FEATURES—ECONOMIC QUESTIONS—GEOLOGY—AGRICULTURE—THE COUNTY LAKES—THE DRIFT DEPOSIT—BONES OF THE MASTODON—THE INDIANS AND THE MOUND-BUILDERS—THE COUNTY FAIR—PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS—COUNTY CENSUS OF 1880.

THE history of the white man in Northern Indiana opens at an Indian village at the head-waters of the Maumee River, Kekionga, now the city of Fort Wayne, about the year 1676. The Indian tradition is that one of the missionaries from St. Joseph, on Lake Michigan, came to Kekionga about that time. The route of this Frenchman, in all probability, was up the St. Joseph River to points where are now White Pigeon, or Three Rivers, and thence across the country to Kekionga. If he took this, his most convenient route, he passed through the territory now embraced in La Grange County, and was, in all probability, the first white man to tread its soil. The famous La Salle followed him about four years after going there, over the same route. This theory being true, a messenger of peace and good will was the first herald of American civilization to tread the soil of Northeastern Indiana. A good harbinger, truly, and as true in prophetic significance as good in character! A French fort was erected at Kekionga in 1705, and the place was occupied as a military post successively by French, English and Americans until 1819, when the settlements had so increased and the Indians become so peaceable that the military were moved further West. It is not improbable that during this interval of over 150 years, white men, either missionary, trader or hunter, wandered through the forests of La Grange.

In the allotment of territory to the counties of the northeast, La Grange County, being on the outside, has been crowded to the Michigan line, and consequently has hardly three full tiers of Congressional Townships. The county might have been much more extensive to the north had the Indiana boundary line been so located as to include territory in the same liberal man-

ner in which Ohio arranged its boundaries. But this was not done, and it was a hard fight to keep what there is of La Grange County, when, in 1834, Michigan demanded a "rectification of her frontier." She asked a strip ten miles wide off of Northern Indiana, but was ultimately satisfied by the cession to her of the Northern Peninsula, the Lake Superior Region. The southern and middle townships have been organized and named with the boundaries as fixed by the United States survey for Congressional Townships. But the upper tier, being cut down by the State boundary line to a width of only four miles and two-thirds, has been divided into but three townships. Beginning at the northeast, these are Greenfield, Lima and Van Buren, the first and last nine miles in length, and the second, the richest in the county, but six miles in length. The middle tier of townships follow in the usual order of description from west to east, Newbury, Clay, Bloomfield, Springfield; and the southern tier, Milford, Johnson, Clearspring, and lastly Eden.

Thus the 384 square miles of territory are divided into eleven civil townships. The county takes its name from the country residence of the distinguished Frenchman so dear to Americans, La Fayette; and of the townships, three are given personal names, three borrow a geographical title, four are named appropriately, and Eden belongs to the latter class, according to the best authorities.

Let the reader suppose himself upon an elevation—which, however, is a severe task for the imagination in Northern Indiana—rather let him fancy a position in a comfortable balloon at such a height above La Grange, the center of the county, as to sweep the whole county and obtain a comprehensive view of its 256,000 "broad acres." The surface is nearly level—for miles on the prairies of Lima and in Greenfield it is perfectly so. In Bloomfield, the rolling country reaches enough of an elevation at one place to receive the name of the "Knobs." In western Clay there is a beautiful mingling of lowlands and wooded hills, and away in the northwest a group of blue, white sand-ringed lakes lie among the bluffs, which sink away into the prairies of Michigan.

The prairies have an attractiveness of their own, the broken land has its variety, and altogether there is a diversity and beauty in the landscape.

The only considerable stream is Pigeon River, which flows through the county northwesterly, and receives most of the creeks which arise in its limits. The most important of these are Turkey Creek in Milford and Springfield, Fly Creek in the central part, and in the west Buck Creek and Shipshewana, all of them inconsiderable and threatening not to "flow on forever." The south and southwest are drained into the Elkhart River, the main branch of which has its head-waters in Johnson Township. The Little Elkhart rises in the marshes of the west. But all these streams are tributaries of the St. Joseph, which carries their waters to Lake Michigan. In each township of the north another stream, Crooked Creek, runs down into the county and back again into Michigan; in Van Buren Township, forming the "Island."

From this it will be seen that the county lies wholly within the St. Lawrence basin. But a tributary of the Wabash, marking the edge of the Mississippi basin, rises within three miles of the southeast corner of the county, so that it is very near the water-shed of these two great systems. The altitude of the county is on an average over nine hundred feet above the level of the ocean, and four hundred above Lake Erie. The altitude of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railway is 959 feet at Wolcottville; at Valentine, 973; La Grange, 927; Lima, 897; State line, 889. The altitude in the southeast is a little over 1,000 feet above the sea. In the northwest, on the low lands, the altitude is 800 feet approximately. As the highest point in the State has an altitude of only 1,233 feet, it will be seen that La Grange is "near the top." There is no higher land in Northern Indiana except the "divides" of Noble and Steuben Counties, which exceed it by but a few feet.

The lakes, of which there are thirty-five, of all areas, from two or three to 500 or 600 acres, are the most attractive natural features of the county. On the prairie land of the north, there are comparatively few, but these are the finest small bodies of water in the region. We refer to Wall, Cedar, Twin and Stone Lakes, which mark the boundary lines of the three northern townships. South of these, to the west, the only lake of any importance is Shishewana, the largest of those finding an outlet in Pigeon River. No lakes of more than forty acres lie wholly in Clay, Eden and Clearspring. Bloomfield has one grassy sheet of water, Fish Lake. Springfield has three similar bodies, and shares Grass Lake with Greenfield. A large group of lakes in Milford forms the source of Turkey Creek. A portion of Turkey Lake lies in this township, Little Turkey Lake, Pretty Lake, of some 300 acres, and Long Lake, two miles long and one-half mile broad. Lake of the Woods is the other large lake in this group. Blackmun Lake, in Milford, is the first of the large group which makes Johnson emphatically the lake township. These are, except Sloan Lake in the north, drained into the Elkhart River. Oliver Lake, with its appendage, Olen Lake, is the most considerable body of water in the county, covering over six hundred acres. Adams Lake has an area of about three hundred and twenty acres. Atwood Lake covers about two hundred and fifty acres, while the long, narrow stretch of water, some three miles long, called Witmer, Westler, Third and Dallas Lakes, occupies several hundred acres. Still another small lake, Nauvoo, lies east of Wolcottville.

All of these picturesque little lakes, if joined together, would only form a water area of about seven square miles, but scattered about as they are, with beautiful natural surroundings, and filled with fish, such as bass, pickerel, perch, sunfish, catfish, and the resort of innumerable feathered game, they are of great value, and a source of much recreation. Many of the lakes, however, are becoming depopulated of their finny habitants, and every disciple of gentle Isaac Walton should urge some measure to restore their former attractiveness in this respect. The lakes are mainly found in the higher lands and not sur-



rounded with marshy land to a great extent. But a much greater area is occupied with swamps and marshes. In the western townships, Van Buren, Newbury, Eden, Clay and Clearspring, are found most of the wet lands. The most extensive of these huge deposits of muck and decaying vegetable matter, are Hobbs' Marsh and Big Marsh, a chain of bogs, swamp, little lakes and rivulets, extending through Clay and Van Buren, and lying between the rolling country south and the level lands to the north. But the largest marshes are in south Newbury and Eden, along the branches of the Little Elkhart. One of these is drained by a large ditch some three miles in length. Scores of miles of ditches have been cut, under the State laws, during the last few years, and large tracts of land, seemingly irreclaimable, have been brought under the yoke—of oxen and the plow. Another decade will witness still greater improvements in this respect.

A more pleasing feature of the landscape are the prairies. Of these, Greenfield rejoices in two, covering about twelve sections—English Prairie in the center, and to the northwest of Lexington, Pretty Prairie. On the opposite side of Cedar Lake and its outlet, and extending to Lima, lies the beautiful Mongoquinong Prairie. The name untranslated is more romantic than the English rendering, which is said to be "Big Squaw." In the southern part of Springfield lies Brushy Prairie, embracing about three sections.

In the southwest corner of Clearspring, and the southeast of Eden, is a tract of land of some four thousand acres, known as the Haw Patch. This, when first settled by the white man, was sparsely covered by oak, hickory and hawthorn, and presenting a most enticing prospect to the pioneer. It is still a beautiful country, and its farms have, for years, commanded the highest prices for lands at a like distance from shipping-points.

La Grange County is situated upon the great glacial drift, which covers to the depth of 100 feet or more the rocks of the Silurian period. They were formed at a very remote period in the earth's history, when the lake region was one vast inland gulf. These rocks are a kind of gray limestone, and are often more than a thousand feet in thickness. They are almost wholly composed of the remains of the lower forms of marine life, such as radiates, mollusks and articulates. But it is only in the southern counties of this region that these Silurian rocks are found at the surface. As to the cause of this overlying deposit of sand, clay and gravel, the generally adopted theory is well stated by Mr. Christian Y. Roop, formerly of La Grange, in an essay upon La Grange County geology, as follows:

"Nearly every part of the earth's crust has been subject to frequent changes of elevation. When the Silurian rocks were being formed by the deposition of shells, a shallow inland sea covered all this region of country, and the whole of what is now North America enjoyed an almost tropical climate. But as time rolled on, the continent gradually became more and more elevated, the climate became colder and colder, the ice fields of the North

grew southward, as the Alpine glaciers flow, until at last the whole northern part of North America was covered with snow and ice, thousands of feet thick; from these vast ice fields there issued with slow motion, but almost resistless power, those enormous glaciers, or rivers of ice, in whose paths mountains were reduced to pebbles, and the hardest rocks were ground to sand. As these glaciers moved southward, the increasing heat melted and diminished them until they finally disappeared, giving rise to numerous rivers that dashed onward to the ocean. The melting of the glaciers, of course, caused the deposit of those immense masses of rocks and earth which had been transported from the far North. These deposits form what is called the great northern drift, and their southern limit in Indiana is not far from the city of Indianapolis. South of that line, we find none of those large rounded granite bowlders such as are so plenty in this county. After long ages of glacial action, the continent began to slowly subside; and, as the climate again grew warmer, the limit of the moving wall of ice was gradually pressed toward the North. Each returning summer the land was deluged with terrific floods, flowing from the melting glaciers. These annual floods served to still further grind and mix the enormous glacial deposits, until at last the wall of ice was pushed so far north that the water from the melting mass found shorter passage to the sea; and all this region of country was left a gently rolling surface, much as we now find it."

As the ice gradually receded to the north, and the huge lakes drained away, they left a country covered, in the low places, with beds of blue clay, and large deposits of gravel and sand. Upon this a vegetation sprang up, much like that of the present. But in the forests, and over the level plains, there roamed some animals that would now seem strangely out of place in Indiana. Not only bisons and horses, and other animals familiar to us, but huge mastodons and mammoths, who browsed from the trees and watered at the lakes and the wide, sluggish rivers. Their remains have almost entirely perished, except in those instances where the animals were caught in the mire. A number of teeth, however, have resisted the erosion of years, and are sometimes plowed up in the fields.

A few years ago, a Mr. Boyd, while ditching in Hobbs' Marsh, a few miles northwest of La Grange, discovered the well-preserved skull of a mastodon, but the other portions had disappeared. The bones were found about three feet beneath the surface. They were washed and taken to La Grange, where they created considerable excitement. One man offered \$5 for them, another offered \$10, and a commercial traveler raised the amount to \$75, but the owner refused to sell at any price. He exhibited them at Ligonier, La Grange, and at other places, but at last sold them for a small amount to parties at La Grange, where they are now owned. The bones are undoubtedly those of the mastodon, as the crown of the teeth have those peculiar conical projections characteristic of the animal, besides two small cavities some two inches in diameter, on the ante-

rior portion of the inferior maxillary, for the insertion, probably, of small tusks, or teeth.

Since then, the country has been in great part covered by lakes and marshes, gradually filling up with decaying vegetable matter. In some unexplained way, the prairies have been formed, with their rich, loamy soil. The oak openings, covering over half the county, have produced a sandy loam, while in the heavy timber, the clay predominates. This diversity in soil favors a variety in farm products. The "barrens" are well adapted to wheat; the clay lands, in addition to wheat, corn, grass and oats, and the prairies to wheat and corn. With respect to the dry lands of the different townships, Newbury, Eden, Clearspring, Lima, Greenfield and Springfield are almost wholly prairies and oak openings; Milford and Van Buren largely oak openings; while Bloomfield, Clay, Newbury and Johnson had much heavy timber.

In many of the marshes, large beds of marl are found. There are, of course, no stone quarries, and the only stone available as building material are the bowlders, which suffice only for foundation walls. Little clay is found in the county, and much of this is so intermixed with gravel as to be useless. A brick yard a few miles south, and one west of La Grange, have furnished most of the brick used in building in La Grange and vicinity. Of course, no ores are found in the county, of any noteworthy economic value. In several of the marshes occur considerable deposits of bog iron ore or limonite, a hydrous oxide of iron collected by decaying plants from the soil and water. Such an abundance of it was found on Buck Creek that it was smelted for some years, at the "Old Forge" in Lima Township. But this mineral is not valuable, unless as the last resort.

The resources of La Grange County, it will be seen, are exclusively in the rich soil. This, before the settler came, produced magnificent forests. The following list includes all the important trees, in the order of their abundance at present: Beech, white oak, burr oak, black oak, red oak, sugar maple, elm, poplar or tuliptree, white ash, blue ash, hard maple, pignut hickory, black ash, shellbark hickory, basswood, black walnut, cherry, sycamore, sassafras, white walnut, tamarack, cottonwood, white pine, coffee-nut, red cedar and box elder. At an earlier day, however, walnut, ash and hickory stood nearer the head of the list. Other shrubs, such as hawthorn, dogwood, iron wood, papaw, plum, hazel, crab apple, shadberry, contribute by their fruit or flowers to the beauty or interest of the forests. Huckleberries and cranberries are abundant in many places, and grapes, blackberries, gooseberries, raspberries, strawberries, are found everywhere. Of the smaller plants, representatives of nearly every family in American botany are found here, except the vegetation of rocks and mountains. Much valuable timber has been squandered in the county, but great destruction was inevitable in the early days, for farms had to be cleared, and there was no possible disposition of the timber except to roll it into the log heap and burn it. The forests have furnished the whole of the fuel of the



county until within a very few years, when coal is just beginning to be introduced.

The fauna of the county is not extensive. In the earliest settlement, deer, wolves, beavers, and an infrequent bear and wildcat, were the most important wild animals, and occasionally still a bear strays into the county and raises a commotion. Squirrels of several varieties are quite numerous in the woods, and are the principal attraction to the hunter, and the fox, polecat, ground hog, rabbit, mink, muskrat, weasel, mole, mouse and gopher are more or less abundant. Game birds are much less numerous than formerly, and are rapidly disappearing. Of these, the most common were the quail, pheasant, prairie fowl, pigeon, wild turkey, geese, ducks, cranes and snipes. Owls, hawks and more ignoble birds of prey are in the usual number, and occasionally an eagle visits the forests. Reptiles are not very plentiful, except the harmless ones, although about the marshes the less venomous species of rattlesnake, the Massasauga, is slaughtered occasionally, during hay cutting, in great numbers. These poisonous reptiles have been very numerous in the swamps, but have been productive of extremely little mortality, if any. The most valuable insect of the early days was, of course, the "busy bee," and the red man and white man vied in pursuit of its luscious product. Honey was very abundant. There is no scarcity in any branch of insect life, except that the county is little troubled with any of the pests which destroy the crops. The potato beetle is of course excepted. This interesting tramp is universal.

The Indians found in the county by the white settlers were of the Pottawatomie tribe, an inoffensive, quiet people, like all true Indians, much addicted to the chase. Their worst crime was the consumption of the "fire-water" which the pale-face supplied to them, and their capacity in this respect was almost unbounded. They occupied the St. Joseph country and Kankakee Valley. One of their most important villages was Mongoquinong, now called Lima, and Ontario, from which trails led south to Fort Wayne, upon which was afterward built the "old Wayne road," north to the large Indian village once near the site of Mendon, Mich., westward to the St. Joseph Mission, and another to Haw Patch. Along these trails, and many others running throughout the county, there was continual travel by the nomadic red men in their hunting and trading expeditions. During the excitement of the Black Hawk war in 1832, there was some fear that the Pottawatomes would join in the scrimmage, and it was even reported at one time that at a certain phase of the moon they would make an alliance with a hostile tribe. But nothing came of it. One day during this feverish time, it was told that a practical joker among the pale-faces of Union Mills, with the help of several whites and Indians, concocted a scheme that so thoroughly frightened the neighborhood that the remembrance is yet fresh in the minds of the citizens. The details may be found in the chapter on Springfield Township. In 1839, the Indians were removed westward, finally to Kansas. Coquillard was one of the agents for

their removal. They submitted to the purchase of their homes very readily, as a tribe, but many of them were anxious to remain. They clung lovingly to their old St. Joseph country, and even after it was thought all were gone, a lone Pottawatomie would sometimes wander back to the old hunting grounds.

The curious custom of burial prevailing among the Indians would often give rise to sensations. It would not be uncommon to find the remains of their dead tied to a tree in a thicket. One day some persons uncovering a sugar trough below Van Buren, where a White Pigeon party had been making sugar, were startled to find it had become the sepulcher of a red man. The most notable chiefs before the white men came were White Pigeon, whom one of the oldest settlers, John Kromer, remembered meeting, and who is buried at a well known spot near the town which bears his name; and Shipshewana, who sleeps on the north shore of the lake which commemorates him, some say, although it is claimed by others that his grave was some distance east of the lake.

This country is, as must already have occurred to the reader, admirably adapted to agricultural pursuits. This adaption was early recognized, and a commendable disposition and effort manifested to make the best use of it. Another fact was also appreciated, and that is, that agricultural development of a community was not best promoted by every tiller of the soil's digging away, week after week, and year after year, many planting, reaping and garnering away, regardless of all around, or of any improvements that might be suggested by others, or with indifference to social advancement of society. The illiterate idea that not brains, but brute force only, is needed for good farming, was discarded, and an effort made to advance the true and nobler ideal; that agricultural pursuits should, of all others, be the master agencies of civilization; that they should challenge the attention of the best and wisest; that instead of allowing the towns and cities to attract away the aspiring youth, the farm home should have that intelligence, refinement and honor; that young men should see in it more facilities for culture and distinction, than in the bustle, turmoil and pit-falls of city life. To secure this, it was seen that farmers must aspire to excellence in cultivation, produce the best the soil can be compelled to bring forth, raise the best stock, have neat homes, promote social and pleasant intercourse among themselves. As the people in towns and cities co-operate in the improvements that make to the material benefit of all, so must farmers. Among the co-operate measures that have done much to honor the calling of farming, has been that of county agricultural societies, for the holding of annual fairs. La Grange County was one of the earliest counties to lead off in this direction, and it is believed the most faithful and persistent in the State. No county agricultural society in the State that has so long continual existence, or held fairs without interruption so many years, can now be recalled.

The La Grange County Agricultural Society was organized October 1, 1852. The first officers were: Amos Davis, President; Andrew E. Durand, Vice President; Robert McClasky, Treasurer; C. B. Holmes, Secretary. The



LA GRANGE COUNTY COURT HOUSE



first fair was held on the 18th day of October, 1853, for the premiums of which, we find the records show \$250 were appropriated. The Presidents and Secretaries of the society since, have been: 1853—C. Corey, President; C. B. Holmes, Secretary. 1854—C. Corey, President; Mills Averill, Secretary. 1855—C. Corey, President; Mills Averill, Secretary. (The fair this year was held at Lima, but the next year was permanently located at La Grange.) 1856-57-58—Hawley Peck, President; C. B. Holmes, Secretary. 1859—H. L. Putney, President; C. B. Holmes, Secretary. 1860-61-62—No elections on record. 1863—Hawley Peck, President; J. Rice, Secretary. 1864—Jared Ford, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary. 1865—Dr. A. Lewis, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary. 1866—William Dorsey, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts of the fair, \$963.34. 1868—Nelson Slater, President; Dr. F. P. Griffith, Secretary; receipts, \$485.42. 1869—Luke Selby, elected President; George K. Poyser, acting President; Dr. F. P. Griffith, Secretary; receipts of fair, \$447.92. 1870—Elisha Talmage, President; Dr. F. P. Griffith, Secretary. 1871—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts, \$883.40. 1872—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts, \$1,001.50. 1873—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts, \$1,370. 1874—C. B. Holmes, President; W. T. Hissong, Secretary; receipts, \$1,406.35. 1875—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; J. S. Drake, Treasurer; receipts, \$1,292. 1876—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts, \$1,142.75. 1877—C. B. Holmes, President; Thomas Van Kirk, Secretary; receipts, \$1,682.25. 1878—S. K. Ruick, President; Ira Ford, Secretary; receipts, \$1,234. 1879—S. K. Ruick, President; Ira Ford, Secretary; receipts, \$1,175.75. 1880—John McDonald, President; John M. Preston, Secretary; receipts, \$1,621.78. 1881—John McDonald, President; J. J. Gillette, Secretary; receipts, \$1,105.66.

Spring fairs have been held in the spring of the last three years, but have not, with the exception of the first one, proved profitable to the society.

The principal productions owned and being produced in the county for the years 1880 and 1881, and other items, as gathered by the Assessors, and reported June 1, 1881, are as follows:

Acres of wheat sown in the fall of 1880.....	47,095
Acres of spring wheat sown in the spring of 1881.....	21
Acres of corn planted in 1881.....	24,102
Acres of oats sown in 1881.....	5,889
Acres of rye sown in 1881.....	64
Acres of buckwheat to be sown.....	165
Acres of Irish potatoes in 1881.....	741
Acres of timothy meadow in 1881.....	5,117
Acres of clover in 1881.....	22,283
Acres of blue grass and other wild grass.....	9,323
Acres of plow land not cultivated in 1881.....	8,516
Acres of new land brought under cultivation in 1881.....	1,384



Number of acres of timber land fenced or unfenced in 1881.....	43,600
Number of steam threshers owned during threshing season of 1880.....	40
Number of horse-power threshers owned during the season of 1880.....	4
Number of bushels of wheat cut and threshed in 1880.....	865,418
Number of bushels of oats cut and threshed in 1880.....	150,165
Number of bushels of rye cut and threshed in 1880.....	300
Number of bushels of flaxseed cut and threshed in 1880.....	5,673
Acres of wheat harvested in 1880.....	47,879
Bushels of wheat harvested in 1880.....	769,224
Bushels of corn gathered in 1880.....	21,878
Bushels of wheat gathered in 1880.....	764,019
Acres of oats harvested in 1880.....	6,022
Bushels of oats harvested in 1880.....	165,826
Acres of Irish potatoes planted in 1880.....	581
Bushels of Irish potatoes dug in 1880.....	41,778
Acres of meadow in 1880.....	13,054
Tons of hay cut in 1880.....	19,042
Acres of clover cut in 1880.....	8,523
Bushels of clover seed sown in 1880.....	4,678
Bushels of fall apples, 1880.....	120,860
Bushels of winter apples, 1880.....	63,383
Bushels of dried apples, 1880.....	1,854
Bushels of pears, 1880.....	879
Bushels of peaches, 1880.....	6,861
Bushels of dried peaches, 1880.....	300
Pounds of grapes, 1880.....	117,059
Gallons of strawberries, 1880.....	4,095
Gallons of currants, gooseberries and blackberries, 1880.....	5,987
Gallons of cherries, 1880.....	11,683
Gallons of cider, 1880.....	206,218
Gallons of vinegar, 1880.....	8,045
Gallons of wine, 1880.....	462
Gallons of sorghum molasses, 1880.....	6,063
Gallons of maple molasses, 1880.....	787
Pounds of maple sugar, 1880.....	4,050
Gallons of milk from the cows, 1880.....	1,647,637
Pounds of butter sold and used by the producers, 1880.....	475,048
Number of horses one year old and under.....	585
Number of horses one to two years old.....	492
Number of horses two to three years old.....	441
Number of horses three to four years old.....	357
Number of horses four years old and over.....	4,469
Number of mules one year old and under.....	8
Number of mules of other ages.....	72
Number of cattle one year old and under.....	4,038
Number of cattle one to two years old.....	2,761
Number of cattle two to three years old.....	1,339
Number of cattle three years old and over.....	7,098
Number of fattened hogs.....	16,728
Average weight of fattened hogs, pounds.....	201
Number of fatted hogs which will be old and fat, 1881.....	14,248
Number of grown sheep.....	33,503
Number of lambs.....	10,030
Number of pounds of wool clipped in 1880.....	135,356

Dozens of chickens sold and used for the last twelve months.....	5,727
Dozens of turkeys used and sold for the last twelve months.....	321
Dozens of geese sold and used for the last twelve months.....	103
Dozens of ducks sold and used for the last twelve months.....	263
Dozens of eggs sold and used for the last twelve months.....	174,441
Pounds of feathers picked.....	706
Total number of dogs owned or kept.....	1,185
Number of stands of bees.....	1,612
Number of pounds of honey taken for the past twelve months.....	7,173
Number of pianos.....	38
Number of organs.....	342
Number of sewing machines.....	1,389

From the State Statistician's Report of 1880, we glean the following items in relation to the county :

Number of church organizations.....	32
Number of members—male, 722; female, 1,091.....	1,813
Value of church structures.....	\$50,000
Amount of salaries paid ministers, one year.....	\$8,094
Number of practicing physicians.....	28
Number of attorneys.....	13
Number of ministers.....	29
Number of teachers in public schools.....	195

#### WAGES.

Rate of wages paid for the year ending June 30, 1879, monthly and weekly rates being reduced to the equivalent per day :

Bar-tenders.....	\$ 77
Brickmakers.....	1 50
Blacksmiths.....	1 87
Brick-masons.....	2 08
Cabinet-makers.....	2 00
Carpenters.....	1 87
Day laborers.....	1 00
Hotel clerks.....	77
Coopers.....	1 50
Dressmakers.....	75
Domestic help.....	34
Engineers, stationary.....	1 08
Farm hands.....	63
Livery-stable hands.....	69
Machinists.....	1 00

#### PUBLIC WORKS.

Miles of railroad in the county.....	16.57
Cost of construction and equipment.....	\$557,416
Value for taxation, 1881.....	\$145,335
Miles of common roads.....	665
Estimated cost of construction and maintenance for the last ten years.....	\$266,000
Acres of land in roadways.....	2,759
Estimated value of lands in roadways.....	\$44,144

Total estimated value invested for the use of the public, as in public buildings, schoolhouses, churches, roads, bridges, and permanent school fund.....\$1,200,000

## REAL ESTATE OWNERS.

In 1875.....	Land, 2,525.	Lots, 360
In 1879.....	Land, 2,760.	Lots, 350

This indicates that land-owners are increasing, rather than diminishing.

## THE CENSUS.

The population of the county, as reported by the census returns, has been as follows :

1840.....	3,661
1850.....	8,369
1860.....	11,350
1870.....	14,123
1880.....	15,639

The last census showed 8,017 males, 7,622 females. Of the males, 3,940 were of voting age, over twenty-one years.

The population of the several townships, in 1880, was :

	1880	1870
Van Buren.....	1,374	1,347
Newbury.....	1,392	1,159
Eden.....	1,111	930
Clearspring.....	1,370	1,223
Clay.....	1,408	1,223
Lima.....	1,336	1,371
Greenfield.....	1,182	1,078
Bloomfield.....	2,571	2,254
Johnson.....	1,565	1,322
Milford.....	1,312	1,288
Springfield.....	1,018	928
	<u>15,639</u>	<u>14,123</u>

Of those reported in 1880, 110 had passed their seventy-fifth year. The oldest reported was eighty-nine.

Table showing the number of marriage licenses issued, the number of letters of administration or executorship taken out, and the number of divorces granted in the county, during the last eleven years :

Year.	Marriage Licenses Issued.	Letters of Ad- ministration and Executorship.	Divorces.
1870.....	130	23	16
1871.....	95	23	13
1872.....	98	28	22
1873.....	124	23	10
1874.....	132	22	18
1875.....	110	25	8
1876.....	117	22	11
1877.....	113	29	8
1878.....	124	32	14
1879.....	118	19	11
1880.....	104	...	18
Total.....	<u>1,265</u>	<u>...</u>	<u>149</u>



[The following from the pen of Mr. Edward S. Edmunds, an enthusiastic student of geology, as well as of all other branches of natural science, will be read with interest.—ED.]

Glancing backward through the cycles and epicycles of the past, the evidences of constant and untiring change are written as with a mystic pen upon all forms of matter. So far as the human mind can penetrate with its keen acumen, its profound reasoning and its knowledge and experience of the past, unmistakable proofs of growth and development of even our own planet are to be seen upon every hand. If we trace human history downward into pre-historic soil, we find it replete with evidences of the rise, decline and fall of nations. From the ashes of the old, like the ancient phoenix, the new has arisen, and passing toward the zenith of its power it rushed onward to the horizon of dissolution, having been borne forward by the ever-flowing current of human destiny. Thus for ages these dramas of human life have been enacted. Likewise through the geologic past, the three great kingdoms of nature have been built, torn down and rebuilt in cyclic repetition. The human mind, having emerged from the dark clouds of superstition which have hung like the pall of night over the path of progression, is asserting its just and proper right—that of reason; hence in the seed of the present lies the golden fruit of the future. “Star-eyed science” opens wide the door of knowledge and invites the thinking and unthoughtful to explore her hidden vaults and seize the precious treasures which have lain hidden through all the cosmical ages. The human mind, being a product of the Divine mind, seeks to know the causes of this world of complex matter, recognizing that all things are governed by Law. Chief among the questions now agitating the depths of the thinking mind is that of world-formation. In this connection, the two sciences, Astronomy and Geology, go hand in hand; but as the former pertains to the universe, we take the latter and will endeavor to present to the reader the revealed geology of our county. Leaving the topographical portion, which has been described by Dr. Rerick, the first thing that claims our attention is the character of the soil. As many do not know how the soil has been formed, I will endeavor to explain the matter in question. Throughout the long and wonderful periods of geological history, the “forces of nature,” such as heat, light, air, water, electricity, etc., have continually wrought upon the rocky portion of the earth’s crust. Continents have arisen from the bosom of primitive seas, to be submerged again beneath the waters of a boiling cauldron. For we must remember that the internal fires of our planet in former times often broke through the thin film of rock, overturning the land thus far raised above the first ocean. This operation must have been repeated innumerable when, by this constant action, assisted by the destroying power of electricity and other agents, massive portions of rock were ground to powder. The different elements of nature, such as oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, etc., are powerful agencies of destruction and composition, and during the time when our county was covered with ice-fields and glaciers, this disintegration was carried

on. Thus, after years and centuries and, for aught we know, æons of time, many places upon the earth's surface are covered with this powdered rock. During the more recent periods, the vegetation which has flourished for centuries has passed through its cycles of growth, dropped to the earth and mingled its substance with the powdered rock. Thus, by a constant intermingling of the humus (as it is called) with the disintegrated rock, we have the substance called *soil*.

The chemical elements of the soil differ greatly with the locality. Here, it must be known by the reader that of all the elements entering into the structure of the everlasting rock, silica is the most abundant, composing nearly one-half of the crust. It is prevalent in almost every variety of rock, and, in its pure state, is what we term "sand." The white color, or clear appearance of the sand, is owing to the characteristics of the silica. Upon examination, under a microscope of moderate power, these particles are found to be, in many instances, of crystalline form, having numerous geometrical angles. If, on the other hand, the sand is of a dirty or yellow appearance, it is owing to the quantity of iron or other coloring matter contained. Regarding the quality of the soil, the prairies, having been covered for centuries with rank vegetation, and previously submerged by the lakes that covered that portion of the surface, are covered with what is called a "black loam"—the cause of this color being the abundance of that productive quality of the soil, "*humus*," or vegetable mold. This, through the changes which have been wrought, has become compounded with the sand in small quantities, and through the agency of "sub-soiling," it has mixed somewhat with the under soil, thus rendering it highly productive. Upon what are called the "oak-openings," the soil, having a much less quantity of "*humus*," contains a much larger percentage of sand, consequently it is of a lighter color. Hence, with fertilizers and cropping, it is quite well adapted to the cereals, as the large portion of silica it contains enters so materially into the stalk of the grain. Scattered throughout the county are quite extensive marshes, which owe their formation to rank vegetable growth and submersion after a series of years, the accumulation being so great as to form, in some instances, a thick matted stratum several feet in thickness. In some instances, however, several strata have been formed in the same way. In Ireland, and in numerous places in this country, these formations are numerous, and are known under the familiar name of "peat bogs." In Ireland the poorer classes cut these bogs up into squares and rectangles, and when dry, the peat makes good fuel. When these "peat beds" have become for a long time submerged, they form coal. In earlier geological ages, when the mastodon, dinotherium, etc., flourished, they often wandered over these marshes, and, sinking into the mire, portions of their skeletons have been preserved, where they fell a victim to indiscretion, but a monument to the geologist. La Grange County lies wholly within the Boulder Drift, or Quaternary epoch, varying from eighty to two hundred and twelve feet in thickness, approxi-

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>  
mately. In many instances these figures are, perhaps, much modified, but by carefully examining the wells that have been sunk, and from the statements of those engaged in well-sinking, I have come to this conclusion: The clay formation is most predominant, with a little sand and clay on the top, interspersed with now and then a boulder. This develops the fact that the great bulk of the recent formation is clay. Near the gravel this is often very compact, and is then called "hard-pan." Sometimes, in boring for water, the auger strikes a large boulder; in such cases, the auger must be withdrawn and another trial made in a new locality. Generally, after going through the "hard-pan," water is found in the layer of sand below. In some localities, the clay is so abundant that it has been used in the manufacture of brick, but in nearly every instance has been abandoned, as the predominance of lime rendered them inferior for building purposes. However, some brick are burned, but they are used only for rough work.

In some localities, and particularly in Van Buren Township, beds of "bog-iron ore" occur, and, as these are the most extensive of any in the county, I will describe them and their formation. They lie about a mile southwest of the village of Van Buren, in quite a low portion of that section, and covering an area of several thousand square yards. For many years after these beds were discovered, and even after they had been worked for some time, their origin was unknown. But since science has become developed, it is no longer a mystery. The wonderful chemical laboratory of nature is the scene of these mysterious transformations. The "bog ore" of Van Buren is said to contain in its purest form 70 per cent of iron, and when smelted is remarkable for its tenacity. This, together with its large percentage of iron, has, during the earlier history of the county, caused these mines to be extensively worked. Smelting works were established in Lima Township, where for some years the "ore" was prepared for the market; but after railroads were established, and more extensive mines discovered, these sank into insignificance.

As history is the record of the past events of man, so is geology the history of our planet; and, as the monuments and traditions of past ages reveal to us the condition of humanity at particular periods, so do the rocky monuments—the *fossils* and the primitive sea-beach—disclose to the geologist the remains of former continents, upon whose shores the primitive ocean beat, and in whose waters there existed the animals of those epochs. Since the creation of the science of geology, these different epochs have received names which have given us a geological nomenclature, as follows: Archæan, Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous, etc. As ours is the "Boulder Period," the underlying rocks which crop out not far from Indianapolis are covered to the depth of many hundred feet with the drift which came from the extreme northern regions; and so the fossils of our county are the rocky testimonials of the existence of Silurian, Devonian and Carboniferous periods of growth. Many interesting fossils have been gathered from the field, the brook, the cemetery and the hill-

side. To many of those who have them hoarded up, they are nothing more than "curious stones," but to the geologist they are land-marks of former ages, when the conditions for existence were far different than now. Conglomerates, "pudding-stone," geodes, trilobites, different kinds of shell-fish, animals resembling the lobster, craw-fish, etc., are found. Of these, however, the trilobite, the earlier animal of the Silurian seas, is rarely found, only a few specimens having been preserved. Of the later periods, I have found a few of the minor specimens of the Jurassic and Triassic periods.\* This, by noted geologists, is regarded as very remarkable; but, when we consider the fact that this period crops out in British Columbia as well as on the Rocky Mountains, it were easy to conceive of such fossils drifting, with those of other periods, to the southward. At some future time, when an opportunity presents itself, I intend to put on exhibition and publish an account of these remarkable fossils.

[Since it has been established that Northern Indiana, including La Grange County, is rich in the remains of that mysterious people known as Mound-Builders, it seems necessary to give at this point what is known of those people in this vicinity. The reader will find in Chapter I, Part II, of this volume, a complete classification of the Mound-Builders' works. Without attempting another such classification, the antiquities of La Grange County, so far as known, will be considered. It may be premised, that, from the fact that no suppositional military fortifications have been discovered in either of the two counties, La Grange or Noble, the territory was in the center of a large country of Mound-Builders, and not on the border, or between two or more hostile tribes. Nothing has been found here, with one possible exception, save sepulchral, sacrificial and memorial mounds. Owing to the state of the weather, the historian has been unable (as was done in Noble County) to make a personal examination of the mounds of La Grange County. However, many of those which were opened in the past by citizens of the county, who were generally careless in their examinations, have been made to yield up a portion of their secrets. A number of years ago, two mounds were opened on Section 13, Milford Township. A quantity of crumbling human bones was taken from one of them, among them being a skull quite well preserved. Some of the teeth were almost as sound as they ever were, and the under-jaw, a massive one, was especially well preserved. In the other mound was found a layer of ashes and charcoal, extending over two or three square yards of ground. This was undoubtedly a mound where sacrifices were offered to the deity of the Mound-Builders, and where burial rites with fire were performed. On the line between Sections 20 and 29, Springfield Township, is what might have been a fortification. The writer carefully examined the spot which is the summit of a gradual elevation; but, although Mr.

\* If it is really the case that Mr. Edmunds has discovered in the county rocky or fossiliferous relics of the Jurassic or Triassic periods, the discovery will certainly be of great interest to those who have made the geology of Northern Indiana a study. As the Drift, with which these relics were found, came from the north, it could only have come from those places where strata of the Jurassic or Triassic periods outcropped or were sufficiently near the surface to admit of being taken up, either by the glaciers, or later, by their successors—the icebergs. The Drift of this locality could scarcely have come from British Columbia or Connecticut, or Massachusetts, or further south along the Atlantic coast, as is proved by the glacial markings, which usually do not vary greatly from a north and south line. The relics may have been brought here by icebergs, which were wider travelers than the glaciers. Or, perhaps, the relics do not belong to the above-named periods after all.





*Samuel P. Bradford*

COUNTY CLERK



George Thompson indicated the position of the alleged circular embankment, only slight traces of it were visible, and these were apparently much the result of speculation. It may have been, however, as the old settlers assert. Near the center of the level space on the summit was a large mound, at least five feet in height, in 1836. This was opened about that time, and from it were taken enough bones to indicate that more than one person had been buried there. It is said that a few trinkets, such as slate ornaments or mica, were found. In the same township, about a mile northwest of this spot, is one large mound and perhaps a smaller one. These, it is said, have not been seriously disturbed. On Section 27, Clay Township, are two mounds, large ones, which have not been subjected to exhaustive examination. The writer has been told that there are three mounds in the eastern part of Lima Township, on the farm of George Shafer. Three-quarters of a mile northwest of Lima, on the Craig farm, are three mounds, which were opened a number of years ago. The usual bones and charcoal were found, as were also various trinkets, which may be seen in the private collections of curiosities at Lima. About forty rods west of James Moony's house, in Van Buren Township, are three mounds, all of which have been opened. Human bones, slate ornaments and other trinkets were found, as was also an abundance of ashes and charcoal. There are also mounds in the vicinity of Buck, Shishewana and Twin Lakes. The peculiar formation about Wall and other lakes is due to the agency of ice. It is thought by some that the Indians or Mound-Builders were responsible for the embankment, but no one familiar with formations of the kind will make such a declaration. Such walls are very numerous on the banks of Western lakes, especially those of Illinois and Iowa. Around some of the lakes of the latter State is a continuous chain of boulders and gravel, which, by observation through some thirty years, was undoubtedly thrown up by the united action of ice and waves, and the process of freezing and thawing. This fact is well understood and universally admitted by geologists, in Iowa. It may be added that there are other evidences in the county of the presence in past years of the Mound-Builders aside from their mounds. Reference is made to stone or other implements or ornaments. W. H. Duff and Master George Dayton, both of Lima, and Dr. Betts, of La Grange, especially the former two, have fine collections of antiquities. Mr. Duff has nearly 300 specimens, and Master Dayton has over 400. These consist mainly of stone axes, mauls, hammers, celts, mortars, pestles, flint arrow and spear heads, copper knives, and copper arrow or spear heads, fleshing and skinning instruments, ceremonial stones, shuttles, and various other implements evidently used in weaving or sewing, colored slate ornaments, breast-plates of stone, ornamental charms and totems, igneous stones, many curious varieties of arrow-heads and darts, etc., etc. There have also been found in the county a few extremely rare slate or stone ornaments or implements, bone and metallic ornaments, small fragments of pottery, mica (not native), curiously carved pipes of stone or other substance, besides other articles, the uses of which are extremely doubtful. Much more might be said in detail on the same subject.—ED.]

## CHAPTER II.

BY J. H. RERICK, M. D.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY—THE FIRST TERM OF COURT—THE BENCH AND THE BAR—TRIALS FOR MURDER—PUBLIC BUILDINGS—REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY LAW PRACTITIONERS—SKETCH OF THE EARLY PHYSICIANS AND THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE—VALUABLE COUNTY STATISTICS.

FOR some years prior to 1833, the territory to be in the future called La Grange County and portions of Steuben, Noble and DeKalb Counties were attached to Elkhart County and known as the township of Mongoquinong. The county seat was at Goshen, Elkhart County, and one of the oldest living settlers was called to that place to serve upon a jury before the formation of this county. The first step toward separation was on February 2, 1832, sixteen years after the organization of the State, when Gov. Noah Noble approved the act for the organization of the county. This act provided that "from and after the 1st day of April next, all that tract of country included in the following boundaries shall form and constitute a new county, to be known and designated by the name of the county of La Grange, to wit: Beginning at the northeast corner of Elkhart County, thence running east with the northern boundary to the range line between 11 and 12, thence south sixteen and a half miles, thence west to eastern boundary of Elkhart County, thence north with said boundary to the beginning."

Levi G. Thompson and Francis Comparet, of Allen County; W. B. Griffith, of St. Joseph; Peter Noland, of Delaware; and William Watt, of Union, were appointed Commissioners to "fix the seat of justice," which task they were ordered to accomplish on the second Monday of May, 1833, at the house of Moses Rice. The Commissioners were to be notified of their appointment by the Sheriff of Allen County. The same act provided that the Circuit Court and the Board of County Commissioners, when elected under the writ of election from the Executive Department, should hold their first session at the house of Moses Rice and adjourn to as near the center of the county as a convenient place could be had. It also provided that the agent appointed to superintend the sale of lots at the county seat should retain 10 per cent of the proceeds for the use of the public library. For judicial purposes, the county was attached to the Sixth Judicial District and was to be represented in the Legislature jointly with Allen County. All of the State east of La Grange and south to Townships 33 and 34, which includes Steuben County and three-fourths of De Kalb and Noble Counties, were attached to the new county for civil and judicial purposes. The Circuit Court was ordered to be held on the Mondays



succeeding the courts in Elkhart County and to sit three days each term, if the business demanded so extensive a session.

The townships were organized as follows: The first division into townships was into Lima and Greenfield, May 14, 1832. The remaining townships were organized as follows: Eden, November 5, 1832; Springfield, May 4, 1834; Bloomfield, May 5, 1835; Van Buren, January 3, 1837; Newbury, March 6, 1837; Clearspring, March 6, 1837; Johnson, March 6, 1837; Milford, September 5, 1837; Clay, September 4, 1838.

A county election was held in the spring of 1832, which resulted in the choice of the following first county officers: Joshua T. Hobbs, Clerk; Daniel Harding, Sheriff; Thomas Gale, Treasurer; David St. Clair, Recorder; Jacob Vandevanter, Edmund Littlefield and Arthur Barrows, Commissioners.

The first term of Circuit Court convened on the 22d day of October, 1832, at the home of Moses Rice. Court was called in the open air, at a convenient place between two hay stacks, and then moved into the house. The presiding Judge was Hon. Charles H. Test, who then filled the Sixth Circuit and is now a resident of the city of Indianapolis. Joshua T. Hobbs, the first Clerk-elect, presented his commission at this term, and was qualified as Clerk. The Sheriff-elect, not having qualified, and Nehemiah Coldren, the Sheriff by appointment of the Governor, being absent, Jesse Harding, the Coroner-elect, was qualified, and took his place as Sheriff, brought into court the first Grand Jury ever assembled in the county, and was the first to make the prairies echo with the cry "Hear ye, hear ye, this Honorable La Grange Circuit Court is now in session."

The names of the Grand Jurymen were: Ebenezer Fish, Ami Lawrence, William Thrall, Isaac Wolgamott, Samuel Fish, Oliver Closson, Jonathan Gardner, Benjamin Gale, Samuel Anderson, William A. McNeal and Richard Northrop, who when sworn, the record says "retired to consult of their business." Luther Newton and Ephraim Seeley, presented their commissions as Associate Judges, who, after being qualified, took their seats with the Presiding Judge. Neal McGaff, of White Pigeon, and Samuel C. Sample, from St. Joseph County, were admitted as attorneys and counselors at the bar, *ex gratia*, for that term. Joseph Kerr and Daniel Harding were appointed bailiffs. S. C. Sample was afterward appointed Prosecuting Attorney in place of William J. Brown, the regular prosecutor, who was reported absent on account of sickness.

But two cases were presented for trial, both of which were continued. Moses Hill presented a petition of *ad quod damnum*. The writ was granted to be returned at the next term. Daniel Fox, Frederick Hamilton, Thomas P. Burnell, William Legg and Samuel Burnell, all from "old England," made application, to make oath of their intention to become citizens of the United States. The only record of allowance at this term of the court, is that to bailiffs, of \$3 each.

The first Grand Jury chosen by the Commissioners, of which we have record, was for the May term, 1834, of the Circuit Court, and consisted of the following persons: Thomas Gale, Otis Newman, John Jewett, Nehemiah Col-dren, Jonathan Gardner, John Langdon, Micayah Harding, Robert Latta, Samuel Fish, Spencer Fish, Samuel Robinson, Isaac Wolgamott, Samuel Anderson, George Egneu, Ami Lawrence, James Hostetter and John B. Clark.

The second term of the Circuit Court was held at the house of Moses Rice, commencing on the 13th day of May, 1833. Presiding Judge, Hon. Gustavus Everts; Clerk, Joshua T. Hobbs; Sheriff, William Thrall; Prosecutor, John B. Chapman. Charles W. Ewing, Jonathan A. Liston, David H. Colerick, Samuel W. Parker, Joseph E. Jernegan, and Neal McGaffey were admitted, *ex gracio*, to practice at the bar at this term. The proceedings of this term make up a record of some twenty pages. Cases of assault and battery, riot and violation of the liquor license law were largely in the majority. One of the State cases was that of an indictment against a woman for retailing liquors contrary to law, on which she was found guilty and was mulcted in a fine of \$2. The State cases entered on the docket, during the first three years after the organization of the county, numbered about eighty, and are almost equal in number with the State cases of the present time.

The first resident lawyer of the La Grange bar was John B. Howe. Mr. Howe was admitted in 1834, and had for associates at the bar, in addition to those before mentioned, Samuel C. Sample, Charles W. Ewing, Henry Cooper, Thomas Johnson, and afterward William H. Combs.

Mr. Howe says of these: "They were thoroughly-read lawyers;" and continues: "John B. Chapman, the author of the Buffalo & Mississippi charter for a railroad running along the northern border of the State, was then Prosecuting Attorney. Gustavus A. Everts was Presiding Judge of the Court when I was admitted to the bar, at the spring term, 1834. I had applied at the fall term previous, and was examined by Cooper and Jernegan. I failed of admission upon their report, because I failed in some answers to some of the most technical questions upon that, in some aspects, most technical of all subjects, the statute of uses. I brought myself to the required standard by six months' longer study, during a portion of which time I was keeping school.

"The system of pleading at that time in use was that which prevails under the common law, and the practice of the High Court of Chancery in England; and to show in a few words how readily all parts of the social system, even to pleading and practice in court, and conveyancing, adapt themselves to actual conditions, the common law pleading, with the exception of declarations and bills in chancery, including pleas, replications, rejoinders, rebutters, and, if need be, surrebutters, were for the most part drawn up and signed during court, and to a considerable extent in the court house. The true science of law is everywhere substantially the same, and the pleading and practice are only the machinery by which exact justice is done or attempted. Some injus-

tice has undoubtedly been administered temporarily and unintentionally, in the use of some of the present simplified modes of pleading and practice, by adhering to that technicality, which was complained of in the administration of the old, the new forming no exception to the rule, that it takes time to establish and settle innovations of any kind, in whatever part of the social system they are introduced. Of all the old members of the bar, to whom I have referred, I fail to remember one who either was, or ever became, a politician, in the technical sense. I came nearer than any other, except Colerick, who was a member of the General Assembly twice or more, I believe, being a member of the Senate at least one term. I was a member of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly in the "Harrison" year, 1840-41, and of the Constitutional Convention in 1850."

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The Circuit Court President Judges, from the first organization of the county, in 1832, have been Charles H. Test, now of Indianapolis, commencing October, 1832; Gustavus A. Everts, commencing May term, 1833; S. C. Sample, commencing September term, 1836; Charles W. Ewing, commencing May term, 1837; John W. Wright, commencing April term, 1840; James Borden, commencing April term, 1842; Elza McMahon, commencing September term, 1851; James L. Worden, now of Fort Wayne, commencing October term, 1855; Reuben J. Dawson, commencing March term, 1857; Edward R. Wilson, commencing March term, 1860; Robert Lowry, now of Fort Wayne, commencing March term, 1865; Hiram Tousley, commencing March term, 1867; James D. Osborne, commencing, by appointment, March term, 1875; William A. Woods, commencing December term, 1873. Judge Woods was elected to the Supreme Court of the State in 1880, and resigned his position as Judge of the Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit. James D. Osborne, of Goshen, was appointed by the Governor to the vacancy, December, 1880.

Until the adoption of the new Constitution, each Circuit Judge had seated with him on the bench, two Associate Judges elected by the people of the county. These Associate Judges up to this time were Luther A. Newton, 1832; Ephriam Seeley, 1832; Thomas Spaulding, 1839; Samuel Wescott, 1839; Amos Davis, 1844, and Joshua T. Hobbs, 1844.

Separate Probate Courts were also held under the old Constitution, but when the new Constitution went into effect in 1852, all this class of business was transferred to the Common Pleas Court, a new court then established. The Probate Judges were Elias B. Smith and William S. Prentiss. The Common Pleas Judges were Joseph H. Mather and E. W. Metcalf, of Elkhart County, and William M. Clapp, of Noble County. This court was abolished in 1873, and all its business transferred to the Circuit Court.

Another item furnished by the early records is that the first marriage license issued in the county was July 25, 1832, to join together in the holy bonds of matrimony, Lewis D. Parish and Elizabeth Cook. Six marriage licenses were issued in 1833, twenty in 1834, and thirty-six in 1835. For the

last few years, the average has been about one hundred and twenty. Many connubial knots were tied over the line, in Michigan, in an early day, and the custom is not, by any means, yet abandoned.

The first application for divorce was made at the October term, 1839, but the cause was continued, and several terms thereafter dismissed. The first divorce granted was in 1840.

The first murder trial in the county was occasioned by an assault of a party of young men, of Clay Township, upon Jacob Bean and some members of his family, in December, 1861. In the melee, Jacob Bean was struck down and his neck broken. Three persons were indicted, but only one, Hiram Springer, found guilty, and he of manslaughter. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, but was relieved by the decision of the Supreme Court on a technical fault in the records. This was in "war times," and the proceedings were nolle prosequied, and the accused endeavored to repair his record by gallant service at the front.

The most famous trial in the county was that of Stephen Jenks, for the murder of George Mallow, of Ontario, which was commenced in September, 1870, and concluded at a special term in December, 1870. The attorneys engaged were James McGrew, Prosecuting Attorney, assisted by Andrew Ellison, for the State; and for the defense, Joseph D. Ferrall and John Morris, of Fort Wayne. The trial lasted fourteen days, and during the entire time the court room was densely crowded, and excitement at a high pitch. The prisoner, during the trial, was quiet and undemonstrative, apparently taking little interest in the proceedings. This trial was the first one in the county in which the defense of insanity was made.

The defense of insanity, however applicable it may have been to Jenks, was very distasteful to the people of the county, who had just felt an indignant interest in the acquittal of McFarland, the murderer of the famous war correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, Albert D. Richardson. It was felt that it was an attempt to reproduce sharp New York criminal practice into a country where justice was yet dear. The sentiment of the people was well expressed by the following editorial remarks in the *Standard*:

"The advocates of paroxysmal insanity, as a defense against the charge of premeditated murder, may congratulate themselves on having a local illustration of the beauties of their doctrine in the murder of George Mallow. This heartless transaction, which has chilled the blood of our community by the heinousness of the offense, is nothing more than a natural outgrowth of those pernicious teachings which seek to establish the doctrine that a man may take the life of his fellow, while laboring under the impression that he has been wronged, and that his angered and excited feelings shall be taken as an apology for the crime. \* \* \* It is high time that cracked-brained theorists on the laws of insanity, who seek to make their doctrines applicable to a defense in a case of murder, had a practical illustration of the dangerous



nature of their teachings. The world is well stocked with moralizing fools that the community could get along without."

After a hotly contested trial, the jury took the case and struggled with it several hours, and then brought in a verdict of guilty, and fixed the penalty at imprisonment for life. A severer penalty was not expected, as the impression prevailed that a La Grange County jury would not sentence to death. Public opinion generally acquiesced in this result, although a considerable number gave credence to the defense of insanity. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, and the judgment reversed on the ground of the refusal of the lower court to continue the case for the introduction of further evidence for the defense.

Before the case was retried, Jenks escaped from jail, and was not found again until 1877, when he was discovered quietly working in a Michigan village, near Saginaw. Another trial, upon a change of venue, was then had in Elkhart County, and the same sentence imposed; after which, further defense was abandoned, and Jenks was taken to the penitentiary, at Michigan City, where he still remains.

The next important criminal trial was of Chauncy Barnes, for the murder of Addie Dwight. On account of the social position of the parents of the parties to this tragedy, and the mournfully romantic circumstances attending this sad murder of a young, beautiful and virtuous lady, a great interest was taken in the trial. A special term of court in December, 1871, was devoted to this case, which occupied four days. A considerable number of witnesses were called in, and a hotly contested trial resulted. The defense was insanity, as in the previous trial, and the verdict was also identical; but the defense was content with saving the life of the young man, and the sentence went into immediate effect. These cases were the most exciting which were tried in the old frame court house, and were probably the occasion of the greatest display of legal acuteness and forensic eloquence in the history of the county. Judge Hiram S. Tousley occupied the bench during the first trial of Jenks and at the Barnes trial, and his rulings were generally accepted as well intended and impartial.

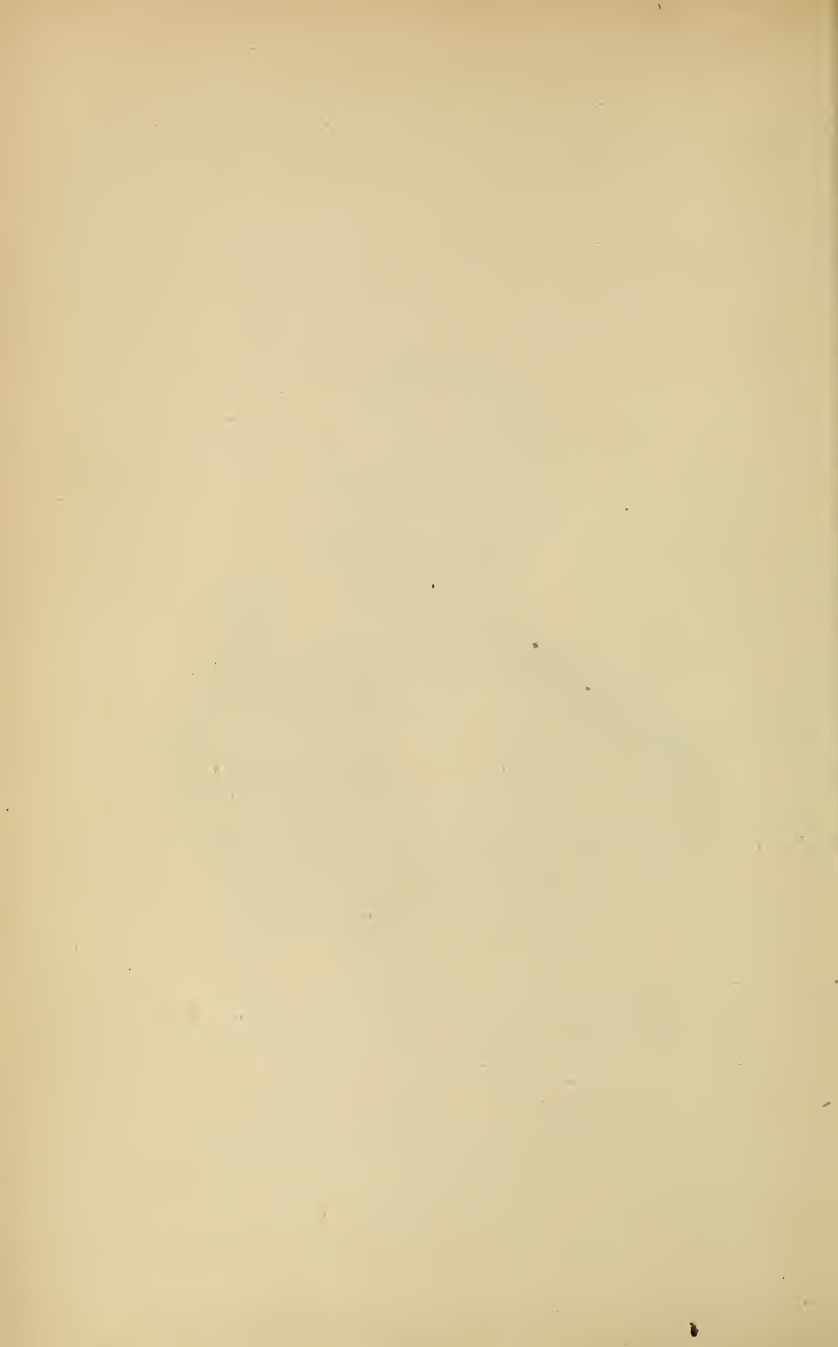
Public buildings were, of course, a necessity at once, and a two-story frame building was soon erected at Lima, in which to hold the scales of justice between the early settlers. But as soon as the central and southern parts of the county began to emerge from the status of a wilderness, and become settled, the location of the county seat became the dominant local question. Lima, it was argued, though it could not be excelled in its location as the site of a promising town, was not central enough for the county seat. The question was carried into the Legislature, and, at first, Lima seemed to have the advantage; but, afterward seeing that the contention would be productive of much ill-feeling, and that the question would never be settled, even if temporarily gained for her side, Lima finally abandoned the strife, and the geographical center was harmonious-

ly agreed upon for the county seat. That spot was found in a hilly, swampy spot on Fly Creek, covered with a heavy forest and partly with a luxurious growth of blackberry brambles, which it required many years to exterminate. There the town of La Grange was laid out. Two land-owners, Joshua T. Hobbs and Reuben J. Dawson, were materially benefited by this creation of a new town. They were not, however, ungrateful for the favor, but manifested their appreciation of the new state of things by the donation of grounds for a public square. On this a substantial and, for its day and place, a really fine building, of two stories, was erected in 1843 for the use of the public offices and court. It was a commodious building in its day, but it is estimated that it would only comfortably fill the court room in the present court house. A jail was soon after erected, which long remained a picturesque, though not a very secure, abode for the misdoers of the county. The jail proper was built of logs, and, in addition to the iron-barred doors and windows, there was, for security, a high board fence put around the cell windows. This primitive house of refuge was used for thirty years, although toward the last, prisoners of any importance were taken to other counties, and the jail became also, on account of its unhealthfulness, no longer tenable. A new jail was ordered by the Board of Commissioners February 2, 1872, and W. H. Croker, of Grand Rapids, Mich., was employed as architect. The contract for building was let to Messrs. Brace & Reed, of Kendallville, March 12, 1872, and the house was completed and occupied in February, 1873. The Sheriff's residence part is two stories in height, and the jail part one story above basement. The foundations are laid with bowlder stone, and the walls above of brick, the outside side wall being white pressed brick manufactured at Grand Rapids, Mich. The jail part is well cased inside with iron, and so constructed as to make escape for prisoners about impossible. The first cost of the building was about \$29,000. Since then improvements have been made in drainage, and otherwise, to the extent of some \$600.

The first court house was built at Lima in 1833; the second at La Grange 1843; the third was determined upon by the County Commissioners at their September term, 1877. The two first were wooden structures, of temporary build, without vaults or facilities for safety or convenience. The latter was to be permanent in structure and in style and convenience in unison with the day of improvements. Mr. A. J. Smith, of Chicago, was first engaged as architect, but a difference arising between him and the Commissioners, his engagement was dissolved and Messrs. T. J. Tolan & Son, of Fort Wayne, were employed. The general outline of plan for the building, prepared by the Auditor, Samuel Shepardson, and the Clerk, Samuel P. Bradford, and adopted by the Commissioners, was then placed in their hands. The details of plan and the specifications were then drawn up by the architects, and contractors advertised for to put in bids for the construction of the building April 24, 1878. The bids, in sealed envelopes, were handed in and when opened were found to be as



*Samuel Shephardson*  
COUNTY AUDITOR





follows: W. H. Myers, Fort Wayne, \$53,000; O. D. Hurd, Fort Wayne, \$48,365; Crane, Duncan & Co., Waterloo, \$54,690; M. D. Brennen & Co., Huntington, \$54,529; John L. Farr & Co., Grand Rapids, \$58,000; J. W. Hinkley, Indianapolis, \$59,900; James E. Shover, \$59,700; Charles Bosseker and John Begue, Fort Wayne, \$46,700; R. W. Ostrander and D. O. Porter, Kalamazoo, \$48,898.52; Brace, Reed & Ruick, Kendallville and La Grange, \$48,758. The Commissioners being satisfactorily assured that Messrs. Bosseker & Begue, the lowest bidders, were responsible, and satisfied with the bond of \$30,000 offered by them, that the work should be done in accordance with the plans and specifications, their bid and bond were accepted and the work at once commenced. The Commissioners, in addition to requiring the architects to act as general superintendents of the work, appointed Samuel P. Bradford local superintendent, his duty being faithfully to enforce all the conditions of the contract, to inspect all materials and work, to make estimates for the contractors of the amount due them on the contract for materials and work, and in no case to estimate any objectionable materials or work. The work was then taken hold of and pushed satisfactorily, materials gathered, foundations put in, and on the 15th of August, 1878, some two thousand citizens, pursuant to an invitation of the Commissioners, met to witness the laying of the corner-stone. The ceremonies were simple and without religious formality and civic display, short speeches, music by Odell's Martial Band, the Lima Silver Band, depositing a box in the corner-stone, the placing of the stone and several rounds of cheers, constituting the whole procedure. Rev. John Paul Jones, then County Recorder, presided. Hon. John B. Howe spoke briefly. He thought he was probably the only one present who settled in the county as early as 1833; but upon calling for others to raise their hands, if any were present, nearly a dozen hands flew up. He then referred to his early life in the county, as a law student, admittance to the bar, early law associates and the first court house. The changes that had since occurred were most remarkable. The progress seemed to have been almost too rapid. Few things, he said, could show a sharper contrast of the ability and disposition of the people now and then, than the court house first erected and the one the corner-stone of which was now to be laid. The cost of the new building would be as much as the whole county was then worth. He did not believe in very expensive and ornamental court houses. They should be like justice itself, simple and unostentatious. But it was the fashion now to build expensive public buildings, and the people could not endure being out of fashion and away behind their neighbors. He was willing to pay his part and only referred to cost as a matter of contrast.

Andrew Ellison, the next oldest member of the bar, next addressed the meeting. He had been a member of the La Grange County bar, he said, thirty-six years, and his record as a lawyer was scattered through the records of the court all through that period, and he was willing to stand by the record

made. Then, taking for his subject, "The Court House—what it has been, is now, and its future," he spoke at some length, the substance only of which was preserved. The word court house, he said, was distinctly an American phrase. The house should be simple, but in size and construction should be distinguishable from all others in the community. Then, reviewing in outline the administration of justice through the means of the court house in England, from the days of its conquest by Cæsar to the present, he demonstrated that the court house was the corner-stone upon which England built. The mode it adopted of settling differences between citizens, of protecting person and property, which gave rise and necessity for public temples of justice, had banished its former barbarism and developed a people superior to all others in physical, intellectual and moral power, on the face of the earth, except possibly the American people. Our jurisprudence was derived wholly from England's, and it had likewise been to us what it has been to the mother country. The court house, the military, or the mob must rule. The administration of justice was expensive, but it was immensely cheaper, and gave better protection to life and property. The mob at Pittsburgh, in one hour, last year, destroyed more than enough to run all the courts in the United States, National, State and county, for one year. The law of the court house says to the young man, buy your land, develop all you can out of it and I will protect your title and the proceeds of your hard toil. The administration of justice was by no means perfect, and with humanity as frail as it is, could never be, but it was the best system for adjusting differences between man and man, and of protecting life and property, ever devised. It is the poor man's fortress; without its protection there could be no incentive to industry or provision for the wants and comforts of home. Though there had been no religious ceremonies on this occasion, every stone of a court house rested upon the Christian religion. Our laws were based upon the laws of God. All writers upon law recognized this fact. The more our laws and their administration were in harmony with God's laws, the safer would it be for the people, and the greater their prosperity in all that contributes to happiness here and favor in the sight of the Almighty.

The contents of the copper box, placed in the cavity of the corner-stone, were read by Samuel P. Bradford, and were as follows:

Copy of Acts of 1832, containing act organizing the county; copy of Bar Docket of April term, 1878, Circuit Court; copy of La Grange County Directory; copy of the *Daily Service* (a camp-meeting paper); copy of the *La Grange Standard*, Centennial issue, and issue of the day; copy of the *La Grange Register*, August 15, 1878; copy of *Wolcottville Gazette*, August 9, 1878; copy of application of Farmers' Rescue Insurance Company; piece of three-cent scrip; six Confederate postage stamps, found in rebel camp in Virginia; pieces of 10, 25 and 5 cent scrip, different issues; names of members of Lima Silver Band; names of officers of incorporated town of La Grange; manual of the common schools of La Grange County; coin dated 1771; 25-cent silver

United States coin, 1877; 40-cent silver coin, United States coin, 1834; silver coin dated 1774; two pieces of scrip, private issue; Swiss medal; photograph copy of *New England Chronicle and Gazette*, 1775; premium list of La-Grange County Agricultural Society; copy of School Law and Acts of 1877.

After the box was placed, Judge William A. Woods, Judge of the Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit, and ex officio Judge of the La Grange Circuit Court, being introduced, made some complimentary and facetious allusions to the previous speaker, and then referred at some length to the practical questions connected with the administration of justice. The law, he said, is divided into two grand departments, that which protects the person, and that which protects property. In a state of barbarism, the first predominated, and in advanced civilization the latter. The major part of the works of courts now was in respect to questions involving the right of property, and for that reason he believed that property should pay the expenses of courts, and that poll taxes should be abolished or made very light. Two days' work a year on roads and a poll tax were too much of a levy upon the mere person. He placed the court house beside the schoolhouse, the church and the family circle, and paid a tribute to the homes of the people. The virtues inculcated in the family circle were, after all, the greatest protection of the people as a whole.

The tackling was then adjusted to the cap stone, and, guided by Judge Woods' hands, it was placed in position, after which cheers were given for the court house, the speakers, the contractors and the laborers. The President of the day, Mr. Jones, now made some remarks, referring to the past, congratulating the people upon the great changes, saying he felt it one of the proudest occasions of his life to preside at such a meeting of his fellow-citizens, and invoked the divine blessing upon the work commenced, and upon the use to which the building when completed would be devoted. The inscriptions upon the corner-stone are as follows:

(East Face.)

Corner Stone

Laid with Public Ceremonies

August 15, A. D. 1878.

County Organized

May 14, A. D. 1832.

Jacob Vandevanter,

Edmund Littlefield,

Arthur Barrows,

First Commissioners.

Joshua T. Hobbs,

First Clerk.

County Seat Located at Lima,

A. D. 1832.

Removed to La Grange,

A. D. 1844.

First Term of Court Held

October 22, A. D. 1832.

(North Face.)

La Grange County.  
Hezekiah Davis,  
Alanson Blackmun,  
George W. Edgecomb,  
Commissioners.  
Samuel Shepardson,  
Auditor.  
T. J. Tolan & Son,  
Architects.  
S. P. Bradford,  
Local Superintendent.  
Bosseker & Begue,  
Contractors.  
Completed, 18—.

The work on the house progressed without material interruption until March, 1879, when the contractors complained they were losing money, and were becoming financially embarrassed. The matter was finally adjusted on the basis of the appointment of Andrew Ellison on the part of the contractors, as their agent, to receive and pay out the money on the contract in their behalf, and that the Commissioners should have the right to control the employment of labor and the purchase of all materials (not then covered by sub-contracts) required to complete the building, the county to pay for all materials and labor in excess of contract price, that would be necessarily required to fully complete the house.

The work now progressed again, the work completed and house taken possession of by the county November 13, 1879.

The size of the building is sixty-four feet eight inches by one hundred feet eight inches, with two stories above basement, and a tower built from basement up centrally through the building, and reaching 125 feet from grade to top of finial; the first story is thirteen feet in height, and the floor divided centrally east and west by a hall twelve feet in width; from this hall a stairway, in the dome part, leads from either side of the hall to the hall above, and another from either side to the basement below. On the south side of the hall are the Clerk's office, Clerk's vault, Recorder's vault, Recorder's office and Sheriff's office. On the north side, the Tax-payer's room, the Treasurer's office, Treasurer's vault, Auditor's vault, Auditor's office and Commissioners' room.

The second story is fifteen feet in height. On the second floor, fronting the east, is the court room, fifty-seven feet three inches, by twenty-four feet three and one-fourth inches, and twenty feet in height. Opening into it, at the southwest corner, is the law library, and at the northwest corner a witness room. Double doors open into the hall-way on west side of the room; this hall is same size as below, and leads to the Surveyor's office, two Petit Jury rooms, one Grand Jury room, County Superintendent's office and Janitor's room. From the Janitor's room, a stairway leads to the dome above. In the dome are three floors. On the first, the clock room, on the second, the bell room, and on the third, the dial room.



In the basement are four vaults, and rooms corresponding in size with those on the first floor.

The foundation is laid in concrete, with tiling two feet out from footing-stone and four inches below; this tiling connects with a drain that runs into Fly Creek. The footing-stone are limestone rock from six to ten feet in width, and are laid in a floating coat of mortar on the concrete, all points thoroughly filled with cement. The foundation walls built on the footing-stone are of bowlder stone, all split, and above grade rock faced with quarter, half-rounded, sunk-joint, pointed with white putty mortar. The walls above the foundation are all of brick, the outside being of a superior quality of pressed brick made at Porter Station, Ind., and the inside and partition walls of common red brick, manufactured mainly at Fort Wayne, but partly in this county. The pressed brick are all laid in putty mortar, with smooth-pointed joint.

The water-table at grade-line, the sills and caps of all the doors and windows are of cut limestone, from Joliet, Ill. The beams, bars and trusses, for floors and ceilings, and the rafters of the roof are of wrought iron, the ceilings of corrugated iron, the outside moldings of galvanized iron, with all ornaments made of pressed zinc. The roof is of the best quality of black slate, 14 inches wide by 2 feet long, nailed with copper nails. The floors in the rooms are of oak wood, and in the main halls, of the best quality of black and white marble tile. The plastering is three-coat work, with the best of material. The finishing work is all in walnut and ash alternately. The court room is also quite handsomely frescoed. The whole building is practically fire-proof. The vaults are absolutely so. All the rooms are supplied with water, furnished by pipes leading from a wind-mill tank on the jail lot; the heating is by stoves, though the building is constructed for furnace heating, should it ever be desired. A cut elsewhere will give a general view—outside view—of the structure. The total cost of the building, as reported in Auditor's annual statement for 1880, is as follows:

Miscellaneous expenses.....	\$ 3,830 01
Extra sub-foundation.....	966 85
Paid T. J. Tolan & Son, architects.....	1,144 00
Paid Commissioners, for extra sessions.....	233 50
Paid contractors, Messrs. Bosseker & Begue.....	47,445 30
Paid in excess of contract.....	7,879 00
Total.....	<u>\$61,498 66</u>

The total cost to tax-payers, for improvements upon Court House Square, from September 1, 1877, to June 5, 1880, is as follows:

New Court House.....	\$61,498 66
Tower clock and bell.....	1,517 45
Furniture for new Court House.....	3,735 07
Real estate purchased (west part of Court House Square).....	4,127 13
Grading court yard.....	797 01
Total cost.....	<u>\$71,675 32</u>

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>

The next season the public square was inclosed with an iron fence, costing about \$2,500, making the total cost of the erection of the building, the furnishing, extension of the public square, grading and fencing, less than \$75,000. The whole was paid for as fast as the work was done, the county neither borrowing nor owing a dollar after its completion. The county is now supplied with public buildings good enough for a century to come, and without a dollar of indebtedness to carry.

The learned professions should occupy a good share of the history, if all that they have done toward the development of the present social life were possible to be grasped and treated of. But a slight sketch of the history of these classes of our citizens can at least be given. Of the bar, that very important factor in modern life, that "necessary evil," as some of our worthy people regard it, that praiseworthy band of students and advisors, as many of those outside the bar concur with those inside in regarding the legal fraternity—of the bar little can be said except in praise. Its early members have already been mentioned. At that time a rigid requirement of examinations before admission, of which a hint is given in Mr. Howe's reminiscences, had a tendency to make the bar more exclusive than at the present day, and no doubt its members were prouder of their associations or had more reason to be, on the side of legal culture than an Indiana lawyer of the present day can be, when any one can be admitted to the bar on motion. The requirements, which were really too rigid in those days, might, with great profit, be the requirements of to-day. But La Grange County has fairly ranked with the neighboring counties in the legal repute of its attorneys. Mr. John B. Howe, a gentleman of culture, and an earnest student, even in his later years, of social problems, soon took the front in the La Grange bar, and among the lawyers of the State. His argument in the Constitutional Convention, on the declaration of rights, is yet referred to as among the wisest and ablest utterances in that convention.

Ranking next with him in local repute, as a lawyer, was Andrew Ellison. He became distinguished for the pertinacity and energy with which he fought his cases, never yielding when he thought he had any footing until the case was won or the highest tribunal had decided against him. During the Regulator period, when the courts had their greatest flood of business, he was employed as the attorney for several of the indicted horse-thieves and counterfeiters, and with the whole community against him, he, with his characteristic persistence and defiance of public sentiment, fought the cases through, and got most of his clients either acquitted or released upon some technicality after conviction. The bitterness engendered during these exciting times lasted many years and marred the happiness of many. Mr. Ellison, after enjoying for many years the honorable position of senior member of the bar, retired from practice, as his old friend, Mr. Howe, had done, to pursue the quieter pursuit of banking.

Among others who won some notoriety, was James M. Flagg, of Lima, who was for many years at the bar, and noted for his acuteness and sharp tricks



with his professional brethren, and those who were unprofessional and unsophisticated. His practice soon reached such a stage that he was compelled to give it a new field by going further west and establishing himself at Chicago.

Joseph B. Wade, who has been from childhood a resident of the county, was admitted to the bar in 1857, and is still practicing. Robert Parrett moved to the county previous to 1860, and was gaining an enviable reputation as an attorney, when the war broke out and he fell, one of its early victims, with the rank of Major in the One Hundredth Indiana Volunteers. Joseph W. Cummings, a native of the county, was admitted a little later. He removed to Toledo, where he has taken first rank professionally and as a citizen. A. B. Kennedy was one of the ante-war attorneys and enjoyed for many years a prominent position at the bar, especially in probate matters. He died from overwork. Resolutions of respect were made by the bar at a meeting held in his memory.

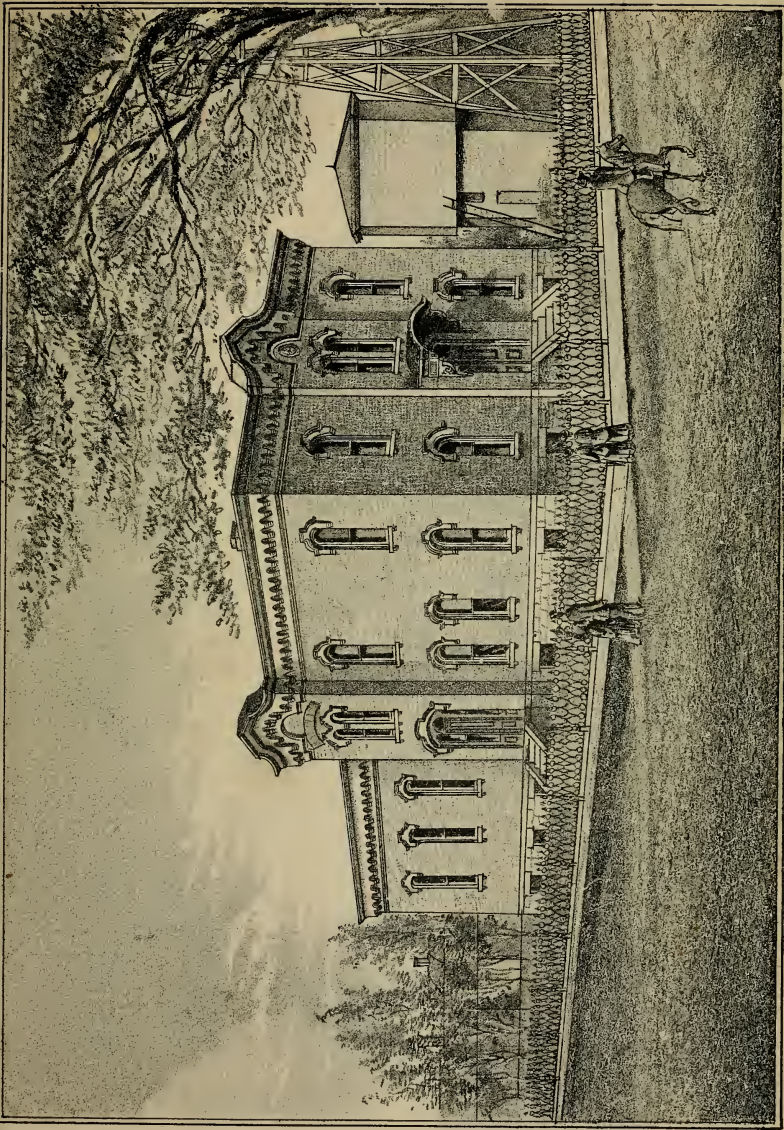
Joseph D. Ferrall began practice in La Grange in 1865, and has since gained a prominent position at the bars of this and neighboring counties. W. C. Glasgow was admitted about the same time, and held for some years the position of Prosecuting Attorney, and now stands in the front rank. George A. Cutting, admitted about 1870, was winning a high position as a lawyer when he died from consumption, which had long been hampering him, in 1881. The remaining attorneys, who have practiced of late years, are Abner S. Case, John P. Jones (both formerly County Clerks), Cyrus U. Wade (formerly Prosecuting Attorney), Francis D. Merritt, James S. Drake (now Prosecutor), Otis L. Ballou (now Master Commissioner), Samuel P. Bradford (now Clerk), E. T. Cosper and Edgar McClasky. Some of the attorneys of neighboring counties, who have in past years or do now practice extensively at the La Grange bar, are Judge John Morris, Hon. John H. Baker, Judge W. A. Woods, Isaac E. Knisely, Augustus A. Chapin and James I. Best.

The office of Prosecuting Attorney, in the districts of which this county has been a part, has been filled by members of the La Grange bar, as follows: By Joseph D. Ferrall, from 1866 to 1868; Wesley C. Glasgow, from 1873 to 1877; Cyrus U. Wade, from 1877 to 1879; James S. Drake, from 1879 to the present, his second term expiring 1883.

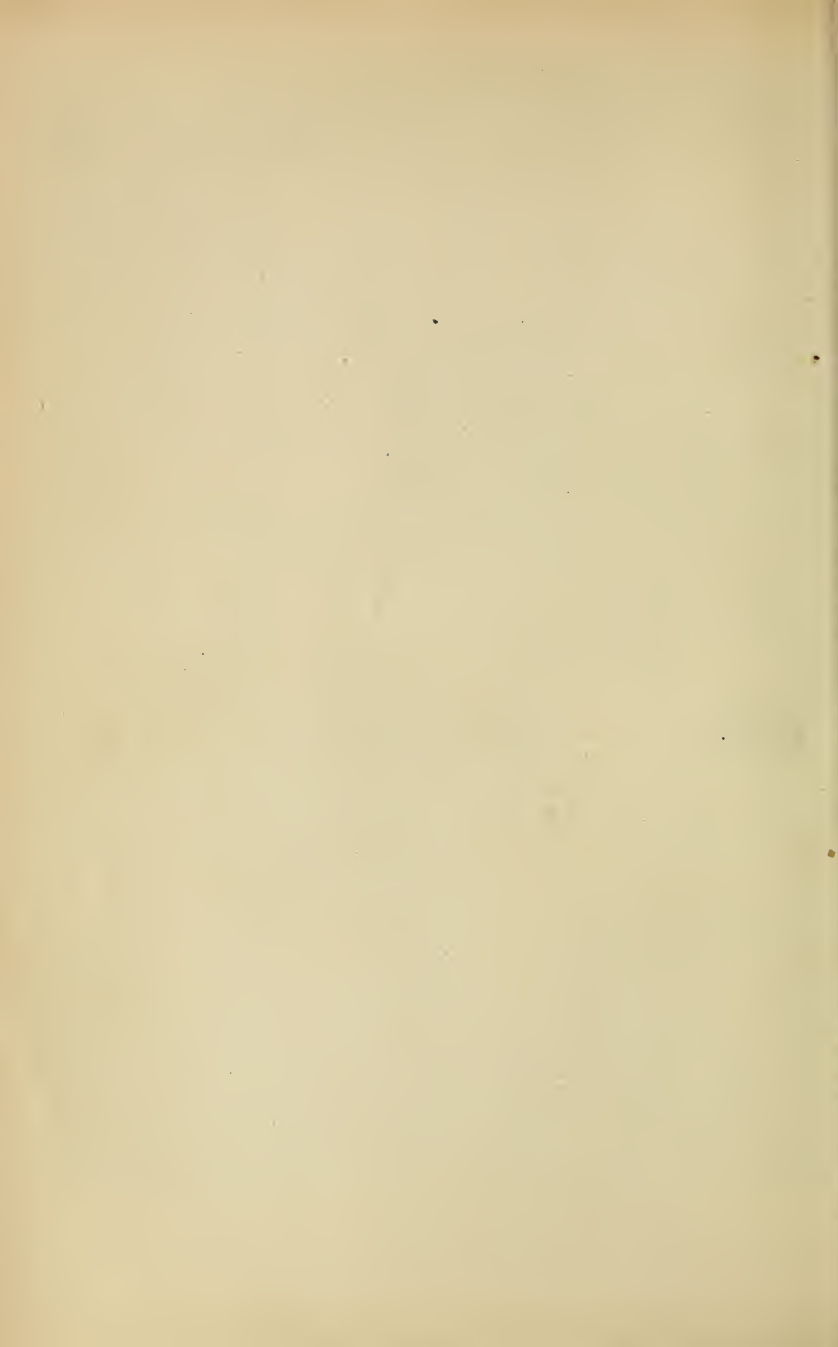
In the first settlement of a new country, the physician is a first necessity. And there are always among the pioneer physicians those who have a real or imaginary ability to treat successfully all cases that may fall under their care. The habits of the pioneers being simple, and having plenty of food, fresh air, keeping good hours, with exercise in abundance, the diseases are also of simple character, yielding, generally, readily to the most ordinary remedies. Tubercular diseases, now so common in our county, were unknown for ten years after the first settlement. Some of the early settlers report that intermittent fevers were unknown to them for some five years, and were only developed after considerable quantities of land were broken up. Dr. Hill was the first in the

county who claimed to be a physician. He came in with the immigrants of 1828 or 1829. The Doctor professed to be a "regular" in practice, but having confidence in the flora of the woods, he confined himself to the simple remedies that he found in abundance around him. He is said to have filled his saddle-bags with roots and herbs without a cent of expenditure; to have traversed the country between St. Joseph in Michigan, and Fort Wayne, Ind., staying with the sick whenever he found them until they recovered or died. Quinine, or the preparations of Peruvian bark, he never used, depending upon the use of the bark of dogwood and ironwood to break the intermittents, and he claimed that the ague broken by these remedies was less apt to return than when treated by quinine and the Peruvian barks. His cathartic and alterative calico-root grew on the edges of the marshes, and wild turnip, and blood-root, his specific for pneumonia, were found abundant in the woods. He claimed to have never bled his pneumonia cases, and that he scarcely ever lost a case. This happy result, in this class of cases, if true, was just the reverse of that resulting from the bleeding and reducing remedies then in vogue among the regular practitioners. Obstetrical practice was confined to certain old ladies, and as tedious and protracted labors in hearty and robust persons leading an active life were rare, they had little or no trouble. One of these old ladies reported that, in a protracted labor occurring in the family of one of the first settlers, Dr. Hill was sent for, and after many weary hours had passed, he concluded that artificial means were necessary to save the mother, and attempted to perforate the skull of the child, but failing, went off to a neighboring house to prepare a more efficient instrument. While he was gone, nature rallied to her task, and when the Doctor returned, he found the child ushered into the world all right, except that its scalp hung in shreds from the effects of his attempts at perforation. The old gentleman was amazed, and remarked that that boy was the hardest-headed little devil he ever saw, for he had not strength enough to perforate its skull. The boy survived and the unobliterated scars were seen by living physicians in his manhood.

Dr. J. T. Hobbs came about 1830, and Dr. Hill relinquished the field to him. He at once took nearly the whole practice in this and the adjoining counties. The Doctor was a native of Maryland, a graduate of Bowdoin in Maine, and a real gentleman. His wife was an intelligent woman of strong character, and materially assisted him in laying the foundation of a large fortune. The Doctor was elected the first Clerk of the county, the office of which was then at Lima. His wife attended mainly to the duties of the office, leaving him free to attend to his practice and his other growing interests. She bore him two children, the oldest of which died some ten or twelve years ago. The younger daughter still survives, and is the wife of Dr. S. H. Bassinger, another pioneer physician. Dr. Hobbs' health failing him, he left the county about 1850, moved to Mount Vernon, Ohio, and subsequently to Sandusky, where he died a few years since, leaving a large fortune, the executors of which



LA GRANGE COUNTY JAIL





are Mr. S. K. Ruick and Henry L. Taylor, of this county. Among the medical pioneers was Dr. James Chapman, still remembered by some as wandering around on an old pony in a saddle with rope girth and rope stirrup straps, and the inevitable saddle-bags. The Doctor was a native of Connecticut, and claimed to be a regular physician, was a stanch Presbyterian, and was down on all innovations in medicine or theology. At that time, there was a man who practiced as a Thompsonian, and was to Dr. Chapman a great eye-sore. The latter used to relate many anecdotes of the collisions between calomel and jalap vs. No. 6. The Doctor broke down mentally, gave up the practice of medicine, but carried around with him religious books and tracts, pitied but respected by all. A commission was appointed to take measures for the protection of his property. He said it was a commission "de enquirendo lunatico," and that they brought him in insane on all points except theology and medicine.

Dr. J. Bolton Smith came to Lima in 1832. He was a gentleman of the Old School, wore the ruffled linen in fashion in the early part of the century, and preserved the dignity of the profession. For a time before he left, he gave up his profession of medicine and took up the practice of law. An anecdote is told of him that he acted as Justice of the Peace in the trial of a case, and, as it was of some importance, he called Squire Littlefield to assist him in the case. The oath he administered the witnesses was after this form: "In the presence of God and of Edmund Littlefield you do solemnly swear to tell the truth," etc. The Doctor finally went to St. Louis, where he died of cholera in 1842. At the same time he was at Lima, there was there another Dr. Smith, who, making much pretension to phrenology, was distinguished from the other Smith, as Dr. Bump Smith. Both Smiths were students of Dr. Duncomb, of Canada, whose daughter the Dr. Bump Smith married.

Dr. Francis Jewett came to the county in 1834. He died in Lima in 1857. Dr. Weeks practiced in Lima from 1835 to 1837. He is now a physician in Chicago, and has considerable reputation in the profession. Then followed Dr. Palmer in 1838, whose favorite remark was that he had saved many a patient even after he had a predilection to pick the clothing. He left in 1848. Dr. Parry came in 1839, and practiced in Lima for ten years, and then moved to California with the first emigration. When last heard from, he was still living there. Dr. Fox was at Lima from 1836 to 1842, when he moved to Wisconsin, where he stands high in his profession, and has made a handsome competence. Dr. Holbrook came in 1842, stood well professionally, had many and warm friends, but soon wearying with the hardships of his ride, he moved to California. He now resides at San Francisco, where he has a fine reputation. Dr. Thompson took Dr. Holbrook's practice in 1850, married in the Kinney family at Lima, practiced sixteen years, and then went to Missouri, and was for some time surgeon and physician to the State Prison in that State. Dr. George Fletcher followed Dr. Thompson at Lima, and was the principal physician there from that time until he gave up the active duties of his profession, and moved to Iowa some five years since.

Dr. Pritchard settled at Lexington in 1843; he practiced there four years, and died of pneumonia in 1847. He was followed by Dr. Reupert in 1848. He entered the service in the war of the rebellion as Assistant Surgeon of the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteers, and died in hospital at Nashville, Tenn.

The first physician at La Grange was Dr. Brown, who settled there in 1842. He was a cousin of the celebrated John Brown, of Harper's Ferry notoriety, a gentleman and Christian, and highly esteemed by the whole community. He died of malignant erysipelas at the Haw Patch in 1852. Dr. Butler, a brother-in-law of Dr. Brown, succeeded to his practice. He was a man of great perseverance, a warm friend and a bitter enemy, and especially to slavery and its advocates. He died of consumption in 1854. Dr. J. P. Niman, still practicing at La Grange, was invited by Dr. Butler to a partnership and assisted him and succeeded him in his practice. Dr. Thompson came to La Grange in 1856, and was there during the epidemic of dysentery that prevailed that year so extensively that hardly a family escaped, and from which there were a large number of deaths.

The Sheldons, four brothers, and all practitioners of medicine, commenced their practice at Union Mills (now Mongo); B. F. and William Sheldon came there in 1838. In 1840, Franklin Sheldon moved to South Bend, where he died next year. The other three brothers did nearly the entire practice in the east part of the county for some twelve or fifteen years; William died in 1854 or 1855 of diarrhoea contracted while on a journey through Mexico; Franklin is also dead. They were all men of ability and character.

For the foregoing items in respect to the medical profession, we are indebted to Dr. George H. Dayton, of Lima, who settled at Ontario in 1846, then a prosperous and lively place with great prospects. The Doctor is a native of New Jersey; was educated at the University of New York, three years in the Literary Department, and studied medicine under the celebrated Dr. Valentine Mott, and afterward graduated in the Medical Department of the university. He has for many years stood at the head of his profession in the county, and is more consulted in difficult cases than any other.

Many physicians whose names cannot now be recalled have come and gone. Among those who, in later years, became permanent residents and acquired more general acquaintance are Dr. Abner-Lewis, of Haw Patch, who had an extensive practice in that part of the county, and afterward at La Grange. He served one term in the State Senate, and subsequently moved to Iowa, where he still resides. Dr. J. H. Dancer, of South Milford, was for many years, and is yet, the principal practitioner in the southeastern part of the county. Dr. A. M. Spaulding, of Applemanburg, has held a like share of the practice in Springfield Township. In the northwestern part of the county, Drs. Toms & Grubs have, for a number of years, held the principal practice. A number of physicians have been located at Wolcottville. Dr. Leonard Barber was one of the earliest, if not the first, practitioner there, and, until



his death in 1875, was the leading physician in the southern part of the county

Dr. E. M. Speed located at La Grange in April, 1856, and had an extensive practice. He was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteers in July, 1864, and immediately after his arrival to the command at Chattanooga, Tenn., was taken sick, when he was carried to the Officers' Hospital on Lookout Mountain, where he died a few weeks after. Dr. Francis P. Griffith came to La Grange in May, 1858, and was associated for some time with Dr. Speed in practice. He was elected Representative to the Legislature in 1862 and in 1864, and has held several responsible clerkships at Washington, and was Census Supervisor for the northeastern counties of the State in 1880. He is still in practice.

Dr. E. G. White came to the place in 1857; has had, and yet has, an extensive practice. He served some two years as Acting Assistant Surgeon United States Volunteers, in the Nashville hospitals, during the war. He has been for some twelve or thirteen years pension examiner for the Government. Dr. J. H. Rerick came to the place in 1859; entered the service in 1861, as Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at the organization of the regiment; was promoted Surgeon, and served with the command until its muster out September, 1865. At the close of the war, he and Dr. White were associated together in practice. In 1867, he bought the *La Grange Standard*, and entered the editorial profession; was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1860, and in 1864, serving eight years. He is still proprietor of the *Standard*, and devoting his attention exclusively to the printing business. Dr. James Miller practiced at La Grange a number of years, and was Assistant Surgeon in the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Regiment a short time. He moved to Iowa about 1879. Dr. A. Cutting moved to the town in 1864, from Ohio, and has frequently been employed as consulting physician. The present physicians at La Grange in active practice not above mentioned are Dr. William Short, Dr. John Short, Dr. H. M. Casebeer, Dr. Charles H. Niman, son of Dr. J. P. Niman, and Dr. Engle. Dr. Newton G. Eno practiced a few years at Lima; was Assistant Surgeon of the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteers, from January, 1863, to November, 1864, when he resigned. He is now a resident of Iowa, and still in practice. Dr. William Hughes came from Ohio to Lima in 1870, and has an extensive practice there. Dr. C. D. Goodrich also settled there a few years since, and is in practice.

The county has always made ample provision for its paupers. A farm was first bought north of La Grange for the asylum, but this not proving a desirable location, it was sold, and 160 acres, three miles south of La Grange, were purchased, and suitable, though plain and inexpensive, buildings were erected. Here the poor, dependent on the county for support, are sent and cared for, except in those cases where temporary aid is needed, and can be given at home by the several Township Trustees. In February, 1871, there died Dr. David

Rogers, one of the first settlers of Clearspring Township, an eccentric old man and bachelor, who at one time had an extensive practice as a physician. In his will, made in 1868, he bequeathed all his real estate in the county "to the Commissioners of the County of La Grange and their successors in office in trust forever, for the use and benefit of the orphan poor and for other destitute persons of said county." The heirs of Dr. Rogers contested the will, basing their claim on the indefiniteness of the bequest, and carried their case to the Supreme Court, where the will was finally sustained. No special disposition is made of this fund, as yet, by the Commissioners.

The following valuable statistics are thought to be of sufficient public interest to warrant their appearance in the history of the county :

#### VOTE OF THE COUNTY AT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

1836—Van Buren, Democrat, 150; Harrison, Whig, 128; Democratic majority, 22. 1840—Harrison, Whig, 391; Van Buren, Democratic, 225; Whig majority, 166. 1844—Clay, Whig, 598; Polk, Democrat, 457; Birney, Abolitionist, 38; Whig majority, 103. 1848—Cass, Democrat, 636; Taylor, Whig, 629; Van Buren, Free Soil, 114; Democratic plurality, 7. 1852—Scott, Whig, 667; Pierce, Democrat, 667; Hall, Free Soil, 117; tie between principal parties. 1856—Fremont, Republican, 1,406; Buchanan, Democrat, 640; Fillmore, American, 6; Republican majority, 760. 1860—Lincoln. Republican, 1,695; Fusion (Democratic), 775; Republican majority, 920. 1864—Lincoln, Republican, 1,583; McClellan, Democrat, 796; Republican majority, 787. 1868—Grant, Republican, 1,945; Seymour, Democrat, 1,076; Republican majority, 869. 1872—Grant, Republican, 1,863; Greeley, Liberal, 830; Republican majority, 1,033. 1876—Hayes, Republican, 2,205; Tilden, Democrat, 1,256; Peter Cooper, National, 63; Republican plurality, 949; Republican majority, 886. 1880—Garfield, Republican, 2,367; Hancock, Democrat, 1,393; Weaver, National, 116; Republican majority, 858; Republican plurality, 974.

The vote by townships at this election was as follows :

	GARFIELD.	HANCOCK.	WEAVER.
Van Buren.....	102	93	34
Newbury.....	153	108	...
Eden .....	128	139	...
Clearspring.....	208	150	1
Clay.....	181	142	18
Lima .....	248	78	11
Greenfield .....	175	59	42
Bloomfield .....	456	230	1
Johnson .....	252	123	4
Milford .....	154	200	3
Springfield .....	220	71	2
Total .....	2,367	1,393	116

The vote for Governor at the October election the same year was: Porter, Republican, 2,307; Landers, Democrat, 1,374; Gregg, National, 129.

The Legislative act, authorizing the organization of La Grange County, was approved by the Governor of the State February 2, 1832, and the first election of county officers occurred in August of the same year. The first term of court convened October 22, 1832, the officers of which were—Charles H. Test (now Judge of the Criminal Court at Indianapolis), Judge; Luther Newton and Ephraim Seeley, Associate Judges; Joshua T. Hobbs, Clerk; Nehemiah Coldren, Sheriff; Joshua Harding, Coronor. The County officers since the first organization of the county, so far as we can trace, have been as follows:

*Probate Judges.*—Elias B. Smith and William S. Prentiss.

*Associate Judges.*—Ephraim Seeley and Luther Newton, 1832; Thomas J. Spaulding and Samuel Westcott, 1839; Joshua T. Hobbs and Amos Davis, 1844.

*Clerks.*—Joshua T. Hobbs, 1832–38; William M. Holmes, 1838–45; Delavin Martin, 1845–46; James B. Howe, 1846–53; John P. Jones, 1853–61; Abner S. Case, 1861–68; Eugene V. Case (appointment), 1868–69; John H. Rerick, 1869–77; Samuel P. Bradford, 1877.

*Sheriffs.*—Daniel Harding, 1832–35; John Brown, 1835–37; William Phelps, 1837; Peter L. Mason, 1837–39; Frederick Hamilton, 1839–43; James Rawles, 1843–47; John Briscoe, 1847–49; William Hopkins, 1849–53; Gabriel McEntyre, 1853–55; Zopher L. Scidmore, 1855–57; William Cummings, 1857–61; William Selby, 1861–65; John S. Merritt, 1865–67; James M. Marks, 1867–72; Thomas C. Betts, 1872–76; Nelson Stacy, 1876–80; Edwin Temple, 1880.

*Auditors.*—Peter L. Mason, 1841–45; Simon W. Cutler, 1845–52; Hugh Hamilton, 1852–57; L. N. Beers, 1857–58; Peter N. Wilcox, 1858–66; Isaiah Piatt, 1866–74; Samuel Shepardson, 1874.

*Treasurers.*—Thomas Gale, 1832–37; Jonathan Woodruff, 1837–44; Samuel Bartlett, 1844–53; Elijah W. Weir, 1853–57; Parley R. Cady, 1857–61; John W. Welch, 1861–65; Jacob Newman, 1865–69; Samuel Shepardson, 1869–73; Samuel G. Hoff, 1873–77; John E. Anderson, 1877–81; John M. Preston, 1881.

*Recorders.*—David St. Clair, 1832–37; J. T. Hobbs, 1837–43; John Kromer, 1843–55; Ozias Wright, 1855–56; Abner S. Case, 1856–60; Henry Nichols, 1860–68; John C. Gurnea, 1868–72; John P. Jones, 1872–80; Eugene V. Case, 1880.

*Commissioners.*—Jacob Vandevanter, 1832; Edmond Littlefield, 1832; Arthur Barrows, 1832; Isaac Gage, 1833; J. F. Rice, 1833; Arthur Barrows, 1834; Jesse Champlin, 1834; David Smith, 1834; William S. Prentiss, 1834; Palmer Grannis, 1835; James McConnell, 1836; L. M. Dewey, 1837; Sheldon Martin, 1837; Philo Taylor, 1838; Ira Hill, 1839; Palmer Grannis, 1840; Robert Hume, 1840; Benjamin Jones, 1840–45; Abram Rowe, 1841–44; Samuel Corey, 1843–46; Nehemiah Coldren, 1844–50; Jacob T. Grove,

1845-57; Timothy Field, 1846-49; Sidney Keith, 1848-52; Hiram Taylor, 1850-56; Andrew Ellison, 1851-53; Samuel Hudson, 1852-58; Hezekiah Davis, 1853-60; Orvin Kent, 1856-59; James Smith, 1858-76; A. J. Atwood, 1859-65; William Seaborn, 1860-66; Hiram Smith, 1866-67; R. P. Herbert, 1867; Hezekiah Davis, 1867-79; Almon Dickenson, 1868-75; A. Blackmun, 1875; George W. Edgcomb, 1876, Elias Wight, 1879.

*School Examiners.*—County School Examiners were first appointed under the act of 1861. From June, 1861, the office was held by J. H. Danseur, George Marks, ——— Hemenway, and Prof. R. Patch. Under the new school law of 1865:

Prof. R. Patch, 1865-67; Rev. A. Fitz Randolph, 1868-69; Rev. William Cathcart, 1869-70; S. D. Crane, 1870-71; A. Bayliss, 1871-73.

The duties of the office were materially enlarged by the Legislature of 1872-73, and the title changed to County Superintendent.

A. Bayliss, 1873-74; S. D. Crane, 1874-75; E. T. Cospers, 1875-76; S. D. Crane, 1876-81; E. G. Machan, 1881.

#### SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

La Grange County has been represented in the State Legislature as follows, the dates attached showing the year of election:

*In the Senate.*—1832, Samuel Hanna, of Allen County; 1839, Ebenezer M. Chamberlain, Elkhart County; 1841-43, David B. Herriman, Noble County; 1847, Delavin Martin, La Grange County; 1850, Joseph H. Defrees, Elkhart County; 1852, Thomas G. Harris, Elkhart County; 1856, John Thompson, La Grange County; 1860, C. L. Murray, Elkhart County; 1864, Robert Dykes, La Grange County; 1866, Abner Lewis, La Grange County; 1868, Abner S. Case, La Grange County; 1872, William Bunyan, Noble County; 1876, Elijah W. Weir, La Grange County; 1880, Henry Hostetter, Noble County.

*In the House of Representatives.*—1833, David H. Colerick, Allen County; 1834, John B. Chapman, Kosciusko County; 1837-38, D. B. Herriman, Noble County; 1840, John B. Howe, La Grange County; 1841, John Thompson, La Grange County; 1843, Joshua T. Hobbs, La Grange County; 1844, William H. Nimmon, Noble County; 1845, T. H. Wilson, Noble County; 1846, John Y. Clark, La Grange County; 1847, George W. Sheldon, Noble County; 1848, Elijah A. Webster, La Grange County; 1849, Rufus D. Keeny, Noble County.

After this date the county itself has been entitled to a Representative as follows: 1850, John P. Jones; 1850-53, Francis Henry; 1854, William Smith; 1856, Samuel P. Williams; 1858, John Thompson; 1860, Samuel Hudson; 1862-64, Francis P. Griffith; 1866, William Smith; 1868, Timothy Field; 1870, Williamson Rawles; 1872, William Prentiss; 1874-76, Samuel Harper; 1878, O. B. Taylor; 1880, O. B. Taylor.



*Joint Representatives for Elkhart and La Grange Counties.*—1860, Robert Parrett, of La Grange County; 1862, Amos Davis of La Grange County.

*In the Convention for Revision of Constitution of State, 1850.*—From the District of La Grange, J. B. Howe; for La Grange and Elkhart Counties, Joseph H. Mather, of Elkhart County.

The records fail to show who represented the County in the Senate from 1834 to 1839; also the Representative in the House in 1842. With these exceptions, the above list is probably complete. Until the adoption of the new Constitution, the Senatorial term was two years, and the Representative term one year. Since then, the Senatorial term has been four years, and the Representative term two years.

#### CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION.

La Grange County, since its organization, has been represented in Congress as follows: 1831–36, by Jonathan McCarty, of Franklin County; 1836–41, by James H. Rariden, of Fayette County; 1841–46, by Andrew Kennedy, of Delaware County; 1847–49, by William Rockhill, of Allen County; 1849–51, by Andrew J. Harlan, of Grant County; 1851–53, by Samuel Brenton, of Allen County; 1853–55, by Ebenezer M. Chamberlain, of Elkhart County; 1855–57, by Samuel Brenton, of Allen County; 1857–61, by Charles Case, of Allen County; 1861–63, by William Mitchell, of Noble County; 1863–65, by Joseph K. Edgerton, of Allen County; 1865–67, by Joseph H. Defrees, of Elkhart County; 1867–73, by William Williams, of Kosciusko County; 1873–75, by Henry B. Saylor, of Huntington County; 1875–81, by John H. Baker, of Elkhart County; 1881 to present, by W. G. Colerick, of Allen County.

#### ANNUAL EXPENDITURES.

Total amount expended for county purposes for the year ending

November 1, 1837..	\$ 1,357 33
November 1, 1838.....	2,878 29
May 1, 1839.....	1,686 08
May 1, 1840.....	2,773 46
May 1, 1841.....	3,639 73
May 31, 1842.....	2,933 61
May 31, 1843.....	no rep't.
May 31, 1844.....	8,161 56
May 31, 1845.....	8,882 66
May 31, 1846.....	8,657 53
May 31, 1847.....	5,987 68
May 31, 1848.....	9,145 07
May 31, 1849.....	7,231 96
May 31, 1850.....	7,109 74
May 31, 1851.....	6,529 22
May 31, 1852.....	6,231 47
May 31, 1853.....	4,790 67
May 31, 1854.....	7,877 37
May 31, 1855.....	4,470 00

May	31, 1856.....	7,087 56
May	31, 1857.....	4,443 37
May	31, 1858.....	6,381 08
May	31, 1859.....	7,671 70
May	31, 1860.....	8,923 24
May	31, 1861.....	10,537 30
May	31, 1862.....	11,710 58
May	31, 1863.....	21,648 21
May	31, 1864.....	14,461 27
May	31, 1865.....	26,695 38
May	31, 1866.....	46,521 64
May	31, 1867.....	35,763 73
May	31, 1868.....	27,973 03
May	31, 1869.....	14,343 69
May	31, 1870.....	14,498 56
May	31, 1871.....	19,208 61
May	31, 1872.....	19,650 31
May	31, 1873.....	41,846 79
May	31, 1874.....	16,481 22
May	31, 1875.....	17,176 65
May	31, 1876.....	18,368 37
May	31, 1877.....	17,570 62
May	31, 1878.....	30,484 79
May	31, 1879.....	68,654 11
May	31, 1880.....	54,350 07
May	31, 1881.....	30,466 45

From 1861 to 1868 covers the period of war expenses; 1873, the building of a new jail, and 1878-81, the building and furnishing the new court house.

The expenditures of this county fund, raised for county expenses alone, were for the year ending May 31, 1881, as follows:

On account of assessment of revenue.....	\$1,379 00
On account of agriculture (show license).....	10 00
On account of books, stationery and printing.....	1,068 07
On account of court expenses .....	443 62
On account of county officers .....	4,233 49
On account of highways and bridges .....	3,261 52
On account of jurors' fees.....	1,008 95
On account of poor.....	3,981 94
On account of public buildings.....	7,617 95
On account of redemption of lands .....	64 19
On account of specific.....	1,912 59
On account of State benevolent institutions and insane.....	1,023 47
On account of bounty for fox scalps.....	27 00
On account of public ditches .....	1,205 91
On account of criminals.....	316 94
On account of estate of David Rogers.....	2,911 81
Total.....	\$30,466 45

#### VALUATION AND TAXATION.

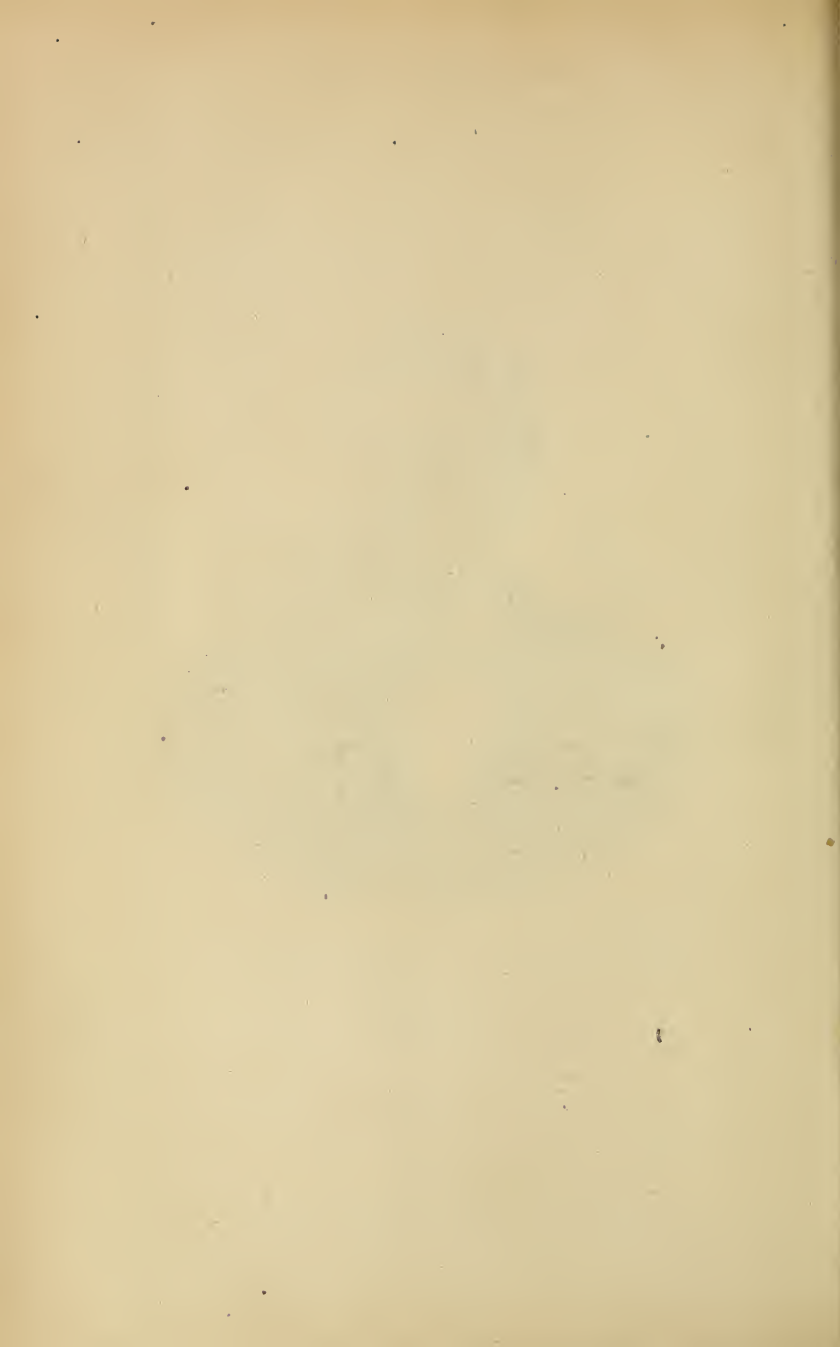
Below will be found the appraised value of the real and personal property of the county, the rate of taxation for county purposes, and the total average





*Alanson Blackmun*

CO. COMMISSIONER



rate of taxation for all purposes, State, county, township and town, for the years named :

YEAR.	Valuation of County.	County Tax Rate on \$100 Valuation.	Average Tax Rate for all Purposes on \$100 Valuation.
1844.....	\$ 636,703	\$1 00	\$2 21
1845.....	611,094	50	1 76
1846.....	866,073	70	2 00
1847.....	874,924	70	2 18
1848.....	911,424	65	2 16
1849.....	912,862	55	1 04
1850.....	947,346	50	1 21
1851.....	1,882,439	50	1 08
1852.....	1,397,573	10	62
1853.....	1,551,172	40	1 03
1854.....	1,723,830	30	85
1855.....	1,772,373	30	89
1856.....	1,794,966	40	1 07
1857.....	1,889,683	30	91
1858.....	1,893,542	50	1 08
1859.....	3,001,395	40	1 13
1860.....	3,145,157	25	92
1861.....	3,304,181	25	93
1862.....	3,216,734	30	1 10
1863.....	3,404,336	40	1 10
1864.....	4,178,206	50	1 14
1865.....	4,721,620	1 20	1 98
1866.....	4,639,106	40	1 33
1867.....	4,650,076	60	1 46
1868.....	4,934,879	25	1 18
1869.....	5,062,743	25	1 13
1870.....	4,919,022	30	1 18
1871.....	4,938,034	70	1 46
1872.....	5,216,051	55	1 31
1873.....	7,997,074	20	93
1874.....	8,140,867	15	92
1875.....	7,641,350	30	1 14
1876.....	7,735,990	25	1 07 $\frac{1}{4}$
1877.....	7,389,990	53	1 37 $\frac{1}{2}$
1878.....	7,442,005	85	1 61 $\frac{1}{4}$
1879.....	7,263,930	41	1 19
1880.....	6,316,585	40	1 25 $\frac{1}{4}$
1881.....	6,777,370	40	1 26 $\frac{3}{8}$

The receipts from taxation during the year ending May 31, 1881, were as follows :

State tax.....	\$ 9,018 76
New State House tax.....	1,349 20
State school tax.....	12,004 10
County tax.....	27,615 66
Road tax.....	8,325 53
Township tax.....	2,487 10
Special school tax.....	11,294 78
Township tuition tax.....	8,936 80
School-bond tax (Town of La Grange).....	2,533 22
Dog tax.....	1,209 73
Corporation tax (Town of La Grange).....	830 06
Total.....	\$85,304 94

## CHAPTER III.

BY J. H. KERICK, M. D.

EARLY ROADS, STAGE LINES, MAIL ROUTES, ETC.—RAILWAYS—COUNTY STOCK—  
POST OFFICES—OUTLINE OF THE GROWTH OF RELIGION—SPIRITUALISM—FOUR-  
IERISM—THE SAINTS—OUTLINE OF THE GROWTH OF EDUCATION—SCHOOL  
STATISTICS—THE COUNTY PRESS—AUTHORSHIP—POLITICS—SECRET SOCIETIES  
—THE BLACKLEGS.

THE development of the roads in the county marks the changes of the last half-century, as clearly, almost, as anything else. There was first the Indian trail, allowing travel in single file only, by man or beast, then the common wagon road, then the stage line, the plank road, and finally the railroad. The principal Indian trails run from Mongoquinong Prairie to White Pigeon, and to Fort Wayne and along these trails the first wagon roads were opened. The road from Fort Wayne was the great thoroughfare for many years. The surplus grain was mostly carried over it to market at Fort Wayne, whence was brought most of the merchandise used in the county.

In the summer of 1836, a stage coach was put on the road from Lima to Constantine, Mich., to which point boats then ran on the St. Joseph River. This line was opened by William M. Cary, now of Carson City, Nev., and was run twice a week, bringing and carrying away many land buyers; but as soon as these decreased the line was discontinued.

La Grange County, though on the direct line for travel from New York to Chicago, and thus on the travel belt around the world, was unfortunately missed by the east and west thoroughfares first established, and is even yet. Detroit and Chicago being the first important posts in the northwest travel set in between them, followed by stage lines, striking the counties to the west, leaving this county untouched. Toledo was then a little village known as Vistula. An effort was early made to open a through highway from Vistula to Chicago, which, if it had been built, would in all probability have passed through the county, and have made its history in development and population greatly different from what it is. On the 20th of January, 1835, Hon. John B. Howe, of Lima, wrote to Gen. Cass, asking his influence and work in favor of an appropriation by Congress for the survey of such a road, and through his influence and that of Gen. Tipton, then one of the Senators from this State, an appropriation of \$20,000 for the survey was made March 3, 1835. It is Mr. Howe's recollection that about \$10,000 was expended in surveying and laying out the road, but this was the first and the last money expended on it. It was thought then too late to divert the travel from the Detroit line, and that there would

not be enough travel for two roads! The heavily timbered land and stiff clay soil, for some distance west of Maumee Bay, had a material influence in retarding and discouraging the construction of the route.

In 1835, a road, long known as the Vistula road, was laid out from the Elkhart County line through Lima, and on through the county toward Vistula, and subsequently became the line of much of the through travel. But the principal emigration route was over the Defiance road, from Defiance, Ohio, which intersected the Vistula road two and a half miles east of Lima. This road was authorized by act of the Legislature, in 1832. In the same year, the Fort Wayne road was also authorized, and the report of the viewers filed in November, 1832. This road was the principal line of traffic, nearly all the surplus grain for market and merchandise for home use being carried over it, to and from Fort Wayne. This continued until the Michigan Southern Railroad was built. A road was laid out from Lima to Goshen, in 1834, and another known as the Baubaugo road, from the western line of the county, through La Grange, and directly east to Angola, in 1837. At the March term, 1837, the County Commissioners appropriated \$150 to build a bridge across Turkey Creek, on the Perrysburg road; \$300 on State road from Lima to Goshen; \$350 on La Grange and Baubaugo, and \$1,000 on Vistula road west of Lima. A road from Northport (a vanished town on the north side of Sylvan Lake, Rome City,) to Union Mills (Mongo), was laid out in 1839; one from Lima to Huntington, Ind., January, 1840, and one from La Grange to Wolcottville, in March, 1842. The Huntington road is now known as the Ligonier road. These were the first and more important common roads opened in the county.

About 1850, an epidemic raged quite extensively in Northern Indiana for building plank roads. It was upon these that local travel was to be made a bliss and stockholders were to realize their best dividends. The people of this county were generous enough to share with those other counties in this delusion and joined in the construction of a plank road from Fort Wayne to Sturgis. This road was constructed from Fort Wayne as far as Ontario, the line running from Kendallville to the Fourier Association grounds in Springfield Township, thence to Mongo, then called Union Mills, and from there to Ontario. Traveling upon it was splendid for two or three years, until the plank began to decay. Then it became execrable. Stockholders found that only loss could result in its maintenance and it was abandoned.

The first railroad talked of in the county was the projected Buffalo & Mississippi Railroad, for which John B. Chapman, Representative from Kosciusko County, obtained a charter at the General Assembly of the State at the session of 1836-37. This road, it was contemplated, would run through the northern tier of counties of the State. The County Commissioners, at their November term, 1838, authorized a subscription of \$500 stock in the road, and at their May term, 1839, granted authority for the issue of two county bonds of \$1,000 each for stock in the road. Books were opened for subscrip-



tions by citizens and a considerable amount was subscribed. But the project, like many others since, failed of accomplishment. Next came much talk and great expectations of the Michigan Southern Railroad, and it was once confidently thought that that company would have to avail themselves of the Buffalo & Mississippi charter in order to reach Chicago. The Chief Engineer of the company came to Lima, in the fall of 1850, to see Mr. Howe and others in reference to the right of way, etc., for the company; but Mr. Howe was, at the time, at Indianapolis, a member of the State Constitutional Convention. But encouraged by the demand and perseverance of the citizens of Southern Michigan, the railroad company found a way there further westward before entering Indiana. But the building of that line so far northward resulted, after a time, in the necessity of the air line route, built by the same company, from Toledo to Elkhart. The first line for this road was surveyed through the southern tier of the townships of the county and would, in all probability, have been constructed on that line but for extraordinary activity of some capitalists at Kendallville. The county was thus inclosed on the north and south by two great thoroughfares, but neither quite touching it. For about twenty years, all the surplus products of the county were carried to these roads, materially aiding in building up the towns on it and adjoining the county. Probably one-half and not less than one-third of the trade, development and prosperity of the towns of Sturgis and White Pigeon, on the north line, and Kendallville and Ligonier, on the south line, is owing to business drawn from La Grange County. But for this circumstance the towns of the county would now be much larger than they are and the population at least one-half more.

It was not until the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad was built, that the county had a single home market. The agitation for this road commenced in 1855. Joseph Lomax, of Marion, Grant County, was the first and principal originator of the enterprise, and was so successful in arousing the people along the proposed line, that many put part, and some their whole, farms in subscription for stock; farms being one of the commodities accepted for stock. Considerable work was done on the line in the county, when the enterprise commenced to languish, and work was finally entirely suspended. But the company managed to keep up a feeble existence, got the land grant in Michigan renewed after the expiration of the time first fixed for the completion of the road, thus keeping the hopes of the people alive until 1869, when, under a new management, with Joseph K. Edgerton, of Fort Wayne, as President, and who, as Member of Congress in 1863-65, had got the land grant renewed, the company was enabled to re-enlist the interest of the people to such an extent that about \$100,000 was subscribed by individuals in the county, nearly all along the line of road. Under this stimulus and aid, the road was completed through the county. The first locomotive reached La Grange from Sturgis, April 11, 1870, welcomed by the roar of cannon, and music by the band. Flags were swung to the breeze, smiles brightened every face, men shook hands, then

thrust them down into their pockets, and provided means for a sumptuous dinner at the hotels for all the track layers and railroad employes. That season, the road was completed from Sturgis to Fort Wayne, and the next year from Sturgis to Grand Rapids, Mich. The stock taken by the people has been almost valueless until recently, when it has attained a value of 10 cents on the dollar. But the road has been of immense benefit to the county, and few, if any, who took stock complain of the investment. It has, to a considerable extent, checked the outflow of trade, and furnished good markets within her own borders, where farmers can sell and invest at home. The county, though, will continue to be largely contributory to outside towns, near its borders, until an east and west line is built through. There have been a number of east and west railroads projected, talked of, and advocated; and in January, 1873, a county election was held on the proposition to appropriate \$98,000 in aid of a projected line called the New York & Chicago Air Line Railroad. The proposition was defeated by a vote of 1,520 against, to 1,220 for. This line was surveyed to run centrally through the county, east and west. The financial crisis coming on soon after, nothing more has been heard of that enterprise. An extension of the Detroit, Hillsdale & Northwestern Railroad through the county and on west has been several times talked of, and in 1880 was strongly advocated, and quite a large sum of money was subscribed for it, in the northeastern part of the county. This project is liable to revive at any time. A narrow-gauge route from Lake Michigan through the county to Toledo was much talked of also, in 1880. A number of public meetings were held, and much running to and fro caused, but that was all. In the winter of 1880-81, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company had a preliminary survey made for another track from Toledo, through Angola and La Grange, to Goshen. At present, all these projects are little talked of, and much less expected to culminate in any real construction. In 1872, a line for the Canada Southern Railroad was surveyed through the southern section of the county, subscriptions taken, right of way obtained, number of ties delivered, but the financial crisis laid that enterprise on the shelf also.

The first post office in the county was opened at a farm house on Monquinong Prairie, George Egnew, Postmaster, in 1832. The post office at La Grange was opened in 1843, with Charles B. Holmes as Postmaster. The dates of the opening of the other offices are not accessible. There are now sixteen offices in the county—La Grange, Lima; Scott, Van Buren Township; Ontario, Lima Township; Brighton and Greenfield Mills, Greenfield Township; Mongo and Brushy Prairie, Springfield Township; South Milford, Milford Township; Wolcottville, Woodruff and Valentine, Johnson Township; Steno, Clearspring Township; Emma, Eden Township; Pashan and Shore, Newbury Township. The La Grange Post Office attained to the third class (Presidential) in 1872, and is the only one of that class in the county. Until the railroads were built, the mails were brought from Fort Wayne by stage. After the completion of

the Michigan Southern routes, they were brought from Sturges and Kendallville in like manner. Since 1870, the mails have been forwarded by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and are distributed to the county from Kendallville, Noble County, La Grange and Lima. The present star line mail routes are from Lima to Ontario, Brighton, Mongo, Brushy Prairie and South Milford, to Kendallville, tri-weekly; from La Grange to Steno, semi-weekly; from La Grange to Emma, Shore and Pashan and Goshen, semi-weekly; from White Pigeon to Scott, from Orland to Greenfield Mills, from Wolcottville to Woodruff.

The first preaching, that there is record of, in the county, was in the vicinity of Lima, in 1829, by Rev. Erastus Felton, sent out by the Ohio Methodist Conference as a missionary to the settlements in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. He was succeeded in 1831 by Rev. Leonard B. Geerly. In July, 1832, Rev. Christopher Corey, the Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at White Pigeon, Mich., came over to Lima, and, taking a stump for a pulpit, preached to the people. The next year he became a permanent resident, and is yet residing at Lima, a living witness of all the remarkable changes of half a century, and can trace, not only there, but throughout the county, the influences of the good seed sown, at the beginning of the settlement, by himself and other Christian workers.

Rev. H. J. Hall, a Baptist minister, sent West by the Massachusetts Home Mission Society, came in 1833 and located a little north of the town of Lexington. His pastorate was brief, owing to ill health, requiring him to return East. Though he was not able to organize any societies in the county, others soon followed, by whom they were organized, and, in 1837, a Baptist Church was organized at Wolcottville, and, in 1846, another at Lima, and since in several other localities in the county. The Methodist Mission was dropped in a few years, a regular circuit formed, and this was followed by division into other circuits. At present there are five distinct charges, and some twenty local societies. The Presbyterians have flourishing churches at La Grange and Lima, and membership in different parts of the county. The once distinguished Bishop Philander Chase, of Ohio, preached at Lima as early as in 1834; other Protestant Episcopal ministers followed him, with occasional services, until 1851, when a church was organized at Lima, and subsequently one at La Grange in 1872. These denominations were the earlier founders of religious societies in the county.

Individuals connected with other branches were as early here as any of these, but we have no record of organized societies by other churches until 1854, when three church societies were organized—a Congregational at Lima, German Baptist (Dunkers), in Newbury Township, and the Evangelical Lutheran at La Grange. Still other churches formed societies, but at what dates we have not been able to learn—the United Brethren in Christ, the Free-Will Baptist, the Christian or Disciple, the Albrights, Protestant Methodist and Wes-

leyan Methodists. The La Grange County Bible Society was one of the earlier religious organizations. At a meeting of its Board of Managers in March, 1839, the following interesting report, prepared at the time by a committee consisting of Revs. H. J. Hall and Christopher Cory, was presented and adopted :

“During the past year, this county has been supplied with the precious Word of Life. At a period almost coeval with the first settlement of this county, this good work was commenced under the auspices of the Bible society in St. Joseph County, Mich., after which it was carried forward through the instrumentality of a very few of our own citizens. In the spring of 1834, this society was formed, and further arrangements were made from time to time for the extension of this river of life, that it might freely flow to every human habitation, willing to receive it, within our bounds. Yet, notwithstanding this work was commenced at so early a period, we have never till the present been permitted to say it is finished. But, be it remembered, this work is finished only for the present time, and within our little bounds. Again and again must the feet of him that bringeth glad tidings be speeding their way through our villages, our prairies and forests, to the cottages of the poor and the destitute, until that glorious period shall come, when the earth shall be filled, like the overflowing sea, with the knowledge of our God, whose spirit, holy and divine, inspired this sacred volume.”

The agent, Rev. H. J. Hall, employed by this society to explore this county and to supply the destitute with the Bible, has reported the following facts, to wit :

“This county contains 650 families, 3,657 inhabitants, and 450 professors of religion. Among those who made a public profession of their faith in Christ, 209 belong to the Methodist denomination, 152 to the Presbyterian, 72, Baptist; 9, Episcopalian, and 6 to the Lutheran. One hundred and seventeen individuals professing to have passed from death unto life, most of whom made a profession of religion previous to their coming to this county, are now living outside of the inclosure of Christ's kingdom. In this county there are 1,035 children between the ages of five and fifteen years, of whom only 278 have attended school the past year three months, leaving 757 who have not attended any school, or have attended less than three months. One agent further reports that he found eighty families destitute of the Bible, most of whom received it gladly. May they find in it the hidden treasures of eternal life. Four families refused this precious book, thereby shutting out this light of heaven from their gloomy habitations. To conclude, let the friends of the Bible be encouraged to redouble their efforts, knowing that their labor in the Lord is not in vain, and that in due season, they shall reap if they faint not.

C. COREY, Chairman of Committee.”

Here we have a close enumeration of the inhabitants at this time, a showing of their religious status, and a classification of their denominational divisions.



Only four families of the whole number did not want a Bible. Then about one in every eight of the population made a public profession of faith in Christ; now, as nearly as we can ascertain, the proportion is one in six.

The wave of spiritism which swept over the country in an early day, did not neglect La Grange County, and for a time, between 1850 and the war, spirit-rapping and writing and like phenomena were the leading sensation, and the cause of apparently endless discussion between those who saw in it a divine revelation and those who believed it to be the manifestation of his Satanic majesty, walking the earth seeking whom he might devour. Numerous circles were formed and seances held, and nearly all the performances of the alleged spirits were claimed to be evoked by local mediums. Eloquent and talented lecturers came and proclaimed the new gospel, boastfully predicting its future supremacy over the old religion. Spiritism did maintain a form and substance in society, more or less influential, for some twenty years, but gradually died away, until little is heard of it in public. After the lecturer and medium came the "exposer," and kept up considerable excitement concerning the dying cause. Those who have lived through it, have lived to see the cause of so many exhibitions of hasty credulity on one side and so much anxious fear, and even bigoted persecution, on the other, gradually lose its place as a basis of faith, and become an object of semi-scientific experimentation.

It will be remembered that among the many schemes proposed in the first half of the century for changing the social order and inaugurating an era of good feeling and heavenly acting, the system of Charles Fourier attracted great attention. Into different forms of these socialistic schemes went young men of great faith in humanity and its possibilities, but, after a few years, dropped out, with little faith left, and a resolution to bear the ills we have in society rather than sacrifice themselves in a vain attempt to reconstruct it. The society organized in this county has not had itself perpetuated in romance, as was the "Brook Farm," by Nathaniel Hawthorne, but it made a no less earnest effort for success, and had a pleasant existence for several years.

The history of this organization, as far as it is handed down to us, is full of interest. A number of the best and most prominent citizens of Springfield Township were the founders of the enterprise. A constitution of thirty articles was framed in 1844, upon the basis of Fourier's doctrines as modified and published by Albert Brisbane, of New York, in 1843. A charter was granted to William S. Prentiss, Benjamin Jones and Harvey Olmstead, by the Legislature. Other members who joined in the first year were Jesse Huntsman, Alanson Mason, William Anderson, John H. Cutler, Eliphalet Warner, L. H. Stocker, Prentiss H. Evans, William Sheldon, Dr. Richardson, Hart Hazen and Margaret Wade. The name chosen was the rather warlike one of the "La Grange Phalanx."

Joseph B. Wade, son of Margaret Wade, and a schoolboy at that time, says in a paper on this subject: "There are many pleasant recollections





*Grover*

LA GRANGE



clustering around those years, when 120 people from Indiana and Michigan lived under the same roof and ate at the same table. The home of the Phalanx was a house 210 feet long by twenty-four feet wide, and two stories high, with a veranda to both stories on the front. In the center of the first story was a dining-room, forty feet long by twenty-four feet wide; immediately above the school-room, which was large enough to accommodate the children. And a better controlled and managed school, it was never my fortune to attend."

The system of management in the Phalanx was as follows: The industrial department was managed by a Council of Industry, who controlled, laid out, and directed all of the agricultural and mechanical departments, upon the basis as described in Article XVI (75 cents per day of ten hours), and so ordered that ten hours of the man who plowed were paid the same as eight hours of him who grubbed. The Council of Commerce had under its supervision all the buying, selling and traffic of the Phalanx. The Council of Education (made up of the best educational talent) had the entire management of the school and educational matters in the Phalanx. The several councils consisted of three or more members, of which the President was one. The different departments were sub-divided into groups of from three to eight persons, each group having its foreman, chosen by its members, who reported the time of each member to the Secretary once every week, in days and hours.

"This system in many respects was advantageous to successful labor, and but for the fact of too little care in taking in members, might have been successful and popular as a labor-saving organization. But the whole thing was new and untried, and many adventurers came in, some for want of a home, others to winter and leave in the spring. I do not doubt that the prudent, careful men of the Phalanx, after disbanding that organization, could, with their years of experience, have formed one that would have been a step in advance of the old isolated system of living, not for successful industry merely, but socially and educationally. This Phalanx was wound up and settled by William Seaburn and Ephraim Seeley, commissioned as provided by the constitution, without litigation, in 1847 or 1848, and its members scattered, leaving only at this writing (1876) in this county, Hon. William Prentiss and the mother of the family of William S. Prentiss; Phineas Huntsman, of the family of Jesse Huntsman; Harvey Olmstead, the writer and his wife, and Mrs. Ellen Deal, daughter of Benjamin Jones, upon whose farm the Phalanx was located."

At about the same time as the Fourier movement, like ideas of co-operation, but on a more religious basis, gave rise to an organization in Lexington of a co-operative society under the modest title of "The Congregation of Saints." The association was completed March 5, 1843, when the following preamble was adopted, which will reveal the nature of the proposed remedy for evils, real and imaginary, afflicting society:

The Congregation of Saints at Lexington, La Grange County, Ind., deeply sensible of the innumerable evils which afflict all classes of society, and despairing of deliverance through the

agency of our present social and political systems which we believe are at variance with the principles of Christianity, and consequently the best interest of man; being desirous of securing for ourselves constant, and as far as possible, agreeable occupations, just dividends and the advantage of economy, only to be realized in association; and to establish a complete system of education in all useful and elevating branches of physical, intellectual and moral science, together with the most ample provision for the aged and afflicted; and above all, to escape from the perpetual conflicts and litigations which now render society little else than a pandemonium; and which, we believe, grow out of the present systems, and out of the depraved nature of man; do agree to unite in association, and to purchase and cultivate a domain of from two to six thousand acres of land, to prosecute such branches of commercial, mechanical, scientific, agricultural and horticultural employments as shall be conducive to our good; to divide the products of the labor among ourselves on a discriminating scale, by which each shall, as nearly as possible, reap what he may sow; to abolish the distinction of master and servant; to preserve individuality; to secure the rights and extend the privileges of women; to cherish and strengthen all the tender ties and relations growing out of the family compact; to enlarge the freedom of the individual by granting to all varied occupations, and the selection of the particular branch of industry for which they may feel an attraction. We believe that we shall be thus enabled to put in practice the two divine precepts—"Love thy neighbor as thyself," and "As ye would that others should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

The *La Grange Freeman*, of April 8, 1843, in which we find the articles of association of the Saints, remarks editorially, in referring to it: "What next! And what is to be the end of all these associations? Time alone will, reveal the results. If they prove beneficial, we shall rejoice; but if disastrous, awful will be the consequences. The matter to us looks dark." A contributor in the same paper, commenting on the subject, says: "The world, at this day, Mr. Editor, is full of expedients for improving and ameliorating the condition of society. Among other reformers and new modelers of country and the world we have the Socialists, the Rationalists, each in their turn inculcating their peculiar doctrines, and some new and wonderful discovery about to enlighten the world, renovate the earth and elevate human nature above the wants, the woes, and the vices which have so long afflicted mankind. \* \* \* I, for one, have no confidence in these visionary theorists, these philosophic and intellectual benefactors of mankind, who are forming for us new principles of association and government, under the blessings of which offenses are to cease, and men to become peaceful and harmless as doves."

Editor and contributor proved wiser than the "Saints," and Fourierites. Both associations were short-lived; indeed, the "Saints" hardly got organized before disorganization commenced, and the society was disbanded before the new mode of living was tested. No open advocates of these theories now remain. But for these reminiscences very few of this day would know such societies were ever advocated and formed in the county. Though unsuccessful, they merit a recollection as evidences, if no more, of the intellectual activity among the early settlers.

A more popular and exciting theory of that day was the construction of the Scriptural prophecies preached by William Miller, to the effect that Jesus Christ would come into the world again, some time between March 21, 1843, and March 21, 1844. Several Millerite preachers came into the county and

held revival meetings, at which there was great excitement, and as many conversions as could be hoped for in such a thinly populated country. But the sun went down calmly March 21, 1844, and the world still went on in its old, old fashion. The millennium was set for a later date, and another "ism" lost its hold upon the people.

An active interest in the cause of education is one of the characteristics of the county, from its first settlement to the present. While the first pioneers were wending their way into the wilderness here, seeking homes for themselves and families, a member of an infidel club at Victor, N. Y., was sitting at the feet of the distinguished evangelist, Charles G. Finney, a humble, penitent, and then an enthusiastic convert to the Christian faith. This man, Nathan Jenks, as soon as he came to answer the question, under the new light he had received, "What wilt Thou have me to do," conceived the idea of founding an educational institute somewhere in the West, modeled somewhat after the Oberlin Institute of Ohio, then the favorite of Mr. Finney, and of which he was many years the President. Mr. Jenks, in coming West, struck Ontario, was pleased with the locality, bought land and settled down, and soon proposed his favorite project. On February 6, 1837, an organization was effected, a Board of Trustees elected, and the La Grange Collegiate Institute became an institution, and one of the very first institutions of higher education in Northern Indiana. A fuller history of this institute will be found in the Lima Township record. It wielded a strong and healthful educational influence for many years, lifted hundreds into the higher range of intellectual culture, and was materially beneficial to the cause of education throughout the whole county. When it was proposed in the new constitution of 1852 to incorporate the free school system, the people of La Grange County were at the front urging its adoption. Before this the schools were supported almost exclusively by individual subscription. Since then as exclusively by State and local taxation. At present, and for some years past, tuition in all the public schools has been entirely free to all residents of the respective school districts. From the adoption of the new constitution to 1861, the teachers were licensed by a board of three examiners. Rev. C. Cory, of Lima, served several years on this board. From this time until 1873 there was but one examiner for the county, the office being filled during that time by Joseph H. Danseur, one year and five months; George A. Marks, one year; W. H. Hemenway, ten months; Rufus Patch, three years and six months; A. Fitz Randolph, one year and nine months; William Cathcart, seven months. Now came a radical change in this office, the duties being so enlarged as to require a general supervision of all the schools of the county. The name was also changed to County Superintendent, and the office at once assumed an importance before unrecognized. This office has been filled as follows: S. D. Crane, 1870 to 1871; Alfred Bayless, 1871 to 1873; S. D. Crane, 1873 to 1874; E. T. Cosper, 1874 to 1875; S. D. Crane, 1875 to 1881; E. G. Machan, 1881 to date. With the office of County Super-



intendent was also established the County Board of Education, consisting of the Superintendent, the Trustees of the several townships, and the President of the School Boards of incorporated towns. This board is required to meet semi-annually, to ascertain the wants and needs of the schools, in property and text books, and to adopt general rules of management. Under this system material changes have been wrought in the school management. A higher grade of qualification for teaching has been enforced, nearly one-half of all applicants for teachers' licenses being rejected; school work has been better systematized, recitations arranged so as to secure more equal advantages for pupils, better class of text books adopted, the methods of instruction improved, more attention given to analysis than mere rule, and nearly all the schools put on a graded course of instruction. Nearly all are now graded, and arrangements are completed by which pupils who finish the course of study, adopted October 17, 1881, will receive a diploma which will admit them to any high school in the county without further examination. The course requires nine years to complete it, and as it is arranged, classes can be graduated from each school every two years. The marked improvement in the country schools of the county within the last three years shows the wisdom of establishing the office of County Superintendent. It will require but a few years more, with the hearty co-operation of patrons, teachers and school officers, to give our country schools the advantages largely of those in the towns. Better schoolhouses have been and are being built, and all are being supplied with greatly improved facilities for illustration, as maps, charts, cards, mathematical blocks, magnets, globes and other apparatus.

Another part of the school machinery is the County Institute, held once a year, and Township institutes, held once a month, in each township, during the school months. It is claimed for the county the honor of having inaugurated the Institute system in the State, the first Teachers' Institute being held at Ontario, in 1846. This was followed the next year (1847) by a Normal school of four weeks' term. Normal schools are yet held every summer, as a private enterprise, on the part, generally, of the Superintendents, but greatly to the benefit of those seeking to qualify themselves for effective teaching.

The State Superintendent, in his annual report of 1880, shows the following interesting facts pertaining to this county :

Number of persons of school age—from six years to twenty-one years..	5,136
Number that cannot read or write.....	6
Number admitted into the schools for year ending August 30, 1881.....	4,324
Average daily attendance..	2,676
Number of school districts.....	111
Number district graded schools.....	108
Number township graded schools.....	4
Average length of schools—Days.....	145
Number of teachers—Male.....	86
Number of teachers—Female.....	94
	180

## Average wages of teachers per day :

In townships—Males .....	\$1.60
In townships—Females.....	1.29
In towns—Males.....	3.12
In towns—Females.....	1.50
Total revenue for tuition.....	\$44,688 81
Total revenue for special school purposes—building schoolhouses, expenses of schools, etc.....	\$17,250 71
Number of schoolhouses—Brick.....	17
Number of schoolhouses—Frame.....	95 112
Value of school property.....	\$181,893 00
Volumes in township libraries.....	2,048
Amount paid Trustees during the year for services in connection with the schools.....	\$525 00

At the organization of the county, one section of land in each Congressional township was set apart for school purposes, its proceeds, when sold, to be invested as a permanent fund, and the interest to be applied to a tuition fund of the respective townships. All this land was sold some years ago. The total amount of the principal of the Congressional fund held in trust by the county May 31, 1881, was \$17,576.80. There are three different funds used for the education of the children of the State—the Congressional fund above mentioned ; the Common School Fund, made up from various sources by the State, and which, on the 1st of June, 1880, amounted to \$6,616,112.04 ; of this amount, \$3,904,783.21 is in the form of a negotiable bond of the State, and the rest in money distributed to the several counties, pro rata, held in trust by the counties and loaned to the citizens. The constitution of the State prohibits the reduction of the principal of either of these funds, which now aggregate the immense sum of \$9,065,254.73, equal to \$12.88 per capita of those of school age. The amount of the Common School Fund, held in trust by La Grange County, May 31, 1881, was \$21,621.68, making the total school funds held in trust, Congressional and Common School, \$39,198.48. To the interest derived from these sources of school revenue, there is each year a levy by the State of sixteen cents on each \$100 valuation of property, which is twice a year distributed to several counties in proportion to enumeration of children. Another source of revenue for tuition is made by town and township levies, which they are permitted to make to an extent not to exceed 25 cents on each \$100. These two taxes, added to the interest on the Congressional and Common School funds are for the tuition of the children. For the building of schoolhouses, repairs, furniture, apparatus and incidental expenses, each township and town levies a special school tax, to an amount deemed necessary, not to exceed 50 cents on each \$100 valuation.

The aggregate sums expended for school purposes, derived from these sources in this county for year ending September 30, 1881, was, for tuition, \$26,581.20 ; and for special school purposes, \$15,097.44 ; total, \$41,678.64. The sum for many years has aggregated so nearly this amount, that a table showing each year's expenditures for schools is hardly necessary.

The number of teachers licensed for the year ending June 1, 1881, was 212; per cent for two years, 4; for eighteen months, 12; for twelve months, 34; for six months, 50.

The newspaper history of the county commences with the establishment, at Ontario, of the *La Grange Freeman* in July, 1842, with Samuel Hemingway, Jr., as editor. In the election of the next year it supported the Whig ticket and bore at the head of its editorial columns the names of Samuel Bigger for Governor and John H. Bradley, La Porte, for Lieutenant Governor. The paper was a six column folio and fairly printed. Its publication was continued nearly two years, when it was suspended and the material of the office moved to Lima, and the *La Grange Whig* started in 1845, with James S. Castle as editor and publisher. In September, 1844, another paper was started at Ontario by James M. Flagg, an attorney, called the *People's Advocate*. Early in 1845, this paper was moved to Lima and the name changed to the *La Grange Advocate*. This was also a six column folio and Whig in politics. The few copies of these papers that have been preserved unto the present are almost destitute of local references, the editorial labor seemingly having been directed to clipping from distant papers and occasional comments upon National and State matters. There is a remarkable contrast, in respect to "locals," between the newspapers of that day and the present. A country paper now without five to ten columns of home news every week would hardly be looked at by the people. Then there was hardly as much in as many months. The *La Grange Advocate*, after a short life at Lima, was merged into the *Lima Whig*, which continued an active career until 1855, when it passed into the hands of C. D. Y. Alexander and soon after was discontinued. The Whigs, though, during all this time, were not permitted to exercise all the newspaper talent of the county. In October, 1845, Messrs. Jewett, Owen & Bennett started the *La Grange Democrat*, which held up and defended the Democratic banner some four or five years, when it was suspended. Who were the different proprietors during that time, or whether there were any changes, cannot now be ascertained. The town of La Grange, the new county seat, had, by this time, so grown as to aspire to newspaper standing, and then, as now, there was somebody ready to fill such "felt wants." Mr. G. D. Stancliff was the first man to try the business in La Grange, by starting the *La Grange Herald* in 1856. It was but an experiment, and ere the year closed the *Herald* had expired. But the want had by no means been gratified, and one morning in December, 1856, the current topic was a new printing office in town. John K. Morrow, of Bryan, Ohio, had moved in, bringing with him a Washington hand press and printing material covered with a chattel mortgage. Associating with him — Rayhouser he at once commenced the issue of the *La Grange Standard*, which has made regular weekly visitations to the people of the county from that day to this. It was the first Republican paper established in the county. A number of changes in proprietors and editors have occurred; but, with all the changes,

the paper has been gradually improved and advanced in circulation and prosperity. Rayhouser held his interest but a short time, when he sold to C. D. Y. Alexander, of Lima, and he soon sold his interest to Joseph B. Wade. Morrow and Wade conducted the paper about a year, when Mr. Wade sold his interest to John D. Devor, in the winter of 1859.

In April, 1860, Dr. Charles O. Myers bought the entire office, and conducted the paper until 1863, when he sold out to Thomas S. Taylor, who had, a few months previous, started a paper, the *Lima Union*, at Lima. Mr. Myers taking the material of the *Union* in part pay, moved it to Kendallville, and started the *Kendallville Standard*. Mr. Taylor conducted the *La Grange Standard* until November 22, 1867, when he sold the office to Dr. John H. Rerick, who held it until May, 1869, when he sold it to John D. Devor. The latter added some \$2,500 material to the office, consisting of a new Washington hand press, two job presses, a large quantity of type, and other material. On the 18th of July, 1872, the office was again bought by Dr. J. H. Rerick, and is still owned and conducted by him. In October, 1874, he added a power Taylor press (the first power press ever brought into the county), steam-power, mailing machine and considerable other material.

In 1859, J. S. Castle started a Democratic paper at La Grange, called the *La Grange Democrat*, which he published about a year at La Grange, when he moved the office to Lima and continued the publication there until some time in 1862, when it was discontinued entirely. In 1868, through the joint operation of a number of Democrats in the different parts of the county, an entirely new office was bought and a new *Democrat* started, with Francis Henry and Howard M. Coe as editors and publishers. This paper took an active part in the campaign of 1868. In April, 1869, the office was consumed with the block of business buildings then destroyed by the most disastrous fire that has yet occurred in the town. A number of Democrats renewed their stock, and new press and new material were again purchased and the *Democrat* re-issued. Mr. Henry soon retired from the paper, when its publication was continued by Mr. Coe until some time in 1870, when he abandoned the office and it was closed up. The material of the office was purchased in 1871 by Hiram A. Sweet, and a new paper was started, entitled the *La Grange Independent*. Mr. A. Bayliss bought an interest in the paper in 1872, and conducted the editorial department about a year, when he sold his interest back to Mr. Sweet. Mr. Sweet continued its publication until the spring of 1874, when he discontinued it and moved the office to Sturgis, Mich. In the spring of 1874, A. H. Wait, of Sturgis, Mich., started the *Register* at Wolcottville, which he sold a few months after to his publisher, James R. Rheubottom. In December, 1875, S. D. Crane, of La Grange, bought an interest in the office, and in March, 1876, bought the remaining interest held by Mr. Rheubottom, and moved the office to La Grange, changing the name of the paper to the *La Grange Register*, the first copy of the latter being issued in April, 1876. In June, of the same



year, J. C. Hewitt bought an interest in the office, and in December succeeding bought the entire office, and has conducted it since. In August, 1881, he put in a power Campbell press, the second power press introduced in the county.

James R. Rheubottom started a new paper in Rome City, Noble County, in the spring of 1876, which he moved to Wolcottville in June, the same year, and issued it under the title of the *Wolcottville Gazette*, conducting it until November, 1878, when he sold the office to I. W. Lohman, who shortly after moved it to Rome City again, when it was, in the course of a year, discontinued entirely, and the material shipped to Indianapolis.

November 13, 1879, a new *La Grange Democrat* was started at La Grange, by J. Frank Snyder, and is still being issued. Several different persons have been associated with Mr. Snyder in the publication of the paper.

At present writing (October, 1881), there are three papers published in the county, all at La Grange; the *Standard*, a seven-column quarto, Republican in politics; the *Register*, a six-column quarto, independent; and the *Democrat*, a five-column quarto; all published on the "co-operative plan."

In the line of book authorship, there have been, so far as we can learn, but two residents of the county who have ventured into this field. Hon. John B. Howe, of Lima, who has devoted the late years of his life largely to the study of financial problems, has written and had published four books on the subject under the following titles:

- 1st. "The Political Economy of Great Britain, the United States and France, in the Use of Money. A new science of production and exchange."
- 2d. "Monetary and Industrial Fallacies. A dialogue."
- 3d. "Mono-metalism and Bi-metalism."
- 4th. "The Common Sense. The Mathematics and the Metaphysics of Money."

The chief proposition, and to which others maintained are subordinate, in these four books is, that the present theory of money is founded, like the ptolemaic theory for the universe, on illusory and not real facts, and that there can be no sound monetary, and hence no sound social, science, so far as political economy is concerned, until monetary science is founded on actual facts. He claims, in these books, to have demonstrated the falsity of the science of money as now taught, and the truth of his own science.

Dr. J. H. Rerick wrote, and had published, in 1880, a book of nearly three hundred pages, illustrated with maps and portraits, entitled, "The Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. History of its services in the war of the rebellion, and a personal record of its members."

The politics of the county, when the contest was between Whigs and Democrats, was nearly equally divided. In five Presidential contests, the Whigs won in two, 1840 and 1844; the Democrats in two, 1836 and 1848. In 1852, the two parties were a tie. The Abolitionists cast 38 votes in 1844,



114 in 1848, and, in 1852, under the name of "Free-Soil," 117 votes. The repeal of the Missouri compromise, the attempted extension of slavery into Kansas and Nebraska, aroused much indignation and warm political controversies in the county. The result was a general disorganization of the two old parties, and a sharp issue on the anti-Nebraska question in 1854, resulting in the election of the entire anti-Nebraska ticket, by majorities ranging from 125 to 500. The organization of the Republican party, combining all the opponents of slavery extension soon following, the political lines were drawn on that line in this county, and until the appearance of the National or Greenback party, there were but the two party organizations in the county, the Republican and Democratic. At every election since, the Republican party has elected every county candidate put in nomination by its county convention, by handsome majorities. There is not, probably, another county where either party, so largely ascendent in a county, has maintained such a solid and unbroken front for twenty-seven years. The Republican majorities at the Presidential elections have ranged from 760 to 1,033. The National or Greenback party was organized in the county in 1876, and in that year cast 63 votes for its Presidential candidate, and at the State election of 1878 attained its maximum, casting some 500 votes. As soon as the country began to recover from the financial crisis of 1873, that party began to decline, and, at the Presidential election of 1880, cast only 116 votes. Now it has entirely disappeared as an organization. In the statistical table elsewhere will be found the Presidential vote at every election since the organization of the county.

The people of La Grange County, from its earliest settlement, have, in the main, been a very temperate people. Total prohibition of the use of strong drinks as a beverage has had at all times strong advocates. So strong has this sentiment been that for many years, as long as the issue of license to retail was left to discretion of the County Commissioners, no licenses were issued at all. The organized temperance work has been mainly done through the Sons of Temperance, the Good Templar Order, the red ribbon and blue ribbon movements. The Hutchinson Lodge of Good Templars, organized in La Grange in July, 1866, has met regularly every week since, and been the center of an active and beneficent temperance influence. Another lodge of the same order, entitled the Davis Lodge, was organized, and is yet doing good work in the cause of temperance and social culture.

A number of other secret societies of social character have been organized, and been more or less influential, socially, in the community. A Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized at Lima in 1848, and attained a membership as high as forty-three, consisting mainly of the active business young men. Hon. Schuyler Colfax gave a public lecture under the auspices of the Lodge at the M. E. Church in 1849. The California emigration drew so largely on its membership and so weakened it, that the Lodge surrendered its charter in 1854. About the same time the Odd Fellows' Lodge

was organized, a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was also organized at Lima. A charter for the organization of the Meridian Sun Lodge No. 7, Free and Accepted Masons, was granted June 1, 1849, with William Martin, Worshipful Master; F. Flanders, Senior Warden; William Berg, Junior Warden; John Kromer, Secretary; John Briscoe, Treasurer. Since its organization, 425 members have been enrolled. The present officers are: B. F. Lutz, Worshipful Master; M. V. Stroup, Senior Warden; J. H. Caton, Junior Warden; A. F. Skeer, Treasurer; and J. H. Lutz, Secretary.

The Star in the West Lodge, I. O. O. F., at La Grange, was organized in June, 1855, has had a membership of 150, and is still in active working order. At Wolcottville, there are two Lodges. Aldine Lodge I. O. O. F. organized April 19, 1875, with a membership now of twenty-six, and Ionic Lodge F. A. M., organized May 28, 1868, with a present membership of forty-seven.

The Grange movement, in 1873, found a number of active and influential adherents in this county. Some eleven Granges of the Patrons of Industry were organized, and all, we believe, by William Collett. The strongest Granges were formed in Clearspring Township, where one or two still exist; all the others, though, have been discontinued.

In the month of February, 1878, a movement was made in La Grange County, to organize a Home Insurance Company on the mutual plan. The first meeting of those interested was held on the 2d of March of the same year, at which time the following men became charter members: Samuel P. Bradford, H. H. Bassler, John Dalton, James Miller, B. W. Vesey, Philip Sprewer, Joseph Steininger, Alanson Blackmun, Mrs. Zedina Buck, Wrench Winters, William Crampton, Robert Kellett, Mrs. M. Kellet, D. N. Stough, James Smith, Levi Putt, George W. Storms, William Gardner, Henry Weiss, Z. L. Scidmore, Israel Spangler, Peter Alsbaugh, Levi Eshleman, A. J. Royer, John Bellairs, William Woodward, William S. Olney, Peter Moak, George Preston, John McDonald and Elias Wight. These men took out policies, and subscribed stock to the amount of \$57,615. The company, from that time to this, has grown very rapidly until the membership now numbers about 500. On the 11th of February, 1879, the stock amounted to \$277,390; February 10, 1880, to \$431,846; June 6, 1881, to \$645,455; and January 11, 1882, to \$751,751. But four assessments have been made upon the members to make good losses, as follows: January, 1879, a tax of eleven and one-half mills on the dollar; December, 1879, a tax of eight mills; April, 1880, a tax of twenty-two mills; and June, 1881, a tax of fifteen mills. The total losses paid to the present writing (January 7, 1882), are as follows: During the first year, \$110; second year, \$250; third year, \$968; fourth year, \$851.98. Total losses paid, \$2,179.98. The total per cent of taxation to meet losses during the four years is but fifty-six and one-half. Every loss has been promptly paid, and the company presents a fine financial showing. The losses have been mostly by lightning, whereby various flocks of sheep, meat in smoke houses, and buildings

suffered. The first officers were: Amasa Bunnell, President; Samuel P. Bradford, Secretary; and H. H. Bassler, Treasurer.

With the honest and enterprising pioneers of La Grange and Noble Counties, came some ingenious and active villains, who at once commenced to avail themselves of all the advantages a sparsely-settled country, with its hidden recesses in woods and swamp, always furnishes the criminal classes for carrying on the general villainy of stealing, robbing and counterfeiting. These men soon collected around them others of like propensities, and secretly seduced many young men into the ways of pollution and on to crime. The Indians frequently complained of the theft of their ponies, and the early settlers of their horses, and, later on, house-breaking, house-burning, robbery, and the passage of counterfeit money, became annoyances of frequent occurrence, not only in these counties, but in all Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan. The systematic action displayed in these lawless depredations indicated so strongly a conspiracy that the belief became general that there was a well-organized band of villains, within or very near the borders of these counties. As early as 1841 or 1842, the people realized that the ordinary processes of law were unequal to the task of suppressing the lawlessness, and a public meeting was held at Kendallville for the purpose of organizing a society for the mutual protection of honest citizens, and to raise funds to aid in the execution of the law. The results of this meeting may be learned in the Noble County history. The criminals increased in numbers and audacity. The Legislature was finally appealed to, and, in 1852, an act was passed authorizing the formation of companies for the detection and apprehension of horse thieves and other felons. The companies were to consist of not less than ten nor more than one hundred, who were to sign articles of association, giving name of company, the name and residence of each member, which organization was to be approved by the County Commissioners, and put on record. The companies were authorized to call to their aid the peace officers of the State, in accordance with law, in the pursuit and apprehension of felons, and reclaiming stolen property, and each member was given the powers and privileges of constables, when engaged in arresting criminals. Although this law gave such ample authority for organized effort for the protection of society, the depredations of thieves and counterfeiters were endured until September 20, 1856, when the first company was organized in Milford Township, assuming the name of the La Grange County Rangers. No person was allowed to become a member whose name was tainted with dishonorable associations, and who would not take a solemn oath of secrecy. The meetings were strictly private, and all plans for operation held in profound secrecy until contemplated arrests were made. This society was in existence more than a year before any others were formed; then followed the organization of the La Grange Protective Association, La Grange Association of Clear-spring, Self-Protectors of South Milford, Self-Protectors of Springfield, and Eden Police. On January 9, 1858, a meeting called by the regulator companies

was held at Wright's Corners, which passed a series of resolutions which, after being signed by 130 citizens, was ordered to be published in the *La Grange Standard*. These resolutions alleged that La Grange and Noble Counties were infested with blacklegs, burglars and petty thieves, to such a degree that the property of the citizens was very insecure, and charged that the tavern then kept "by B. F. Wilson, at Wright's Corners, was believed to be a rendezvous for these infernal banditti," and that he was an accomplice of the villains. The resolutions pledged each signer to use the utmost exertion to bring the offenders to justice, "by assisting to take them wherever they may be found, and that, when taken, we will deal with them in such a manner as to us may seem just and efficient." Wilson was also warned that in case any depredations were committed by persons he harbored, he would be dealt with as a real depredator. This meeting was but the mutterings of the coming storm of indignation against the rascally element that had so long tormented the people. The next week, January 16, 1858, at an Old Settlers' meeting in Kendallville, the regulator companies of Noble and La Grange Counties appeared in parade, marching in double file through the most prominent streets of the town. The depredators, many of whom witnessed the scene, were alarmed, but were given no time to get away, for the next day the arrests began. Nine of the ringleaders were arrested at Rome City, and taken to Ligonier, where they confessed (a very fashionable performance about that time), and were then either tried by the committee, or turned over to the constituted authorities, to be legally dealt with. The proceedings in that vicinity, and the hanging of Gregory McDonald, is related in the Noble County record elsewhere in this volume. A number of arrests followed in this county, the people were much agitated, the old jail was crowded to its utmost with prisoners, and the courts overrun with business. At one term of the court, seven men were sentenced to the penitentiary. Several men who were tried in the Common Pleas Court were released by the Supreme Court on the ground that their crime was triable in the Circuit Court only. With the exception of these, the convicted paid the assigned penalty of their crimes, and the whole gang was most effectually broken up. Since then the misdeeds in the community have been almost entirely left to the control of the regular judicial officers, though several regulator organizations still exist, and occasionally lend a helping hand in the arrest of criminals.



## CHAPTER IV.

BY J. H. REBICK, M. D.

NAMES OF SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN WARS PRIOR TO 1861—PUBLIC SENTIMENT WHEN SUMTER FELL—THE CALL TO ARMS—COLLECTION OF SANITARY STORES—VOLUNTEERS AND RECRUITS—THE DRAFT TERROR—SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETIES—LA GRANGE COUNTY'S ROLL OF HONOR—BATTLES PARTICIPATED IN—DISLOYALTY—ENTHUSIASTIC UNION MEETINGS—ANECDOTES.

"I will teach thine infant tongue  
To call upon those heroes old  
In their own language, and will mold  
Thy growing spirit in the flame  
Of Grecian lore: That by each name  
A patriot's birthright thou mayest claim."

—*Shelley.*

FOR thirty prosperous years La Grange County developed in population and resources without knowing the spirit of war. Children were born and grew to manhood without ever seeing a soldier in military dress. Mothers and maidens had never felt the anguish of separation from husband or lover at the stern call of a nation at war. Perhaps not half a score of men in the county at the opening of the rebellion had any knowledge, except through tradition and reading, of the forced march, scanty rations, the exposed bivouac, guard and picket duty, toilsome work on breastworks, rifle-pits and forts, the marshaling of the armed hosts for "battle's magnificently stern array," the fury of the storm of shot and shell, the falling dead and mangled human forms, the rejoicing of victory and the despair of defeat, the heart-sickening scenes in hospital, the anxious waiting at home for news of the great battles which is to be to them a sorrowful joy or dead despair—of all the painful, terrible, magnificent things which go to make up war.

For a number of years after the first settlement, a few old soldiers of the Revolution, who lived in the county, were honored on Independence Day, put on the platforms and cheered for their services, but all these had long since passed away, and were slumbering among the dead in peace. There were, besides, a few survivors of that later and less heroic war of 1812, who could tell some stories of old-time bravery, but these were very few. The Mexican war had drawn a few soldiers from the county, and some of its heroes had come into the county after the war. But, as we said before, all counted, not more than ten had "smelled gunpowder." Indeed, when the first squad of volunteers assembled in 1861, there was but one man in the community with sufficient military knowledge to give commands for the simplest maneuvers. This soldier



was William B. Bingham, who had served in the ranks of an Ohio regiment in the Mexican war.

So it can be seen what a new and before unfelt thrill went through the hearts of the people of the county when, in April, 1861, the flag of the nation was insulted and outraged at Fort Sumter. A common glow of patriotism fired every bosom. Every man, woman and child, possessing a spark of heroism, was raised from a devotion to little things into a higher life of consecration to an idea—the preservation of the nation—a tumult of emotions, before unfelt and undreamed of. Indignation at the insult to that flag, which then for the first time, began to have a significance; apprehensions of the perils to happy homes; duty's call to the front; the restraining thought of death and sorrow—all these swarmed in the minds of the men. The hearts of mothers and wives sank, at first, in anguish at the sight of the portentous cloud coming over the sky, but soon rose with a sublime patriotism which taught them that no sacrifice was too costly for the altar of our country.

On the 15th of April, 1861, President Lincoln called for 75,000 militia, and on the next day Gov. Morton issued his proclamation for the organization of six regiments, the quota of Indiana. The first paper published in La Grange after this, contained a call for a public meeting at the court house, "to which all Union-loving citizens, irrespective of party affiliation in the past," were invited to take action for the "organization of a military company, and for aiding and assisting the families of those who may volunteer." At the meeting, the court house was filled to its utmost capacity. John Kromer, an old citizen, and a soldier of 1812, presided. Nathan P. Osborne and Samuel Sprague acted as Vice Presidents, and C. O. Myers and A. B. Kennedy as Secretaries. The Committee on Resolutions were A. S. Case, Harley Crocker, Dr. F. P. Griffith, Dr. J. H. Rerick, Thomas J. Skeer and Alexander B. Kennedy. The resolutions reported were unanimously adopted, and were as follows:

WHEREAS, We deplore the circumstances which have inaugurated civil war and brought the people of a portion of the South in conflict with the General Government of the United States; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is the duty of all patriotic citizens, irrespective of party names and distinctions, ignoring, for the present, all past dissensions and party bitterness, to unite as one people, in support of the Government of the United States.

*Resolved*, That we are unalterably attached to the government of the United States, and will yield to it an ardent and firm support against all its enemies; pledging to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

James M. Flagg and Hon. Robert Parrett made patriotic speeches. Mr. Flagg recalled the words of Jefferson, that about once in thirty years the tree of liberty must be watered with human blood. The time for such a sacrifice, he said, was at hand. Acts, not words, are now necessary. Mr. Parrett eloquently and feelingly argued that it was a time when all former issues should be laid aside—the only questions now being, union or disunion. Mr. Andrew

Ellison was called upon, who, speaking in a candid manner, said his sentiments were not wholly in accord with the previous speakers, but that he was a citizen of the Republic, and acknowledged his allegiance to it, and proposed to stand by its laws under all circumstances and contingencies. William S. Boyd thought there had been talking enough, and proposed that steps be at once taken for the organization of a company, whereupon John H. Rerick drew from his pocket an enlistment paper already prepared, which was read, approved, and enlistment at once commenced. William Cummings, William Selby and John Kromer were appointed a committee for soliciting contributions for the families of those who should enlist.

This was the first war meeting ever held in the county. Others quickly followed—one at Lima on the 23d, addressed by Hon. J. B. Howe, Revs. Farland and Cory, and another at Wolcottville on the same day, presided over by A. J. Atwood, with L. L. Wildman, as Secretary, and Dr. Martin, O. B. Taylor and Henry Youngs as committee on resolutions. These demanded a prompt and vigorous execution of the Federal laws, the retaking of the forts, arsenals and other public property seized by the rebels, and that the insult to the United States by the so-called Confederacy in attacking Fort Sumter was one that should be redressed, if it was necessary to use the entire military strength of the American people. At these meetings, volunteers were added to the list and contributions made for their families. On May 1, a meeting was held at South Milford, presided over by John Bartlett, with R. Smith as Secretary. It was addressed by Francis Henry and George Rowe. The committee on resolutions were Francis Henry, E. Stockwell, Dr. J. Dancer, L. Blackmun and George Bartlett. The resolutions reported and adopted differed slightly in tone from those adopted at the other meetings, and we present them here, in order that the different shades of feeling at the time may be represented:

*Resolved*, That we will sustain the Constitution of the United States of America, and uphold the authorities thereof in sustaining the laws and protecting the flag of our country from our enemies, both North and South.

*Resolved*, That we have no sympathy with the Secessionists of the South, nor the Abolitionists of the North, and that we hold them responsible for the present distracted condition of the country.

*Resolved*, That we recommend every good citizen to consider calmly and dispassionately our present condition, and that we will hail with joy an early and honorable peace, and if peace cannot be brought about, that we prosecute the war with the utmost vigor to a final end.

A committee was appointed to devise the best method of organizing a military company and reported, recommending that the Secretary open his books for immediate enrollment, which was done, and some names were entered. On May 4, another meeting was held at La Grange, "for the purpose of holding a council of war," as the chronicler of that day put it. The crowd gathered in the court-yard and was addressed by J. B. Wade, A. Ellison and Roman Mills. On Mr. Wade's suggestion, the meeting voted that the county should pay the expenses of the volunteers while at home. Roman Mills said he had

two sons already in the company and two more to spare, and would go himself if necessary. The company which had been drilling under Maj. Bingham made an exhibition of their skill; there was martial music, firing of cannon, the "Marseillaise," and "Red, White and Blue." Thus the attention of the people was directed to the enlistment. The paper was kept by Dr. J. H. Rerick at Betts & Rerick's drug store, and as fast as men made up their minds to enlist, and could arrange their business, they came in, signed this paper, and went into the ranks for drill. About the 1st of May, William Roy, a young man who had just finished a five years' service in the regular army, came to La Grange to visit his relatives, and being fresh in military tactics and discipline, at once became the most important personage in the community. As soon as the volunteers heard of his presence in town, he was sent for and requested to give the boys a touch of the "regular's" drill. With form erect and the quick, firm step of the trained soldier, he was soon at their front, and, at the first command of "front face," the humble regular private, William Roy, was transferred into a Captain of volunteers. Spectators and volunteers were alike elated, but hardly any more so than the drill-master, Mr. Bingham, who immediately tendered his cane, then the only instrument of authority, and turned the command over to the new-comer.

The organization of the company was completed in a few days, and information of the fact forwarded to the authorities at Indianapolis. When public indignation for rebels ran so high as it did then, and a furious and speedy overthrow was anticipated, it was not strange that the most terrific names should be suggested for company titles. In obedience to this prevalent feeling, our first military organization assumed the belligerent cognomen of the "La Grange Tigers." A less ferocious title would have given satisfaction a few months after, without any discredit to true courage and patriotism. "Home Guards," subsequently, under the influence of the declaration of a great party that the war was a failure, was equally significant of public opinion. The first enlistment paper, referred to above, is still carefully preserved. All who signed, did not at that time enter the service, but nearly all did within a few months. The following is a copy of the obligation to which the volunteers, one hundred and two in number, put their signatures:

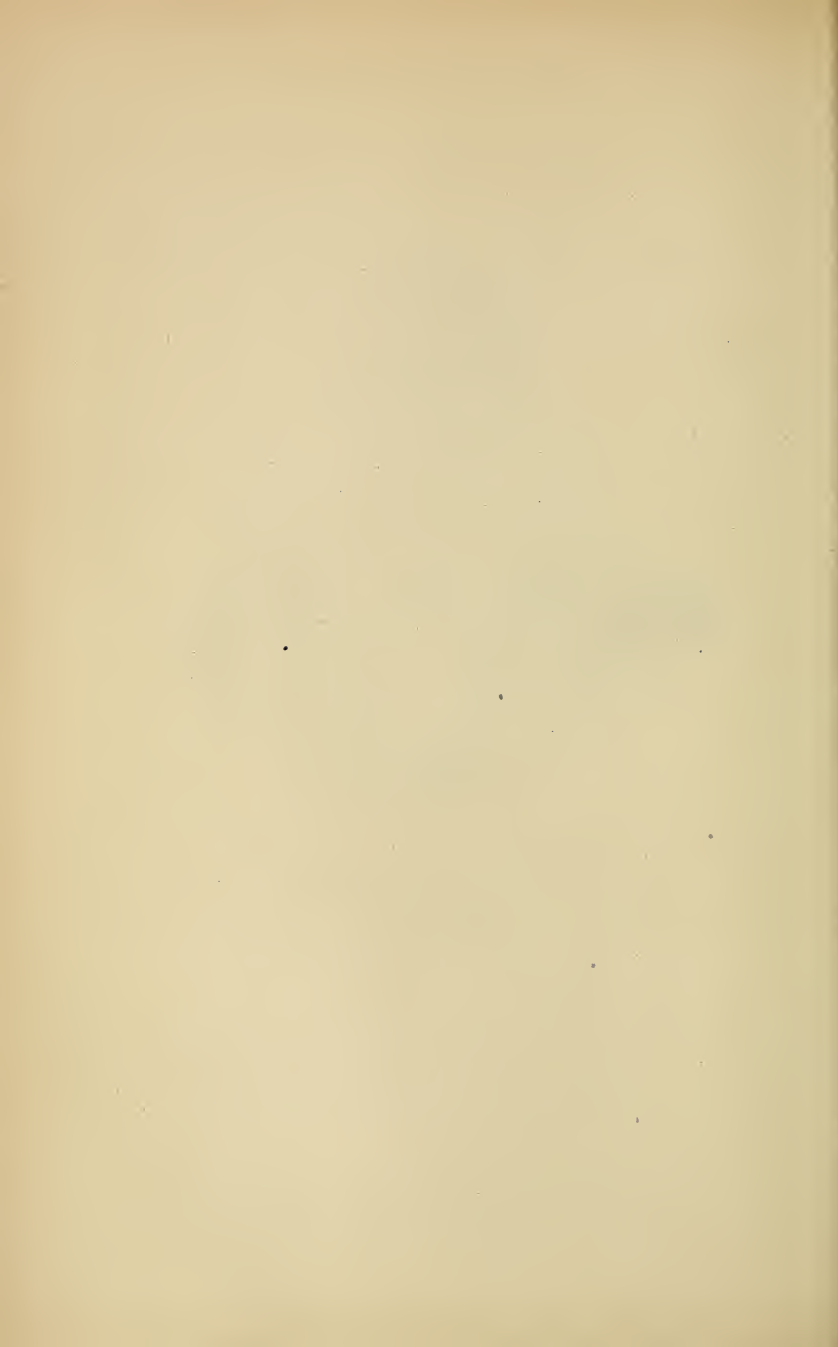
LA GRANGE, Ind., April 1, 1861.

The undersigned hereby agree to organize themselves into a Volunteer Military Company, in accordance with the statutes of the State of Indiana, and to be at the service and command of the Governor thereof, whenever in his opinion the exigencies of the country demand, for the term of three months from date of reception for duty. They also agree, when the requisite number (84) of signatures for a company have been obtained, to meet, elect their officers, and report for service.

All this enlistment and preparation for the field had been done without any definite arrangement or order from the State authorities. The Governor had called for volunteers to fill the State quota, but there was no assurance that the "Tigers" would be needed to make up the requisite number. Not



*O B Taylor*  
WOLCOTTVILLE





until the 14th of May did the company receive any orders, and then only in an indirect way; but the boys were eager to go into service, and the intimation that they were needed was accepted as sufficient. The company was en route in an hour or two for Sturgis, where cars were expected to convey them to Indianapolis. Many citizens accompanied them—seeing them off—and they were met by a Sturgis company and escorted to town. The officers chosen by the men, in this first military company, were: Captain, William Roy; First Lieutenant, George A. Lane; Second Lieutenant, C. M. Burlingame; Third Lieutenant, F. A. Spellman; First Sergeant, J. A. Lamson; Second Sergeant, J. A. Bevington; Third Sergeant, Thomas Burnell; Fourth Sergeant, David Dudley; First Corporal, John F. Varner; Second Corporal, James Rheubottom; Third Corporal, J. A. Hoagland; Ensign, Andrew J. Fair.

Upon reaching Indianapolis, the company found companies and regiments organized in sufficient number to fill Indiana's quota, and the illusive prospect of a ninety days' war then prevailing, no more companies would be received. The men were informed that they could disband and go into other companies if they could find room, or otherwise return home. About thirty joined other companies, and the rest, disheartened, came back. Twenty-one of those who entered the service joined Company B, Seventeenth Indiana Infantry, and all, with one exception, were credited to Boone County. The names of these men were John C. Lamson, Joseph S. Case, Harrison Boyd, Alfred Crawford, William Christ, Joel Crosby, William H. Crosby, Daniel Flynn, Flavius J. George, William P. Hall, Alfred Helper, George M. Helper, Derrick Hodges, Orpheus C. Kenaston, Lewis Randolph, Milton E. Scott, William Wigglesworth, Henry Wirt, Robert White, William Baxter. Nine others, James Dever, M. Randolph, Franklin Haskins, Jack Springsteed, James Hanson, Charles North, Edwin Barnett, James Cassidy, Michael Campbell, joined other regiments. These thirty men have the honor of being the first volunteers to get in the service from this county. Four of those who returned, George A. Lane, C. M. Burlingame, F. A. Spellman and J. W. Vesey, went at once to Michigan and enlisted in the Fourth Regiment; F. A. Spellman was killed in battle.

Capt. Roy remained at Indianapolis a few weeks, assisting in the drilling of the troops assembled, and then returned to this county and commenced the organization of a company for the three years' service. A large number of those who first enlisted rallied around him at once, and the balance necessary for the company were obtained at Ligonier and Goshen. This new company reached Indianapolis July 2, 1861, and was mustered in as Company A of the Twenty-first Indiana Regiment July 20. Those who went into this company from this county were Capt. William Roy; Serjts. John A. Bevington, Harvey B. Hall, Lewis Apple; Corpls. James R. Rheubottom, Joseph W. Talmage, Alfred Sargeant, George A. Lane; and Privates Alfred E. Charter, Thomas Cole, Benjamin F. Culbertson, Enoch R. Culbertson, Bennice Dryer, Perry

O. Everts, Harvey J. Gillette, John Hone, William Harrison, Charles Haskins, Simon Humbert, James Ingram, Jonathan Irish, Thaddeus P. Jackson, Albert N. Johnson, Isaac Knight, Oscar Law, David E. Markham, Luther F. Mason, Leonard N. McLain, Adam W. Meek, James Nash, Harvey Olmstead, William H. Paulius, Enoch Perkins, DeWitt M. Pierce, Andrew J. Ritter, George J. Robbins, Daniel Smith, Peter Smith, Halsey F. Skadden, Edwin R. Temple, George W. Vanormin, William B. Warren, Ira J. Woodworth.

This latter company had hardly gone away before another company was begun. A notice was issued to join in the organization of this by William B. Bingham, July 2. While the company was being recruited, William Dawson, of Indianapolis, who had just returned from the three months' service, came to La Grange, and was invited to take charge of the drilling of the men. At the election of officers he was chosen Captain. This company was quartered toward the last mostly at Lima, whose citizens contributed blankets, clothing, etc., for the comfort of the boys, and also \$130, to provide the men with red flannel shirts, with which to march into camp. Donations were also made by citizens of La Grange and elsewhere. The company set out for the Fort Wayne camp on the 13th of September, but before leaving, it was presented with a flag by the patriotic women of Lima. Before presenting the flag, Miss Rebecca Williams made the following address:

Capt. Dawson—In behalf of Lima's patriotic daughters, I present to you, and through you, to our brave volunteers, this glorious banner of liberty, this flag of the free, proud emblem of our National existence and of our National power. To your care it is henceforth entrusted. It will be yours fearlessly to maintain its honor, and with it the honor of our cause and country; to preserve it from insult at the hands of foes and traitors, even, if need be, at the cost of dear life. Fighting beneath its shadow, your courage is to be tested, your valor displayed, your laurels won. And you shall fight, not for yourselves alone, but for the privilege of transmitting to the future generations a Government the noblest, a Constitution the wisest, a Liberty the sweetest, that ever blest a fair land since creation's dawn.

I scarcely need refer you to the story of our past; you know full well the story of American independence; how, long years ago, through fierce and bloody conflicts, our fathers marched to glorious victory, the Stars and Stripes floating triumphantly over them; how, wrapped in the shining folds of this same beautiful banner, many a Revolutionary hero lies quietly 'neath the daisied sods of a thousand pleasant valleys. The peace so highly prized, so dearly purchased by our ancestors, bestowed by them upon their children, a precious legacy, to be handed down in turn to those who should come after, they fondly trusted might never again be imperiled. Save a few dark clouds across the bright sun, naught for many years has occurred to dim the clear sky of our National prosperity. We have boasted loudly of the strength of our Union, cemented by bonds of love, of peace, and happiness at home; of power and influence abroad. Alas! that our hands folded so lightly in calm assurance of fair winds and smooth seas, did not, by God's help, sooner seize the helm of our noble ship of state, and with firm grasp guide her 'mid threatening storms and tempests to a quiet harbor. Alas! that our ears attuned only to music, which plays softest around the hearthstone, from the lips of little children, or in kindly tones of friendship greeting, should be assailed by the distant mutterings of the cannon's thunder, whispers of the dread strife already commenced in our land. You will go forth, erelong, with thousands, to taste the stern realities of life upon the battle-field. Be assured our warmest sympathies and most fervent prayers will always follow you. Live nobly up to every duty, face bravely every danger, look well that the spirit of true patriotism prompts every action, and never, for one moment, let a thought of petty revenge or cruel hatred dwell in

year brave hearts. And, in that good time coming, when right and humanity shall triumph, when peace shall once more be restored and secured to us, God grant you may return, an unbroken number, to rejoice with us ever more in the blessings of an eternal liberty.

After an eloquent reply on behalf of the company, by the Rev. B. Far-  
rand, Mr. F. C. King made an unexpected presentation from the ladies of La  
Grange, of a Testament to each soldier, and accompanied the gift with these  
remarks :

Brave Volunteers—As a slight token of your noble spirit, we could not present you a  
gift more precious in its teachings, or more costly as containing hidden treasures than the Word  
of God. In it is contained precepts and examples, that will prepare you, not only for good and  
faithful soldiers of our country, but also of the cross, and as you go forth to fight your country's  
battles, will teach you to fight the good fight of faith. Read it, love it, and obey its holy teach-  
ing, and in your own experience may you have it to say :

"This little book I'd rather have  
Than all the golden gems  
That in a monarch's coffer shine,  
Than all their diadems."

The original officers selected by the men were : Captain, William Dawson ;  
First Lieutenant, Ebenezer R. Barlow ; Second Lieutenant, Thomas Burnell ;  
Orderly, George Salpaugh. The company was assigned to the Thirtieth Reg-  
iment, as Company G. The formation of this company had not been com-  
pleted before another had been begun again, under the leadership of William  
B. Bingham. On October 17, 1861, this company was ready to start for camp  
at Fort Wayne, where a large concourse of citizens met at the court house to  
see them start, and bid them Godspeed. The *Standard* of that week says :  
"Capt. Bingham formed his company on Main street and marched them to the  
Methodist Church, where, in behalf of the company, he thanked the ladies who  
had so kindly furnished them with many of the necessities of camp life ; and  
the company joined in three hearty cheers for the fair donors. In return the  
ladies gave three cheers for the soldiers. We have seldom witnessed a more  
enthusiastic or spirited occasion. The company was then marched to the south  
part of town, where wagons were in waiting to convey them on their journey.  
There was no lack of teams and many more were offered than was necessary.  
Quite a number of our citizens accompanied them as far as Wright's Corners, where  
they took dinner, and reported, having been furnished by the citizens of that vil-  
lage and vicinity with a most bountiful repast, free to all. Five or six volun-  
teers were enlisted at that place, and Capt. Bingham went into camp with a  
full company."

The ladies of La Grange presented each of the soldiers, before starting,  
with a neat and serviceable blue woolen Zouave jacket, trimmed with velvet.  
On the road to Fort Wayne the company held an election, with the following  
result : Captain, William B. Bingham ; First Lieutenant, Joseph W. Danseur ;  
Second Lieutenant, Jacob Newman ; Orderly Sergeant, Hiram F. King. Capt.  
Bingham returned home the next week for a few days, when a meeting was  
called at the court house (October 25) for the purpose of presenting him with

a sword that had been purchased by the citizens, in demonstration of their high regard, and as an appropriate token of their confidence in him as a soldier. A. B. Kennedy, Esq., made the presentation speech, which was responded to by the Captain, thanking the donors for the elegant and significant present, and pledged his honor that the weapon should never be dishonored whilst in his possession. Patriotic songs were sung and short speeches made by Revs. D. P. Hartman and Cathcart. This company became Company H. of the Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry. No more companies were organized in the county in the year 1861, but numbers of men volunteered from time to time to fill up the ranks of these companies, and other commands. Dr. J. H. Rerick enlisted in Capt Dawson's company, but before its muster-in he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Indiana, and commissioned September 12, 1861, and assisted in the organization of that regiment. There was up to this time about three hundred enlistments from the county. Such a number called forth suddenly to war, by a Government illy prepared to furnish a vast army, and from communities horror stricken at the idea of bloody strife, could but cause intense anxiety in the homes the volunteers had left. Soldiers' aid societies, especially by the women, sprung up, for supplying the soldiers with bedding, clothing and daintier food. On the 1st of November, 1861, a Ladies' Soldier's Aid Society was regularly organized at La Grange, adopting a Constitution and By-Laws, and the ladies in all the townships were requested to form auxiliary societies. The officers elected at this meeting were: Mrs. John Kromer, President; Mrs. W. Cathcart, Vice President; Mrs. Laura Butler, Secretary; Mrs. C. O. Myers, Treasurer; a committee consisting of Mrs. John W. Welch, Mrs. Isaac Carpenter, Mrs. Fred Everhart, Miss M. A. H. Menelaus, Miss H. Ford, Miss S. Lougher, and Directresses—Mrs. F. C. King, Mrs. D. P. Hartman, Mrs. A. Ellison.

A number of Union meetings were held during the summer and fall. One was held at the court house on the evening of the 21st of August, which was addressed by Hon. William Mitchell, then Member of Congress from the district, and who had witnessed the first Bull Run battle. Rev. C. Cory, of Lima, presided at this meeting and J. H. Rerick acted as Secretary, and Joseph B. Wade, A. B. Kennedy and Joseph Cummings as Committee on Resolutions. The resolutions requested the County Commissioners to provide for quartering the troops and to make appropriations for the maintenance of the families of volunteers, that a committee of five be appointed to canvass the county for promoting enlistments, and that Lieut. William Dawson, of Col. Wallace's famous regiment, be requested to remain and aid in raising and drilling a company. The committee appointed to canvass the county were J. B. Wade, Jacob Newman, William Barlow, Hiram Smith and Rev. J. P. Force. The next evening, a similar meeting was held in Lima, at which Rev. C. Cory again presided and J. S. Castle acted as Secretary. The Committee on Resolutions—O. H. Jewett, J. M. Flagg and J. P. Force—reported strong war resolutions



and requested the County Commissioners to provide for soldiers' families. A committee, consisting of W. Rawles, J. H. Morrison, N. Stacy, O. H. Jewett and S. Herbert, was appointed to canvass the northern part of the county.

We wish it were possible to give due credit to all who took an active interest in patriotic work at home during the war. The names we have mentioned are those most frequently occurring in the newspapers at that time. It is also impossible to now compute the contributions by the women for the comfort of the soldiers—of blankets, clothing, fruits and hospital stores; almost as impossible as it would be to estimate the value to our country of the effect of these tokens of kind regard upon the weary and disheartened soldier at the front. As a sample of the donations made there were reported by the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society November 28, 1861, besides membership fees and articles manufactured by the society, two comforts, forty-four pairs of socks, four quilts, four blankets, three sheets, one pair drawers, two pair mittens and forty-two cuts of yarn, and \$10 cash. There were other aid societies organized by the women of Lima and Wolcottville. A mass meeting was held at La Grange on Washington's birthday, 1862, in which a long series of resolutions were passed, expressing appreciation of the wisdom and energy of the President, and resolving to ever cherish the memory of the slain on the battle-field and of those perishing in the camp or on the mighty ocean, and expressing sympathy for loyal and oppressed citizens within the limits of the Confederate conspiracy.

In July, 1862, under another call for troops, enlistment was commenced in the county for a company for the Seventy-fourth regiment, ordered to be raised in this Congressional district. Dr. Gustav Sites, who had had twelve years' service in the Prussian Army, and Albert D. Fobes, who had been through the West Virginia campaign, in the Eleventh Indiana, were commissioned Second Lieutenants for the organization of the company. Jo Rawson Webster, a then recent graduate from Wabash College, was the first man to put his name down for the wars in this company, and took a very active part in organizing the company. A war meeting was held at La Grange July 19, presided over by John Kromer, with C. O. Myers, Secretary, and J. B. Wade, A. S. Case and F. P. Griffith, Committee. The meeting was addressed by William Rheubottom and J. R. Webster. The resolutions recognized the perils of the country as alarming and pledged every means within reach to aid the Government, and that it was the duty of those who could not peril their lives in the cause to contribute every dollar, to yield every sympathy, and to open their hearts fully to every emotion which may commend them to the cause of their suffering country, its defenders and their families. The Commissioners were requested to make appropriations for the payment of bounties and for the necessary expenses of the families of soldiers. There was, at that time, some recruiting being done for the Twelfth Cavalry. The meeting recommended that all efforts be concentrated on raising a company for the infantry regiment and that Lieut. Sites proceed at once to raise the company. The following were appointed a



committee to assist him: J. K. Morrow, J. B. Wade, William Rheubottom, H. Crocker and A. S. Case. The County Commissioners, a few days after, made an appropriation of \$25 to each volunteer, and \$1.50 per week for the wife and 75 cents for each child of the married men who might enlist until their muster-in. An enthusiastic war meeting was held at South Milford August 14, at which L. D. McGown presided and J. S. Rowe was Secretary. The meeting was addressed by William Rheubottom, J. Z. Gower and Francis Henry. The latter urged the enlistment of men and favored the drafting of a million of men, if necessary, to put down the rebellion and restore peace on a constitutional basis. This meeting recommended that the county give the same bounty to cavalry volunteers as to infantry. In consequence of this agitation, the *La Grange Standard* of August 18, 1862, was enabled to announce: "One hundred and twenty-two cheers and a tiger for Old La Grange. La Grange has her company now full and it will start to-day for the rendezvous at Fort Wayne. Last Thursday she sent seventeen men to join the cavalry company at the same place, making in all one hundred and twenty-two men! From Friday morning to Wednesday evening—five working days—eighty men were enrolled and sworn in. The entire number, with two exceptions, were recruited in *eleven days*. We call that doing well." And indeed it was. The officers chosen by the men for their company were—Captain, Jo Rawson Webster; First Lieutenant, W. D. Wildman; Orderly Sergeant, James H. Bigelow. The departure of this company was described as a very affecting scene. At an early hour the volunteers and their friends poured into town by hundreds, and at 9 o'clock the streets were thronged with men, women and children, all with eager, anxious faces, and many indeed were the tears shed. "The heaving breast, the quivering lip and starting tear of brave men and stout hearts as the last fond embrace was given to the wife and children of the men who had voluntarily consented to sever for a season all the endearing ties and comforts of home for the hardships of the tented field showed that, severe as the sacrifice might be, yet they dared to do their duty when their country was in danger and required their assistance." A large number of citizens went with the soldiers as far as Wolcottville, where a grand picnic dinner had been prepared. It should not be forgotten that during the war there was no railroad through the county and all the companies which had their rendezvous at Fort Wayne had to march there on foot or be transported by wagon. The above company, when reaching Fort Wayne, was made Company G of the Eighty-eighth Regiment.

The same paper in which the exultant announcement of raising of the above company was made contained the proclamation of the President calling for 300,000 more troops, and the rather startling announcement that in this State a draft would be required to raise the men, and a commendation of that as the only just and equitable method of raising the required quota. "The county has done nobly in raising volunteers, but a continuance of that course cannot be carried on without doing great injustice to a certain class upon whose

shoulders a part of the burden must be *forced*, if they will not carry it willingly. No more volunteering in La Grange! Let there be a draft as soon as possible!" Such comments as this only stirred up the volunteering spirit the more, and Harley Crocker at once stepped forward and called for volunteers for another company, and active work for this at once set in.

The machinery for drafting was at once put in motion. Timothy Fields, of Ontario, was appointed Draft Commissioner; E. P. Spellman, Provost Marshal, and Dr. E. G. White, Medical Examiner, for the county. About the same time, recruiting officers for the Thirtieth and Forty-fourth Regiments were in the county selecting recruits for those regiments. With all these, the people were fairly aroused. A Union County Convention was held September 3, presided over by William S. Prentiss, in which it was resolved to "uphold the Government in the use of every means which God and the Constitution have placed within our reach to exterminate rebels and the rebellion, and in favor of the confiscation of all property of *all* rebels, North as well as South." There was about this time a spicy correspondence between four then prominent lawyers in the county about enlisting, though it is hardly proper to detail here. The State Commissioner, on September 22, 1862, notified the County Commissioners that the following numbers would have to be drafted from the townships named, unless made up at once by volunteers: Clear-spring, 8; Milford, 7; Eden, 9; Van Buren, 22; total, 46. Thirty-one were subsequently drafted, twelve of whom procured substitutes. The most of these men went into the Thirtieth Regiment.

Capt. Crocker's company was soon filled, and on the 27th of September, the day of their departure, were treated by the women of La Grange to a bountiful dinner, on the grounds of A. S. Case, now a portion of the public square. No company left for camp without some token of respect by the patriotic women of the county. For this last company also, the young ladies of La Grange arranged a "hop," which was well attended, and when the boys reached South Milford, the women of that neighborhood had spread a picnic dinner for them. The officers chosen by the men in this company were: Captain, Harley Crocker; First Lieutenant, John K. Morrow; Second Lieutenant, James W. Boyd. The company was assigned to the One Hundredth Infantry, as Company C. Of this regiment, Robert Parrett, a prominent lawyer of the county, was appointed Major. Dr. D. W. Rupert, of Lexington, was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Thirtieth, on January 1. He was an excellent physician and as a man highly esteemed by his regiment and a large circle of acquaintances in the county. He died at Nashville, Tenn., October 2, 1862. Dr. James Miller, of La Grange, was appointed to succeed him October 10.

The year 1863 was the most discouraging for the Union cause of all the years of the war. Its influence was felt in La Grange County, but not to so great an extent as in other parts of the country. The differences between the parties

widened, and bitterness of feeling was somewhat increased. A Union mass meeting was held at the court house February 21, Col. Jonathan Edgecomb, of Lima, President, with A. B. Kennedy and C. O. Myers, Secretaries. The meeting was addressed by Col. Charles Case, in strong and eloquent words. The Committee on Resolutions, A. S. Case, Rufus Patch, Dr. A. M. Spaulding, George Lotterer, J. M. Flagg and L. L. Wildman, reported a series of long resolutions, condemning secession, every scheme and intrigue to impair the confidence of the people in the administration, declaring in favor of confiscation of the property of those in armed rebellion, and of those who gave aid and comfort to it; approving the emancipation proclamation as a military necessity, and the arming of liberated slaves; expressing admiration of the soldiers in the field, and heartily indorsing Gov. O. P. Morton. The seventh resolution was as follows:

*Resolved*, That for the purpose and to the end of restoring our country to its former position of prosperity and greatness, we are ready to postpone every consideration which provides for political party triumphs, until the Union is restored—the rebellion is crushed by the power of the Government it has defied; and to this end we do hereby pledge ourselves, individually and collectively, by our love of country, by our love of liberty, for the sake of ourselves and posterity, in the name of our venerated ancestors, in the name of the human family, deeply interested in the trust committed to our hands, by all the past glory we have won, by all that awaits us as a nation, if we are true to ourselves, true to the principles of justice and humanity, and true and faithful in gratitude to Him who has hitherto so signally blessed us, to stand firmly by the Constitution and the Union, never wavering, never faltering; that we will cherish with a deep and abiding love and affection the sentiments of Massachusetts' immortal statesman, that sentiment dear to every true American heart, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

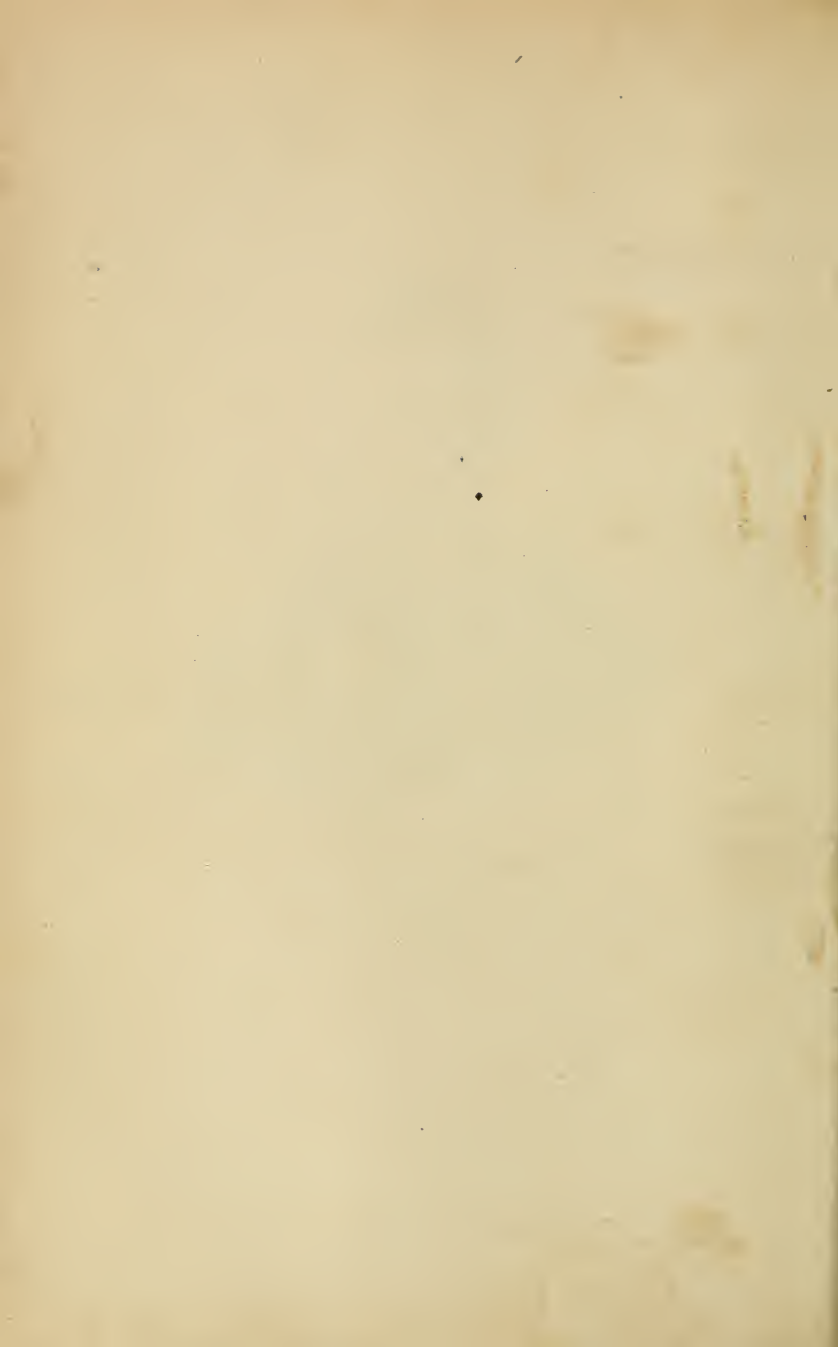
On the 28th of February, a Democratic mass meeting was held at La Grange, at which Francis Henry presided, and G. W. Weyburn and A. Cone acted as Secretaries, and A. Ellison, Hawley Peck, John A. Bartlett, William Roderick, James Kennedy, Harvey Olmstead and John Kromer acted as Committee on Resolutions. This meeting was addressed by Hon. J. R. Edgerton, then Member of Congress for the district. The resolutions reported and adopted denounced the heresy of secession, favored the inauguration of such action honorable alike to contending sections as will stop the ravages of war, avert universal bankruptcy, and unite all the States upon terms of equality, "as members of one confederacy," condemned the action of the Federal Government in suspending the *habeas corpus*, arresting of citizens not subject to military duty without warrant or authority, abridging the freedom of speech and of the press, establishing of a system of espionage by a secret police, declaring martial law over States not in rebellion, attempting to enforce a compensated emancipation, dismembering Virginia; and expressed sympathy for the soldiers who enlisted to sustain the Constitution and the Union, and condemned all frauds that deprived them of "proper food, raiment and clothing."

Another Union Mass meeting was held at La Grange April 22, in which were passed resolutions strongly condemnatory of the "traitorous conduct" of



*L. L. Alderman*

JOHNSON TP.





a portion of the Indiana Legislature, and all factions opposed to the Federal and State authorities. Col. Hawkins, of Tennessee, spoke at this meeting, and Dr. A. M. Spaulding presided.

There was but little volunteering this summer. The agitation was no less, but rather greater and more serious, but not of the kind that greatly promoted enlistments. Frequent Union meetings were held in different parts of the county. Toward fall, active recruiting commenced again. John Q. Reed enlisted a number of men for the Seventh Cavalry, and David Bennett commenced raising a company for the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana Infantry, which he had mustered in December 16. Hon. J. P. Jones, an old resident of the county, who had been elected Clerk of the Supreme Court in 1860, returned and assisted in addressing the meetings and promoting enlistments.

The year 1864 opened more cheerfully; many veteran soldiers who had re-enlisted returned home on a month's furlough, and materially aided in increasing the enthusiasm for the Union cause. A mass meeting was held at La Grange February 13, expressing unabated determination to continue the fight. The number of men remaining in the several townships enrolled for military service, and the number due from each, in February, was reported as follows:

	ENROLLED.	QUOTA.
Greenfield.....	155	12
Lima .....	191	11
Van Buren.....	149	4
Newbury.....	161	14
Clay .....	184	9
Bloomfield.....	244	10
Springfield .....	183	4
Milford.....	156	13
Johnson .....	156	extra, 1
Clearspring .....	163	13
Eden .....	121	13

Lieut. Daniel Lieb recruited a number of men for the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry early in this year.

To encourage enlistments, considerable amounts were raised in the several townships, voluntarily, as township bounty. In August, the draft officers reported 202 men due. A draft soon followed, but how many men were obtained we have not been able to ascertain. The enlistments this year from the county was almost wholly recruiting for old companies. No new organizations were made. Dr. Edward B. Speed, of La Grange, an estimable man and good physician, was appointed Assistant Surgeon for the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteers, in July, and immediately joined that command at Chattanooga, Tenn. While on the way, he underwent a severe shock from a railroad accident, and was taken sick soon after his arrival. He died in the officers' hospital, at Lookout Mountain, September 14.

Under the December call, 1864, by the President, for "300,000 more," La Grange County was asked to contribute 191. The County Commissioners, in Jan-

uary, 1865, ordered a county bounty of \$400 to be paid every volunteer who should thereafter be accredited to the county, to be paid in two installments, \$200 in fourteen months, and \$200 in twenty-eight months, for the payment of which county bonds were issued. This action was subsequently endorsed by a mass meeting at La Grange, February 3, 1865. In addition to this county bounty, the townships raised a large amount to induce volunteers, and save them from the draft. John H. Caton was commissioned Second Lieutenant and recruiting officer to raise a company in the county. This company was speedily raised and all mustered in during the month of February. It was officered by the election of John H. Caton, Captain; William Hobson, First Lieutenant; and A. Bennett, Second Lieutenant. The company became Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment. These were the last enlistments in the county for the rebellion.

In April came the joyful news of the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appomattox, which was received with a wonderful joy, and such an abandon of rejoicing and bonfiring and general reckless noisiness followed for a day or two, as has never since been seen or felt in the country. Hardly had the people realized what they were rejoicing for, when the news came in the evening of the 14th of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Then no mark of sorrow seemed too mournful, and a sincere grief was the last link which was formed in that "heroic age" to bind together those who had worked or watched and prayed for America.

Since the rebellion, La Grange has sent one brave officer into the National army—Lieut. Samuel A. Cherry. Mr. Cherry entered the West Point Academy during Grant's first Administration, and, after graduation, entered the service, where he had a brief, but brilliant career, ended by a tragic death on the plains. He was a gentleman of many accomplishments, beloved at home, and popular in society circles throughout the country. At the time of his death, he was betrothed to a daughter of Hon. Harry White, of Indiana, Penn. The following order, issued by Col. Merritt, contains a brief sketch of Lieut. Cherry's services:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH U. S. CAVALRY, }  
FT. LARAMIE, W. T., May 17, 1881. }

It is the sad duty of the Commanding Officer of the Fifth Cavalry to announce the sudden death of a brilliant young officer of the regiment. Lieut. S. A. Cherry was killed while on duty pursuing a party of outlaws, some twenty-five miles north of Fort Niobrara, by a man of his own detachment, who, it is supposed, was temporarily insane. This is the only reasonable solution of the crime, with the information now possessed.

Lieut. Cherry was born in Indiana; graduated at the Military Academy in 1875, and was promoted to be Second Lieutenant in the Twenty-third Infantry, from which regiment he was transferred to the Fifth Cavalry in 1876. He reported to his Regimental Commander in the Black Hills, October, 1876, in the latter part of the Sioux campaign of that year, and since that time he has served with the regiment with unfrequent interruptions, until the time of his death. He was particularly distinguished for cool courage, and distinguished ability in the face of an enemy at the battle and subsequent siege of Maj. Thornburg's command, at Milk River, Colo., in 1879, for which he received honorable mention in orders, and a vote of thanks of the Territorial Legislature of Wyoming. The career of Lieut. Cherry, though brief, has been most honor-

able, and marked by a cheerful, vigorous and soldierly discharge of duty. His character was most free from defects. He made warm friends of all who knew him well, and it is certain he never gave cause for the enmity of any one. He was positive, though happy in disposition as a man, loyal and devoted as a friend, brave, capable and chivalrous as an officer—one, in short, whose sad death will long be felt in the regiment as an irreparable loss in every way. As a mark of respect, the guidon of the company with which he served will be draped for thirty days, and the officers of the regiment will wear the usual badge of mourning for the same period.

By order of

COL. WESLEY MERRITT.

The following are the campaigns in which companies and parts of companies from the county participated :

Company B, Seventeenth Regiment — Western Virginia, 1861 ; Kentucky and Tennessee, 1862 ; siege of Corinth, 1862 ; pursuit of Bragg, 1862 ; Rosecrans' campaign in Tennessee, 1863 ; Chattanooga and East Tennessee, 1863 ; against Atlanta, 1864 ; Nelson's raid, Alabama and Georgia, 1865.

Company A, Twenty-first Regiment, First Heavy Artillery — East Maryland and East Virginia, 1861 ; against New Orleans, 1862 ; Baton Rouge and Teche, 1862 ; against Port Hudson, 1863 ; West Louisiana, 1863 ; Red River, 1864 ; against Mobile, 1865 ; Louisiana and Gulf Coast, 1865.

Company G, Thirtieth Regiment Infantry — Kentucky, 1861 ; Tennessee and Kentucky, 1862 ; siege of Corinth, 1862 ; pursuit of Bragg, 1862 ; Rosecrans' campaign in Tennessee, 1863 ; against Atlanta, 1864 ; pursuit of Hood, 1864 ; East Tennessee, 1865 ; Texas, 1865.

Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry — Western Kentucky, 1861 ; Tennessee and Kentucky, 1862 ; siege of Corinth, 1862 ; pursuit of Bragg, 1862 ; Rosecrans' campaign in Tennessee, 1863 ; against Chattanooga, 1863 ; East Tennessee, 1864–65.

Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Infantry — Against Kirby Smith, Kentucky, 1862 ; Kentucky and Tennessee, 1862 ; pursuit of Bragg, 1862 ; Rosecrans' campaign in Tennessee, 1863 ; against Atlanta, 1864 ; pursuit of Hood, 1864 ; Sherman's march to the sea, 1864 ; through the Carolinas, 1865.

Company C, One Hundredth Indiana Infantry — West Tennessee and North Mississippi, 1862–63 ; against Vicksburg, 1863 ; relief of Chattanooga, 1863 ; East Tennessee, 1863 ; against Atlanta, 1864 ; pursuit of Hood, 1864 ; Sherman's march to the sea, 1864 ; through the Carolinas, 1865.

Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry — East Tennessee, 1864 ; against Atlanta, 1864 ; pursuit of Hood, 1864 ; North Carolina, 1865.

Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-second Infantry — Shenandoah Valley, 1865 ; West Virginia, 1865.

One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment (Twelfth Cavalry) — Tennessee and North Alabama, 1864–65 ; against Mobile, 1865 ; Alabama and Mississippi, 1865.

There were soldiers from the county in the Eastern campaigns of the Army of the Potomac, but the records are unobtainable, they being mostly in regiments from other States.

If our space would permit, we would be pleased to record the name of every soldier who enlisted from this county, in the service of his country during the rebellion. This not being practicable, it may not be improper to give the names of those who attained to official position, and their rank. With few exceptions, all these entered the service as privates. It will be seen that the county is entirely destitute of Colonels and Brigadier Generals, a somewhat exceptionable condition. But the county having filled the ranks with good fighting men to an honorable extent, the lack of Brigadiers is not sorely felt.

Lieutenant Colonels—Joseph R. Webster, Forty-fourth United States Colored Troops; William Roy, Twenty-first Indiana.

Majors—Joseph R. Webster, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteers; Robert Parrett, One Hundredth Regiment; Ichabod S. Jones, First Tennessee Artillery, Colored; W. B. Bingham, Forty-fourth Indiana; William Roy, Twenty-first Indiana.

Surgeons (rank of Major)—John H. Rerick, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteers.

Captains—John C. Lamson, Company B, Seventeenth Indiana; William Roy, Company A, Twenty-first Regiment; William Dawson, Company G, Thirtieth Indiana; James McPreston, Company G, Thirtieth Indiana; William B. Bingham, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; Jacob Newman, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; Joseph H. Danseur, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; Hiram F. King, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; Samuel P. Bradford, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; Joseph R. Webster, Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana; John M. Preston, Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana; William D. Wildman, Company I, Eighty-eighth Indiana; Harley Crocker, Company C, One Hundredth Indiana; Edward Fobes, Company C, One Hundredth Indiana; John B. Pratt, Company C, One Hundredth Indiana; David Bennett, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana; John H. Caton, Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana.

First Lieutenants—Harvey B. Hall, Company A, Twenty-first; Ebenezer R. Barlow, Company B, Thirtieth; George L. Salpaugh, Company G, Thirtieth; James McPreston, Company G, Thirtieth; William H. Hall, Company G, Thirtieth; Joseph H. Danseur, Company H, Forty-fourth; Hiram F. King, Company H, Forty-fourth; Daniel P. Strecker, Company H, Forty-fourth; Hiram Pontius, Company H, Forty-fourth; William D. Wildman, Company G, Eighty-eighth; Jacob Sperow, Company G, Eighty-eighth; James W. Boyd, Company C, One Hundredth; Edward Fobes, Company C, One Hundredth; John B. Pratt, Company C, One Hundredth; Samuel W. Dille, Company C, One Hundredth; George I. Tuttle, Company C, Twelfth Cavalry, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment; Garner Sisemore, same; Horace Hamlin, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment; William H. Atchinson, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; Henry



M. Kromer, Company G, One Hundred and Forty-second; William Hobson, Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second.

Assistant Surgeons (rank, First Lieutenants of Cavalry)—John H. Rerick, Forty-fourth; James Miller, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteers; Edward B. Speed, Forty-fourth; Newton G. Eno, Eighty-eighth; Delos W. Rupert, Thirtieth Indiana.

Acting Assistant Surgeons, United States Army—Edward G. White, Charles J. Montgomery.

Quartermaster (rank, First Lieutenant)—Samuel P. Bradford, Forty-fourth Indiana; John M. Littlefield, Twelfth Cavalry, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment; James McPreston, One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment.

Second Lieutenants—William S. Smurr, Company H, Twenty-first Regiment; Harvey B. Hall, Company A, Twenty-first; Thomas Burnell, Company G, Thirtieth; James McPreston, Company G, Thirtieth; William H. H. Day, Company G, Thirtieth; William H. Wall, Company G, Thirtieth; Jacob Newman, Company H, Forty-fourth; Daniel P. Strecker, Company H, Forty-fourth; Sebastian Shoup, Company H, Forty-fourth; Albert D. Fobes, Company G, Eighty-eighth; John M. Preston, Company G, Eighty-eighth; James W. Boyd, Company C, One Hundredth; Ichabod S. Jones, Company E, One Hundredth; John Q. Reed, Company D, One Hundred and Nineteenth; Lorenzo Taylor, Company C, Twelfth Cavalry, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment; James F. Parsons, same; Charles O. Higbee, same; William H. Atchinson, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; Charles Collins, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; Plimpton Hoagland, Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; James H. Beecher, Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; Simon Bowman, Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth; Clark A. Bennett, Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second; Samuel Shepardson, Company G, Thirtieth; Martin Whitmer, Company G, Thirtieth.

#### THE ROLL OF HONOR.

On giving this list, we beg our readers to remember that it is compiled from the Adjutant General's Report of the State, and includes *only those reported on the muster rolls as having been killed or having died while in the service*. There are many who died soon after discharge, and have since died of disease contracted in the service, who would worthily be entitled to place in the list, but there is no official record of these, and it is impossible to obtain all their names:

James Alward, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Jacob Airgood, Seventy-fourth Indiana, died; Reuben Allspaugh, One Hundredth Indiana, died.

John L. Baugher, Thirtieth Indiana, died; John A. Bevington, Twenty-first Indiana, killed; John Burrridge, Forty-fourth Indiana, died of wounds;



Isaac Blough, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Eleazer Blough, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Jehiel B. Barnes, Eighty-eighth Indiana, killed; Samuel Booker, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; James H. Bigelow, Eighty-eighth Indiana, killed; William S. Budd, Eighty-eighth Indiana, missing; John J. Blackson, One Hundredth Indiana, died; Alfred J. Bennett, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died; Melvin W. Baker, Twelfth Cavalry, died; James Bendure, Twelfth Cavalry, died; Daniel G. Bickel, Twelfth Cavalry, died; James W. Boyd, Lieutenant, One Hundredth Indiana, died.

Frederick Cushway, Thirteenth Indiana, died; John J. Crist, Forty-fourth Indiana, died of wounds; Jacob Coldren, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Henry Craft, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; George W. Clark, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Ralph P. Clark, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Jonathan D. Cummins, Eighty-eighth Indiana, missing; Elisha B. Chapman, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; George M. Clark, One Hundredth Indiana, died; Cornelieus Conkling, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Richard Cook, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Solomon H. Chary, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died; David A. Cady, Twenty-first Indiana, died; Albert Crawford, Seventeenth Indiana, died; Josiah Combes, First Illinois Light Artillery, died; John V. Curtis, Forty-fourth Indiana, killed.

Bennis Dyer, Twenty-first Indiana, died; George W. Dawson, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Vincent C. Dyamon, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Charles Dickenson, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; Alvin D. Doolittle, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; Erastus Dallas, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died; Lewis Dwight, Twelfth Cavalry, died.

Henry M. Eagle, Forty-fourth Indiana, died.

Enoch Fennell, Thirtieth Indiana, died; George M. Fish, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; John Freeman, First Illinois Light Artillery, died; Andrew J. Farr, Fourth Michigan, killed.

John J. Gilson, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Lyman L. Greenman, Thirtieth Indiana, died; William A. Golden, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Delos Greenfield, Eighty-eighth Indiana, killed; Franklin Gillett, One Hundredth Indiana, killed; Morrison Gunn, Jr., One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died; William C. Gill, Twelfth Cavalry, died; Elmore Green, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; Augustus A. Galloway, Forty-fourth Indiana, killed.

Harvey B. Hall, Twenty-first Indiana, died; Erastus Hubbard, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Franklin Haskins, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Henry C. Hickock, Thirtieth Indiana, killed; James Hudson, Company G, Thirtieth Indiana, died; Andrew J. Hart, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; David Harris, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Arthur Hayward, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; Elias Holsinger, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; George Holsinger, Forty-fourth Indiana, died; W. P. Hodges, Forty-fourth Indiana, died of wounds; William H. Hays, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; William Hays, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died; William P. Hunt, One Hundredth Indiana, died; Henry J. Hall, One

Hundredth Indiana, died of wounds ; Samuel Hiestand, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Elisha Harding, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Thomas Holmes, One Hundredth and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Noah Hively, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; David Haines, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Addison Harley, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; James W. Huss, One Hundred and Forty-second Indiana, died ; H. J. Hall, One Hundredth Indiana, died of wounds ; Wilkinson C. Hill, Twelfth Cavalry, died ; Rollo Hall, Seventh Cavalry, died ; George W. Haines, Thirtieth Indiana, supposed to have died at Andersonville Prison ; William C. Hackenburg, Thirtieth Indiana, killed ; Erank Hoagland, Fourth Michigan, died.

Charles Isely, Thirtieth Indiana, died.

George Johnson, One Hundredth Indiana, died.

Richard Kannady, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Victor Ketchum, Forty-fourth Indiana, died of wounds ; James H. Kingsley, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Samuel A. Kime, Twelfth Cavalry, died ; Isaac Knight, Twenty-first Indiana, killed ; Richard Kingdom, Twelfth Cavalry, died.

Arthur F. Lamson, Seventh Cavalry, died ; Nelson Leighton, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; Robert C. Lazenby, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Peter Legg, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Hiram Little, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; William Little, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Robinson Lane, Fourth Illinois Light Artillery, died ; Charles H. Lawrence, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Martin Lattie, Fourth Michigan, died ; James Longcor, Forty-fourth Indiana, died.

Levi Miller, Thirteenth Indiana, died of wounds ; Robert P. McFarline, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Harrison Merrils, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; William S. Mason, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Jacob Mishler, Thirtieth Indiana, killed ; Joseph Murray, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Eli Mosier, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Martin Letta, Fourth Michigan Infantry, died ; Joseph A. McKibben, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; Norman Mills, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; J. H. McNutt, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died of wounds ; Sanford W. Myers, One Hundredth Indiana, died of wounds ; William Miller, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Alanson Mills, Fourth Michigan, died ; Seth W. Murray, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; David Murray, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Robert McMean, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; James Maybee, killed ; James W. Merrifield, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Frank Meek, First Illinois Light Artillery, died ; Thomas McLane, First Michigan Sharp Shooters, died at Andersonville.

David Nelson, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Jones Newman, Thirty-fifth Indiana, died ; Richard Norton, Thirtieth Indiana, died of wounds ; Charles H. Nichols, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Milton Newman, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Charles H. Nichols, First Michigan Sharp Shoot-

ers, died ; J. A. F. Nichols, regiment unknown, died ; Ira V. Nichols, regiment unknown, died.

Leander Powell, Thirteenth Indiana, killed ; William A. Potter, Thirty-fifth Indiana, died ; Willis Pence, Thirtieth Indiana, killed ; Israel Pray, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Hiram S. Perkins, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Orwin Page, Forty-fourth Indiana, killed ; Albert D. Plaisted, Eighty-eighth Indiana, ~~died~~ John R. Powell, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Henry Plumb, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Joseph Plank, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, killed ; Lester Powers, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana, died ; Lafayette Parks, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Maj. Robert Parrett, One Hundredth Indiana, killed ; Willis Pence, Thirtieth Indiana, killed.

Leonard Roy, Twenty-first Indiana, died ; Thomas J. Rambo, Thirtieth Indiana, killed ; William Routson, Forty-fourth Indiana, died at Andersonville Prison ; Robert F. Ramsey, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; William Ruff, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Joel W. Royce, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Amos Reed, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Horton R. Ryan, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Edward Ream, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Dr. Delos W. Rupert, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Henry Rhoads, Eighth Cavalry, killed ; George Rhoads, Eighth Cavalry, died.

Emery P. Sabins, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; Oliver Shelly, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; William J. Shipley, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; George K. Sisson, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; John Shewman, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; James R. Stevenson, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; William Sharp, One Hundredth Indiana, killed ; Halbert Starr, One Hundredth Indiana, died ; Charles Sharp, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; James Sharp, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; George W. Schermerhorn, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Dr. Edward B. Speed, Forty-fourth Indiana, died ; Adam Swartsweller, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Josiah Snyder, Eighty-eighth Indiana, killed ; David Starnes, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Andrew H. Stem, Thirteenth Indiana, killed ; Squire A. Storey, Seventh Cavalry, killed ; David Seybert, First Michigan Sharp Shooters, died ; William Stevenson, Seventy-eighth New York, killed ; Frank Spellman, Fourth Michigan, killed ; Henry Sharp, Fourth Michigan, killed.

James H. Tinscher, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died ; Charles Tyler, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died of wounds ; Marcus B. Tarner, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana, died ; George Trittappoo, Thirtieth Indiana, died.

James B. F. Utley, Thirtieth Indiana, killed.

Rufus Whitney, Eighty-eighth Indiana, died ; Henry Wolford, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Abraham Wright, Thirtieth Indiana, died of wounds ; James C. West, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; William W. Wilson, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Benjamin Woolhether, Thirtieth Indiana, died ; Eli Wheeler, Thirtieth Indiana, killed ; Jerome Wright, Forty-fourth Indiana, killed ; George S. Wicson, One



*John Dancer M.D.*

MILFORD TP.





Hundredth Indiana, died; Edward Whitney, One Hundredth Indiana, killed; Aaron Wolford, One Hundredth Indiana, killed; David Woodruff, One Hundredth Indiana, died; Samuel Weaver, One Hundredth Indiana, died; John Weaver, died; George W. Williams, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana, died; Hiram Wabill, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana, died.

Died soon after discharge, from disease contracted in the service: Capt. J. H. Danseur, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; William D. Groves, Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana; John M. Stoner, Forty-fourth Indiana.

A large number more have died since discharge, of diseases contracted in the service. but there is no record from which to ascertain their names.

The following exhibit shows the amounts expended by La Grange County, and by the several townships for bounty to soldiers enlisting, and for the relief of their families:

	BOUNTY.	RELIEF.
By the County.....	\$42,000	\$39,061 70
Eleven townships each furnishing the same amount.....	121,000	11,000 00
Total.....	\$163,000	\$50,061 70
Grand Total.....		\$213,061 70

The enrollment of the militia of the State on the 19th of October, 1862, made the following showing in respect to La Grange County: Total militia, 2,047; volunteers before that date, 750; exempts, 420; conscientiously opposed to bearing arms, 91; total volunteers in the service, 653; total then subject to draft, 1,536. Adding the volunteers then in the service to the total militia, shows the whole militia of the county at the opening of the war to have been about 2,700. On the 20th of September, 1862, there was a deficiency of 46, for which a draft was ordered.

The quotas and credits of the county under the calls of the President February 1, March 14, and July 18, 1864, were as follows: Enrollment, 1,899; quotas and deficiency, 713. Credits—By new recruits, 552; veterans, 72; draft, 15; deficiency, 74. A draft was ordered for the deficiency.

The quotas and credits of the county under call of December 19, 1864: The enrollment of the county showed, 1,436; quota, 191. Credit: By new recruits, 97; draft, 86; total, 183; deficiency, 8.

These enrollments show that the county furnished 1,475 men for the war of the rebellion. There were, beside these, probably 100 men who went into the service from the county who were never credited to the county, being credited to other counties, as were some twenty in the Seventeenth Indiana Volunteers, while a number went to Michigan and other States to enlist and were credited to them. There were, though, a number of men who enlisted twice. All the veterans were twice credited to the county. Estimating the double enlistments at 200 men, would leave 1,375 different men who rendered military service from this county. The annual return of the militia of the State in 1866 by the Adjutant General to the President, in accordance with an act of

Congress, gave the county the credit for 3,030 militia, considerably more than at the opening of the war, if both enrollments were correct.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION, OF THE WAR OF 1812, AND OF THE  
MEXICAN WAR.

Through the kindness of Hon. John B. Howe, we gather the following information in respect to the soldiers of the Revolution and of the war of 1812 who settled in the county, and of volunteers from the county to the war with Mexico. The Revolutionary soldiers who settled in the county were among its first settlers and were Micajah Harding, Nathan Fowler, — Place, Abraham Cole, Waitsell Dickenson, all of whom settled in the vicinity of where Lima now is. David Cowan, who settled in the Burr Oak settlement, now Van Buren Township; Morgan Young, who settled on Pretty Prairie, in Greenfield Township. He was a man of remarkable physical vigor, and at the age of ninety years followed the hounds. William McNeil is also believed to have been a Revolutionary soldier. There were also a Frenchman and a German in the poor-house in 1845 who claimed to have been in that war. The Frenchman loved to speak of his service, but the German was very reticent, which was accounted for on the supposition that he was then on the wrong side. The Frenchman was anxious to return to France, and finally received aid and returned to his native land.

Of the war of 1812, the following names are remembered: Jesse Huntsman (Greenfield township), Daniel Harding, Noah Austin, David Smith, John Kelly, — Palmer, John Perry, Zimri Atwater, James Kinney, Sylvanus Halsey. Daniel Harding was at the taking of Fort Erie. Noah Austin was shot and severely wounded by an ounce ball, while crossing over the river to the battle of Lundy's Lane. The ball lodged behind his ear and he carried it to the day of his death, when, to the great astonishment of all, the ball dropped out just before he expired. John Kelly served under Gen. W. H. Harrison. Palmer was a blacksmith in Lima, and always claimed that he killed Tecumseh, and that Col. Richard M. Johnson had nothing to do with it. James Kinney was in the battle of Plattsburg.

The war with Mexico did not, at the time, meet with much popular favor in the county, but it was not without representation. Frank Flanders, Sylvester Haliday and an Irishman, whose name is not recollected, went from Lima and enlisted in Capt. Tollis' company, which rendezvoused at Freedom, St. Joseph Co., Mich., and which was afterward mustered into the Fifteenth United States Infantry. Flanders became Drum Major in this regiment and was noted as a bugler. The Irishman was said to have been the first or one of the first to enter Fort Chapultepec and to have assaulted Gen. Bravo with his musket, because he made a show of resistance. Israel Lantz, Lorenzo Ingraham and John Davenport are also mentioned as having gone to the Mexican war from the county.

## CHAPTER V.

BY JOHN PAUL JONES.

TOWN OF LA GRANGE—FIRST PLAT—EARLY RESIDENTS—THE COUNTY SEAT QUESTION—APPEARANCE OF THE VILLAGE THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO—FORMER MERCANTILE ESTABLISHMENTS—GRADUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT—INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES—SECRET SOCIETIES—PRESENT BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS—OUTLINE SKETCH OF RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS—CEMETERY.

THE location of the town of La Grange, in the geographical center of the county, would seem to indicate that its projectors were men of shrewd forethought, who had in view the possibility of its becoming, at no distant day, the most eligible point for the location of the county seat, as in the early days of the county the strife and efforts put forth by the citizens of different localities to secure that coveted prize and distinction, were not unlike the record in that respect of most other counties. The tract of land comprising the original town site was purchased of the United States by entry, at the Government Land Office, in Fort Wayne, in the year 1835, by George F. Whittaker and Theodore Craft. Joshua T. Hobbs subsequently purchased an interest, and thus became one of the proprietors of the town site. It is situated in the south half of Section 19, and was platted on the 18th day of June, 1836, by Reuben J. Dawson, William F. Beavers, George F. Whittaker and James McConnell, none of whom are now living. Mr. Dawson resided in De Kalb County, Ind., and represented his county and that of Steuben in the State Senate in 1850, and was afterward Judge of the Tenth Judicial Circuit. He took an active and prominent part in politics, and was a Presidential Elector on the Democratic ticket in 1856. Mr. Whittaker was a merchant at Lima. Mr. Beavers resided in the southern part of the county, and was for several years County Surveyor. James McConnell, the last survivor of these original proprietors, died at Albion in 1881. He was a resident of Eden Township, and was, at an early day, one of the County Commissioners. The original town was laid off into lots 66x132 feet, with a public square, 132x280½ feet, streets 66 feet in width, and alleys 16½ feet wide, crossing each other at right angles; the names of the streets being Mountain, High, Detroit, Poplar, Walnut, Sycamore and Canal, running north and south; Lake, Steuben, Factory, Michigan, Spring, Lafayette and Wayne, running east and west. Detroit became the principal business street, and still retains that prestige. The original proprietors donated several lots to the county, the present site of the court house being a portion of the gift, which was originally the public square. The terms of the grant were as follows:

"The public grounds designed for and donated to the county from the time of the commencement of the use of the same for the purposes of holding courts and the transaction of other judicial business thereon, and to continue the property of said county of La Grange as long as the same shall be occupied as aforesaid, after which it shall revert to the original proprietors.

"The proprietors hereby reserve to themselves the right to divert the the stream of water which passes through the town, to any place not to exceed one-fourth of a mile from its natural channel, for the use of mills and other machinery."

The town site was covered with heavy forest trees and a thick undergrowth of prickly ash, interspersed with briars and shrubbery. The ground was burned over the first year, which was the means of destroying the undergrowth; the large timber was cut down and the inhabitants of the new town would generally engage in the work of clearing and burning the brush, old and young joining in the work at convenient spells, some in one part and some in another, and often continuing until midnight. This afforded amusement and recreation, instead of croquet and such other fashionable diversions of the present day. Shadrack Carney, now a resident of Clay Township, claims to have felled the first tree in preparing to clear off the public square. That work was done by contract with the Commissioners, who unfortunately required all the trees to be cut down, thereby depriving the public of the benefit of the fine shade which this primeval forest would have rendered. A portion of the public square and grounds extending to the south and east for some considerable distance was wet and swampy. A stranger, to travel over the solid ground that now exists instead of the mire, could hardly realize that such could ever have been the condition. Removing the primitive growth and filling with other soil has wrought the change.

Isaac P. Grannis and Thomas Clark built the first two dwelling houses; they were constructed of logs, one of which was used as a boarding-house for the accommodation of Mr. Grannis, who was one of the sub-contractors and workmen on the court house. The other was occupied by the Clark family, who were of a migratory disposition, fond of hunting and fishing, and who, after a few years, removed to the Far West, where they expected to find game more plentiful. The first frame building was a storehouse erected by William Wigton, on the northeast corner of Detroit and Spring streets, opposite the southeast corner of the court house square. This structure served as a general resort for nearly two years. It was occupied by C. B. Holmes, who kept a general store, consisting of dry goods, groceries, hardware, and an assortment of such goods as was in demand in those early times. Here, also, was the post office, which Mr. Holmes was instrumental in causing to be established, and who officiated as the first Postmaster. Some idea of the magnitude of the business transacted in handling the mails at this office for the first quarter may be formed through the receipts for that period, which amounted to the munifi-



cent sum of \$1.08, quite in contrast with the receipts for the quarter ending September 30, 1881, which showed an aggregate of \$644.42. Mr. Holmes seems to have been almost indispensable to the community, for about this time he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for Bloomfield Township. At the period of the commencement of the growth of the town, the country was but little else than a vast wilderness, though settlements had been formed to some extent in various localities in the surrounding country, and additions were constantly being made. Yet the farms that had been cleared for cultivation were but mere openings in the vast sea of forest trees that covered the surrounding territory, and game of a great variety was to be found in the immediate vicinity. So plentiful were deer, that it is related that Ans Clark, who prided himself upon his expertness with the rifle, killed, in one day, seven of these animals, and so close to the town that every shot could have been heard at the public square. But a change was to come over the place in the new order of things.

The contract for building the new court house had been let by the Board of Commissioners to Francis F. Jewett, of Lima, and work was formally begun on its erection in 1842. The building was to be a two-story frame, with a court room, jury rooms, and rooms for the several county officers. Mr. Jewett pushed the work with vigor, and completed it December 5, 1843; the cost was \$8,000, and the structure was considered a fine one for those primitive times. As was the case elsewhere in the county, the pioneer suffered greatly from chills and fever, and as quinine was a scarce article, they had to resort to such means for relief as could be obtained from barks and herbs, the natural products of the soil.

Following the erection of the first two log houses, came other settlers to locate in the new town and build likewise, though the growth was slow for a period. The first two frame dwelling houses were built by Peter H. Fox and George Hopkins. The first one continued in existence until about two years ago, when it was torn down to give place to the commodious and elegant structure, now the residence of Thomas H. Sefton. The other formed a part of the residence of M. L. Panches, and was destroyed by fire. Mr. Hopkins was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and came from Medina County, Ohio, in 1843. He sold this property after two years to Solomon Shattuck, who was the first village blacksmith. Robert McClasky and family came from Ohio in 1843. He was the first boot and shoemaker, and built the third log house on the lot now owned by George P. Robinson, and on which is situated his fine brick residence. A few other small dwellings were erected during this season. The locating of the county seat here and the completion of the new court house, fixed the destiny of the embryo town. In 1844, the county officers having been removed from Lima, and the courts holding their sessions here, gave an impetus to the village and caused it to improve rapidly. Simon M. Cutler, who had been elected County Auditor, built the house now owned by Mrs. Will,



opposite the Methodist Church. Samuel A. Bartlett, County Treasurer, put up the house on the next lot north, now owned by Jacob M. Church. John Kromer and Andrew Ellison built the houses which were recently removed for the purpose of enlarging the court house square. They occupied a strip of ground west of the court house, with a narrow street or lane running between the two. The county purchased this property, vacated the street, and inclosed the land with the court house grounds, thereby increasing the width to  $280\frac{1}{2}$  feet, corresponding to the width north and south, and thus separating it from any contiguous property, and lending symmetry and beauty to the whole surrounding. C. B. Holmes built a residence on Detroit street. Peter L. Mason put up a double log house on the lot now occupied by the Presbyterian Church. The south part of the American House, which was the first hotel building in the place, was put up this year by Frederick Hamilton, who became the first "mine host" to cater to the comfort of the traveling public; at the same time being Sheriff, he performed a double duty, that of looking after the security of the unruly guests of the county. This building occupied the northeast corner of Detroit and Michigan streets, now the vacant corner lot to the northeast of the court house square. The American House was destroyed by fire in 1874. The once famous Boyd House, built by William S. Boyd, and used as a hotel and for stores and dwellings, for a number of years, was situated opposite the court house, to the east, on Detroit street. This was, in its day, by common selection, the headquarters of the gathering hosts during court sessions, and for the politicians and other "wire-pullers" of the early times. Many were the schemes concocted and matured there for the political and financial aggrandizement of those who were ever on the alert for personal preferment. It was finally partly destroyed by fire, and the ruins removed to give place to the fine brick structure erected by Abijah Brown and his three sons, Ira, Jacob S. and Adrian D., for hotel purposes. The building was four stories high, including basement. This, in its time, was one of the best hotels in Northern Indiana, and had a wide reputation as such. This, too, was destroyed by fire in January, 1877, the grounds of which are now occupied by the brick buildings owned by Brown Bros., Rose & Williams, and Jacob Newman. Messrs. Bingham & Newman, and Hubbard & Ruick, built the frame business houses now owned by John Will, and occupied by Will & Clugston as a dry goods store, F. M. Vedder, grocer, and others, on Detroit street. In 1870, the Devor brick block was erected, and the Rice building in 1871. The new jail, a superb structure, built of brick, and inclosed by a substantial iron fence, was put up in 1872, at a cost of \$28,000, and serves its purpose quite satisfactorily, though, like all places for the security of prisoners, there have been occasions when it has proved insecure, notably in the escape, just previous to this writing, of one Miles, who was confined for bigamy, but was recaptured and received his just deserts by a sentence of three years in the penitentiary. Drs. John A. Butler, John Brown, and Isaac Parry were the first physicians having offices or residing in the town;

these have all passed away. Dr. Parry went to California in 1850, where he died 1880, and Dr. Brown at his home, on the Haw Patch, several years ago.

C. B. Holmes has been mentioned as inaugurating the mercantile business here by establishing a general store. The second enterprise of merchandising in the town was established in 1843, by Harmon B. McCoy and William S. Boyd, in the Boyd Building. Mr. McCoy was married in the fall of 1845 to Miss Eliza Price, and with his bride went to Ohio, whence he had originally come. They returned in the following spring, when he, in partnership with James B. Caldwell, started a tannery, and commenced the manufacture of leather in connection with harness-making. Samuel H. Boyd came in 1843, and started a tannery in the east part of town near the creek; this was the first institution of the kind put in operation in La Grange. The tannery of McCoy & Caldwell changed hands several times, and finally, in about the year 1858, the business was discontinued, and the lots were sold to the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company. This line of business has entirely died out, there being no tanneries now in existence here. McCoy was subsequently engaged in the manufacture of shingles at the Boyd Saw-Mill on Fly Creek, at the northeast of town, where he met a horrible death by accidentally coming in contact with the saw. This saw-mill was built by Delavan Martin, in 1844, and was the first put in operation; it was fitted up with one of the old fashioned upright saws, driven by water-power, with an old style water-wheel. The same water-power was also utilized to drive the first grist-mill, built by William S. Boyd and John Starr, in the year 1857. This mill was a great convenience to the community and surrounding country. It was a two-story frame building, with sufficient capacity to meet the wants of the people. It was destroyed by fire in 1873, being then owned by the Kerr Brothers. The fine steam flouring-mill now owned by Hudson & Peck was erected by William Hudson and Samuel K. Ruick in 1874, also a saw-mill adjoining. The grist-mill has two run of stone, and the capacity of turning out fifty barrels of flour per day. The first regular drug store was started by Rensselaer Rheubottom in 1852, in a small frame building near the Boyd Block. Drs. John H. Rerick and Howard M. Betts were the second to embark in that business; this was in 1860, in the building then owned by Dr. John A. Butler, just north of the American House. They soon after removed to the building on the northwest corner of Detroit and Michigan streets. Dr. Rerick sold out his interest to Dr. Betts in 1861, and entered the service of the United States as Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Dr. Betts still continues the business at the old stand, the entire building being now owned by him, and occupied in part by the Central Hotel. This building was built by John Will in 1855, and occupied by him in the mercantile trade. The first tinware and stove establishment was started by Perry S. Hemminger, in 1855. He built the frame building on the site of the Devor Block in 1857. The business was afterward conducted by Hemminger and J. W. Rheubottom.

J. P. Jones purchased Hemminger's interest in the concern in 1857, and, in company with Rheubottom, added a general stock of iron, nails and shelf hardware, which was the first store of the kind in the village. C. B. Holmes was the pioneer in the family grocery business. Andrew Emminger came in 1844, and inaugurated the industry in the manufacture of chairs. Not until as late as 1872 was there a regularly organized banking institution in the place. In that year the La Grange County Bank was started, the proprietors being Ralph P. Herbert, R. S. Hubbard and Henry M. Herbert. In the following year, Andrew Ellison commenced the banking business; this he still conducts in connection with his son Rollin. In 1874, the La Grange Bank was started by Thomas J. Spaulding, of Lima Township, and R. S. Hubbard. They occupied the Devor Building. In September of the same year, the First National Bank was organized, with a capital of \$50,000, by many of the same parties interested in the La Grange County and La Grange Bank, these two banks merging their interests into that of the First National, and discontinuing business. John S. Merritt became the first President, and R. S. Hubbard the first cashier of the new institution. It occupies an eligible business location opposite the court house in the brick building owned by Messrs. Rose & Williams. Its present officers are Solomon Rose, President; J. S. Merritt, Vice President, and H. M. Herbert, Cashier.

There are two public halls in the town, Ellison's, and one known as Brown's, the latter owned by Brown Bros., and situated in the second story of the brick block on the southeast corner of Detroit and Michigan streets, opposite the court house. It is devoted to theatrical and other entertainments and to other uses.

There are several secret societies in La Grange, representing many of the various orders found throughout the country; the purposes of which are generally for the moral, social and mental culture of its members. The "Meridian Sun Lodge of Masons" was instituted at Lima June 1, 1849, and three or four years later its place of meeting was transferred to this town, where it became essentially a La Grange society. It had for its first officers William Martin, Worshipful Master; John Brisco, Senior Warden, and A. C. Vanorman, Junior Warden. The I. O. O. F. Lodge was organized in June, 1856; its first officers were William Rheubottom, Noble Grand; John F. Clugston, Vice Grand; John Q. Reed, Scribe; John Will, Treasurer; and R. S. Hubbard, Warden, all of whom are living here, except Mr. Reed, who is in St. Louis, Mo. The Hutchinson Lodge of Good Templars was organized in 1866. It is a thrifty society, and makes its influence felt in the interests of temperance. Their place of meeting is in Will & Clugston's building. The Davis Lodge of Good Templars was organized in 1878. They have a membership of about forty, with lodge room in Wigton and Eyler's block, and are in a vigorous condition, with a good record in the cause in which they are enlisted.

[In the month of January, 1867, a number of young men of La Grange,



*Jonas P. Niman*

LA GRANGE





having in view a general intellectual and moral culture, organized an Addisonian Debating Society in the town. The charter members were James S. Drake, Lieut. Samuel A. Cherry, U. S. A., Robert Wigton, M. R. McClaskey, Seymour Brisco, Lewis Wertsbaugher, J. P. Duck, Thomas Ellison, J. A. McClaskey, C. Y. Roop, and Deloyn Carson. The following officers were elected: S. A. Cherry, President; J. A. McClaskey, Vice-President; J. S. Drake, Secretary; Thomas Ellison, Treasurer. The present membership is about forty. Young men, between the ages of eighteen and thirty, and of good moral character, may become members.

On the 21st of February, 1879, W. M. Obermyer, D. G. D., of Indiana, instituted at La Grange a lodge of the Knights of Honor, the following being the charter members: Thomas H. Sefton, Samuel P. Bradford, Isaiah Piatt, A. D. Mohler, E. G. White, George W. Berry, John A. Miller, C. H. Hollis, J. H. Hayes, A. D. Moore, M. V. Devor, W. S. Berry, J. M. Preston, J. B. Davenport, A. C. Beecher, E. G. Machan, H. M. Casebeer, E. V. Case, O. L. Ballou and Leonard Peck. The following were the first officers: O. L. Ballou, P. D.; Isaiah Piatt, D.; T. H. Sefton, V. D.; H. M. Casebeer, A. D.; J. H. Hayes, G.; A. D. Moore, Chaplain; E. V. Case, Reporter; M. V. Devor, Financial Reporter; J. B. Davenport, Treasurer; J. A. Miller, Guardian; A. C. Beecher, Sentinel; and S. P. Bradford, E. G. Machan and E. G. White, Trustees. The membership has since reached forty, but it is now thirty-nine, one of the number having died. The lodge has property valued at about \$500, and meets on Thursday evenings. Two thousand dollars are paid to the descendants of each person dying.—Ed.]

The business interests of the town are represented by seven dry goods stores, one millinery and fancy goods, three millinery and dress-making establishments, two tailor shops, five grocery stores, four boot and shoe shops, six drug stores, one stationery and periodical store, three hardware stores, three butcher shops, three saddlery and harness shops, two banks, twelve lawyers, thirteen physicians, three newspaper and printing offices, two jewelers, two dental offices, two photographers, one piano and organ store, three sewing-machine offices, three barber-shops, four restaurants, three flour and feed stores, three hotels, three saloons, three livery stables, two agricultural implement establishments, two marble-shops, five blacksmith-shops, one railroad office, two express offices, one patent-medicine manufactory, one gunsmith and manufacturer, two grain warehouses, two steam saw-mills, one steam flouring-mill, two planing-mills, three wagon-shops, one carriage factory, one pump manufactory.

A cheese factory, the first of the kind in the county, has been in successful operation during the past season by Mr. Chamberlin, the projector and proprietor.

Since the original plat was surveyed, several additions have been made to the town. Ellison's, on the south, in the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 30, was laid out May 6, 1861. Drake's, in the west, was laid out by

James L. Drake, October 6, 1868. Ryason's, in the west half of the north-east quarter of Section 30, laid out November 24, 1868. McClaskey's, February 13, 1869, on the Haw Patch road, in the south part of the town. McClaskey's East Addition, on the east side of the creek, by Robert McClaskey, and Herbert's, in the northwestern part of the town, fronting on the Baubauga road, was laid out by Ralph P. Herbert, in 1877.

La Grange was incorporated in 1855, and the following constituted the first Board of Trustees: Andrew Emminger, William C. Kennedy, William Rheubottom and Rensselaer Rheubottom, who held their first meeting December 26, 1855, and organized with the following officers: Rensselaer Rheubottom, President; Charles B. Holmes, Clerk; Andrew Ellison, Marshal; Caleb Strang, Treasurer; and John B. Case, Assessor.

The general growth of the town, though slow, has been permanent, and its improvements gradual. Its residences, though not palatial, are mostly neat and homelike. They are principally frame structures. The business houses were originally built of lumber, but fire has made its inroad upon them at different times, until but few of these old landmarks are left; in their stead, good substantial brick buildings have been erected. The population of the place, as shown by the census of 1880, varied but a few from 1,400. There are but three persons now living in the place, who were heads of families and residents here in 1844. These are Andrew Ellison, Robert McClaskey and C. B. Holmes.

The educational advantages and system of instruction in the schools of La Grange present no features of striking contrast with the general system throughout the State of which it is a part. However, from the rude beginning of the first school taught in the village, gradual progress and improvement have been made, until the present high standard of excellence in the graded school has been reached. The first opportunity offered the little urchins of the village to prepare themselves for the high and responsible duties of matured life, in the way of book learning, was at a school taught by Miss Laura Brown, subsequently Mrs. Dr. Butler, in a barn just north of where the American Hotel used to stand, or opposite, and to the northeast of the present Central Hotel. Prior, and up to the year 1866, the public educational facilities were those of the ordinary district schools. Among those who taught in these schools, and who have attained prominence, are Samuel P. Bradford, the present Clerk of the La Grange Circuit Court, and Rev. J. W. Welch, Presiding Elder of the Warsaw District of the North Indiana Conference. The people, however, at an early day, desired a higher grade of education and better facilities than were afforded by the district school, and an attempt was made to satisfy the demand under a law, for the purpose of providing for a county seminary. The funds were gathered together from the various authorized sources, and the construction of a two-story frame building, for the purpose, was commenced a few rods south of the site of the present school edifice. About the time it was

inclosed, and before completion, the funds were exhausted, and work was consequently suspended. The building remained in this condition for a time, and was finally sold to the authorities of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who proceeded to complete its construction and occupy it for school purposes. The first term opened in the autumn of 1850, under the direction of James C. McIntosh, of Connersville, Ind., a graduate of Asbury University. He continued one year of highly acceptable service, when he returned to his home. He was succeeded by Robert Parrott, also of Asbury, who taught one year, and then entered the practice of the law. At the breaking-out of the rebellion, he entered the army, and was commissioned Major of the One Hundredth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but was killed by the falling of a tree during a storm, while in his tent near Vicksburg. Mr. Parrott was succeeded by Isaac Mahuren, and he, after a few months, by John Paul Jones, who had been elected to the office of Clerk of the La Grange Circuit Court, who taught the remainder of the term, and then resigned to enter upon the duties of his office. In 1854, John B. Clark took charge of the school and conducted it for several years. Others were Thomas L. Hulbert, George Hall and a Mr. Pierce. With the close of the latter's administration, the history of the seminary ends. By reason of financial embarrassment, the building was finally sold to Samuel Thurber, and he in turn conveyed it to the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company, and received in payment capital stock of said company. Finally, after one or two changes, the building was purchased, in 1866, by Moon Brothers, who removed it to their grounds in the south part of town, on the Haw Patch road, where it is still occupied by S. D. Moon as a carriage and wagon manufactory. Following the year 1866, a change was made by the erection of a large two-story frame building, and the adoption of a higher course of instruction, embracing more advanced branches than those taught in the district schools. This supplied the wants very well until the opening of the schools in 1874, when a complete graded course was adopted, and the school brought more nearly to the requirements of the times and the advancement of the country. The Principals employed since 1866, with their term of service, are as follows: A. W. Durley, one year; J. H. Graham, two years; C. Hewett, one year; Alfred Bayless, two years; Samuel Lilly, one year; O. A. Reubelt, one year; A. D. Mohler, seven years.

The building now occupied by the public schools is a brick structure, erected, in 1874, at a cost of \$30,000, including furniture and apparatus. It is of the modern style of architecture in its general design, and three stories high. The main building, on the ground, is 60x70 feet and the wing 31x64 feet. The basement is used for furnace purposes, rooms for storing wood, and others for exercise of the scholars in inclement weather. On the first floor there are six rooms, two in the wing and the others in the main part. There are two halls, in which are placed the stairway, wardrobes, etc., one of the halls being in the wing. The sizes of the halls are 21x60 feet and 16x30 feet. The Superintend-

ent's office is in the tower, directly over the main entrance to the second floor. On the third floor is the lecture-room, 43x60 feet, which is approached by two stairways, giving ample means of ingress and egress. Its seating capacity is estimated at forty persons. The building is covered by a mansard roof and has accommodations for 480 pupils. The heating and ventilating are done by means of three furnaces and their equipments. This building will compare favorably with any of its kind to be found in Northern Indiana. There are enrolled at the present time 300 pupils. The school is divided into three departments—the higher, grammar and primary, with twelve grades. The present teachers are: C. P. Hodge, Superintendent; Miss Achsa Huffman, Principal; Miss Ella Goodsell, Mr. Ora Rowe, Miss Ada Henderson, Miss Lulu Storer and Miss Mattie Parry, Assistants.

In La Grange, as in all communities, the spiritual welfare of the people was among the first things to be looked after and cared for. The inhabitants of the little hamlet, in its earliest days, were blessed by the presence of the preacher, who held meetings at any convenient place until provision was made for a regular house of worship. The Rev. Thomas B. Connelly, who was a resident of the township, probably preached the first sermon in the town. Revs. James Latty, Abram Rowe, Charles J. Fox and James Roy were also among the early local preachers who labored efficiently among the pioneers of the place. The Methodist Episcopal was the first church society formed in La Grange. It was organized, in 1843, by Rev. William J. Forbes, who was the preacher in charge of the La Grange Circuit. It consisted of the following members: James Packer and Esther, his wife, both of whom are living about two miles east of town; Amasa Durand and his wife Hannah, now the wife of Robert McClaskey and residing in La Grange. Mr. Durand died in 1849. He was the owner of and resided at the time of his death on the farm adjoining the original village plat, a part of which is embraced in the Ryason Addition. Though a strong man, both mentally and physically, the labor of clearing this farm was the cause of his early demise. Isaac P. Grannis and his wife Rhoda were members. The latter is living in Johnson Township. Mr. Grannis died in 1863. George Hopkins and Sarah, his wife, were also members. He died in 1850. Mr. Hopkins usually led in the singing in those early days and in fine old Methodist style. His widow, who married Mr. Sanderson, is still living. Mr. Packer was the first class leader. The ministers sent to the place have been as follows: William J. Forbes and J. C. Medsker in 1843, E. Doud, William G. Stonex, Elijah S. Blue, Elihu Anthony, Jesse Sparks, Elijah Lilliston, L. W. Monson, John H. Bruce, Ezra Maynard, John R. Davis, Emanuel Hall, Charles Ketcham, Samuel Lamb, James A. Beswick, Abijah Marine, John Maffit, John Hill, Reuben Tobey, F. T. Simpson, D. P. Hartman, James Johnson, J. M. Mann, E. S. Preston, J. H. Hutchinson, J. W. Welch, Enoch Holdstock, Almon Greenman, Y. B. Meredith, C. E. Disbro, and the present Pastor, B. A. Kemp. This charge was connected with the circuit until 1862,



when it became a station under one pastor in charge. The Presiding Elders officiating here have been: George M. Boyd, 1844; Samuel Brenton, 1848; S. C. Cooper, 1849; Jacob M. Stallard, 1850; H. B. Beers, 1851; Jacob Colclazier, 1853; L. W. Monson, 1857; W. S. Burch, 1861; Thomas Stabler, 1865; H. J. Meck, 1869; O. V. Lemon, 1873; A. Greenman, 1877; and M. H. Mendenhall, appointed in 1881. Samuel Brenton, while serving on this district as Presiding Elder, was stricken with paralysis, which compelled him to retire from the active work of the ministry. He was subsequently appointed by President Taylor Register of the Land Office at Fort Wayne, and was elected three terms to Congress from the old Tenth District, and died in Fort Wayne in 1856. Elijah S. Blue was accidentally killed in December, 1845, on his way from an appointment at Wolcottville to his home at Ontario. Having dismounted, and while leading his horse with the halter strap fastened around his wrist, the animal became frightened and ran, dragging the preacher after him, striking his head against a wagon in the road, then against the fence. He was instantly killed. The church edifice erected by this denomination was completed in 1856, at a cost of about \$3,000. It has since been improved and a parsonage added, increasing the value of the whole property to about \$5,000. It is a substantial frame building, with a basement used for prayer and class meetings and as a lecture-room. The seating capacity is about five hundred. The Sabbath school was organized in 1853. It now numbers twenty-nine officers and teachers and 175 scholars, with an average attendance of 150. The school is in a prosperous condition, under the superintendency of George C. Morgan. There has recently been organized a Sabbath school normal class, under competent instructors, for the purpose of giving particular attention to Biblical study. The membership of the church is now about three hundred.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in the winter of 1843-44, by the Rev. Benjamin Ogden, of Three Rivers, Mich., and Rev. Bouton, who were appointed as a committee for that purpose by the Presbytery of La Grange. The original members were Francis M. Price and his wife, Sarah, William S. Boyd, and Sarah, his wife, Robert Cummings, and Harmon B. McCoy. The first Elders were Messrs. Price and Boyd. Of this little communion, Mr. Boyd is the only survivor, and is residing in the town. The Rev. Mr. Ogden served the church for a short time, during which Mr. Phillip Toll and his wife, who resided at Fawn River, Mich., a distance of about ten miles, united with the church. In June, 1845, the services of Rev. A. D. White, who came from the State of New York, were secured for one-half of his time—he preaching here and at Fawn River alternately once in two weeks. In October, of the same year, at the request of the church, the Synod of Northern Indiana transferred its connection from the Presbytery of La Grange to the Presbytery of Fort Wayne. Rev. Mr. White continued his labors until April, 1848. During his time, fifty-nine members were added to the church, nine by profession of faith, and the others by letter from other churches, they having immigrated to the



county and settled here. In June, 1848, Rev. A. H. Kerr came as stated supply, and continued his labors until 1852. Up to this time this organization had no church building of their own, but held service, in common with the other denominations represented here, in the court house or school house. Rev. William Cathcart received a call from the Presbytery, and was ordained and installed as pastor in 1854. He was the first regularly installed pastor of this church. On account of failing health, Mr. Cathcart resigned his charge in the spring of 1864, and was succeeded by Rev. A. D. F. Randolph, who continued until 1869. At the time of Mr. Cathcart's retirement, the membership was seventy-one. He died at Lima, January 1, 1870. Rev. Thomas E. Hughes, then pastor of the church at Constantine, Mich., received a call and became the settled pastor of this church, and remains as such at the present time. The membership is now 115. The present Elders are Matthew McCoy, Ira Barrows, Dr. E. G. White, J. F. Clugston and E. G. Machan. The Sabbath school, under the superintendency of E. T. Casper, numbers 115 scholars and twenty-one officers and teachers. The present house of worship was erected about 1853, at a cost of about \$2,000. Having become too small for the increasing congregation, it has been sold, and an eligible site has been purchased on Michigan street, a short distance northwest of the court house, and arrangements have been perfected for the erection of a fine brick church building early in the spring of 1882.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mount Zion congregation, was organized October 12, 1854, by Rev. George Walker, a member of the Wittenburg Synod, and was constituted with the following membership: Michael Hoff and his wife, Eliza; Reuben Trexler and his wife; William Sigler and his wife, and Benjamin F. Hills. Mrs. Trexler and Mrs. Hoff have since died. Mr. Hills soon entered the ministry of the Lutheran Church, and preached for several years at Spencerville, and subsequently removed to Iowa. Mr. Walker was succeeded by the Rev. John G. Biddle, and during his pastorate the house of worship now occupied by this society was erected. It is a neat frame structure 32x46 feet, with a seating capacity of about 400. It cost \$1,000, and is situated in Ellison's Addition, in the south part of town. Much of the labor performed in its construction was by Rev. Biddle, to whose zeal and untiring efforts is due mainly the success of the enterprise. The members of the church, and the citizens generally, contributed liberally toward this object. Mr. Biddle was the first regular pastor of this church. He died in Elkhart, Ind., while in charge, and the Rev. A. J. Cromer took his place. Rev. Jabez Shaffer came to the charge in 1875, as pastor, and Rev. A. R. Smith in 1878, who continued one year. Rev. L. S. Keyser was chosen pastor, and commenced his labors in September, 1879. He resigned in 1881, for the purpose of completing his theological course at Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio. Though but twenty-three years of age, he is a fluent speaker, and bids fair to become an eminent divine. The present pastor, the Rev. Levi Rice, entered upon his du-

ties, preaching his first sermon on the Sabbath, October 2, 1881. The membership is 200. The Sabbath school connected with this church, under the superintendency of Elmer R. Steele, numbers 104, and is doing a good work.

The St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church Society was organized on Easter Monday in the year 1872. The first vestry was composed of the following-named persons: Rev. Wellington Forgas, ex officio Chairman; Messrs. B. B. Harris, Senior Warden; Adrian D. Brown, Junior Warden; Samuel K. Ruick, Treasurer; Charles F. Parry, Clerk. St. John's Chapel was erected in 1873-74, from plans furnished by Rev. Forgas, and under his supervision, and was first opened for service on the 28th day of April, 1874, the Right Rev. Bishop Talbott, of the Diocese of Indiana, assisted by Rev. Wellington Forgas, officiating. Mr. Forgas was the first rector. The parish is now in charge of the Rev. S. C. M. Orpen, with sixteen communicants. The Sabbath school is in charge of the pastor, and numbers twenty-five scholars. Ministers of other denominations have from time to time preached here, but have not succeeded in effecting permanent organizations. The first burial place for the town of La Grange was on about two acres of ground, including the site of the present school building and extending west, which served for that purpose up to about 1863, when removals were made to the present cemetery, which was laid out in 1863, and is a picturesque spot, situated about three-fourths of a mile south of the court house, on the road leading to Wolcottville, comprising five acres of ground inclosed by a substantial board fence, and covered with a natural growth of fine shade trees, and admirably selected for the purposes to which it is devoted. It is the property of the town corporation, and is controlled by the Town Council, who regulate the sale of lots, the proceeds of which are devoted to the purposes of beautifying and keeping the grounds and improvements in order.

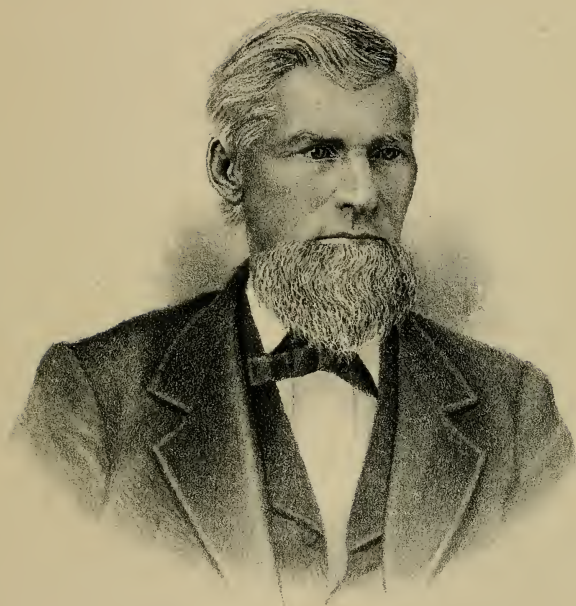


## CHAPTER VI.

BY JOHN PAUL JONES.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP—PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION—NATURAL RESOURCES—FIRST ENTRY OF LAND—NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS—LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS—WILD GAME—MILLS, STORES, BLACKSMITH SHOPS, ETC.—VILLAGES—ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP—FIRST OFFICERS—EDUCATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS INTERESTS.

AT the May term of the Board of Commissioners, in the year 1835, an order was made creating a new civil township, comprising Congressional Township 37 north, of Range 10 east, to be called Bloomfield, and attaching Congressional Township 36, lying on the south, for judicial purposes. This provisional condition relating to the latter township continued until 1837, when a separation was made, by the erection of Township 36 into a distinct civil organization called Johnson; this left Bloomfield independent as a township, lying east of and along the central line of the county, running north and south, and about one mile north of the center. It is bounded on the north by Lima and Greenfield Townships, on the east by Springfield, south by Johnson, and west by Clay. The physical features of Bloomfield present no very striking characteristics; however, its surface is somewhat diversified, and, in common with other portions of the county, it has, along its water courses and near its lakes, considerable marsh. The southern portion, and extending into the central part, is quite rolling, and in some places hills of some elevation present themselves. The north part of the township is level, and of a sandy though productive soil. The most considerable stream that crosses its territory is Pigeon River, entering the township from the east, near the northeast corner, with its general course westerly across Sections 1 and 2, then to the northwest, passing out about one mile east of the center; it has several, though quite small, tributaries, joining it as it passes across this township, which serve to drain the surplus waters in the vicinity. Fly Creek is a tributary of Pigeon River, but is independent so far as it bears relation to this township. It has several branches that largely form the natural drainage system of the township, and the two main streams have been, since the early settlement, of great importance, not only to this township but to considerable of the surrounding country, by affording excellent water privileges, which have been improved and utilized for driving machinery, principally for saw and grist-mills, but in some instances for other purposes. Fly Creek and its branches run to the north, forming a junction into one stream in Section 8, and passing through Section 5, across the north line of the township, and emptying into Pigeon River in Lima Town-



*John Wolsinger*

LA GRANGE





ship, just northwest of Ontario. There are three bodies of water, wholly or in part within the township, of sufficient magnitude to entitle them to be classed as lakes; these are Fish Lake, Sloan Lake and Cline Lake, the two former being in the southeastern part. These lakes are the resort, in the proper season, for those in quest of piscatorial sport, as they have within their waters a goodly supply of fish. The lands of Bloomfield were surveyed in July, 1831, by George W. Harrison, Deputy Surveyor, and soon after thrown open to settlement; they were principally covered with a dense forest, consisting largely of oak, beech, hickory, ash, elm and walnut; but the richness of the virgin soil was soon detected by the experienced eye of the venturesome pioneer, and the advantage of securing a land-holding within its borders was appreciated, as shown by the rapidity with which purchases were made, the greater portion being entered in the years 1834-35 and '36. The first tract purchased from the United States was entered at the Government Land Office in Fort Wayne, March 13, 1833, by Hugh R. Hunter, being the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 1, and now owned by Pitt Cook and Noah C. Fair. Only two persons in the township have the distinction of owning and still residing upon the land originally entered by them; of these, Jacob Tidrick is by far the earliest. November 5, 1835, he purchased of the United States the southwest quarter of Section 7, where he now lives in the enjoyment of his possessions, the title to which would not be difficult to trace. Hezekiah Hoard, though purchasing later, forms one of the twain; in 1851, he secured from the State the northwest quarter of Section 16, it being a part of the land donated by the General Government for school purposes; this tract he still owns and forms a portion of the well-cultivated farm on which he lives. John D. and Manley Richards entered the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 13, twenty-five acres of which is still owned by Manley Richards. The first white settler in the township was, probably, David Hanson, who came in 1833, and settled on the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 26.

In the beginning of the year 1836, there were but thirty families resident within the limits of Bloomfield. These were Caleb Jewett, Hart Hazen, a Mr. Townsend, Peter L. Mason, Amasa Durand, Ira Hays, Almon Lawrence, Curtis Harding, Palmer Grannis, Jacob D. Groves, Rev. Thomas B. Connolly, Joseph Welch, George D., Samuel and Daniel Carl, George Cooper, William Hern, Sr., William Hern, Jr., Moses J. Hill, Moses Newell Hill, Washington Adams, Elihu Champlin, Solomon Scidmore, Alanson N. Dewey, Levi Green, John Davidson, Joseph Davidson, Joseph Richards, Selah P. Benham and Thomas Newell. None of these are now living in the township; thirteen died here, and the others moved away, some to the Far West; the widows of three of them, however, are still residents here, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Durand, now Mrs. McClaskey. This locality received the most of its immigration—as did the greater portion of the county—from the States of New

York and Ohio, and a few from Virginia and Maryland. Among the earlier settlers, and those coming in prior to the year 1844, besides those already given, may be mentioned Zopher L. Scidmore, who was elected Sheriff of the county in 1854, and performed the duties of the office in a satisfactory manner; Norman Weir, Elijah W. Weir, Andrew Kilbury, Moses Marvin, Aaron Hill, Ivory Crandall, James D. and John R. Crandall, and a Mr. Green, who located in the eastern part of the township; John Y. Clark, Christian Roop, and his sons Joseph and Benjamin, the Parkers, William and Hiram Jacobs, the Mattoons, in the central and southern part; Joseph Richards, Jacob Hoagland, Jacob Tidrick, Francis M. Price and John Preston in the northern part; Daniel Sargent, Ira Church, Joseph and Jacob Mills and Reuben Hays in the southern part. George Holmes, Alexander Holmes, John M. and William Wigton, in the town of La Grange.

The coming in of each family meant the erection of a cabin and another opening in the forest by the felling of the timber for a clearing, and a preparation for crops. These clearings for the first year or two were usually limited to an acre or so planted to corn and vegetables with perhaps a patch of oats and wheat. To be successful in those days in raising grain and "garden truck" required eternal vigilance to protect them from the depredations of the wild turkey, deer, raccoon, squirrel and other pestiferous animals with which this county in the early day was fairly swarming. However, these, though pests in this respect, served a valuable purpose in affording almost the entire supply of meat to the settlers. In common with the experience of all frontiersmen in the settlement of a new country, the early settler here was subjected to many hardships and privations, and oftentimes the most heroic fortitude was required to overcome the seeming insurmountable obstacles. The products from the little patch of ground in the clearing, and the game that was brought down by the unerring rifle, afforded subsistence for the family. The spinning-wheel and loom supplied the cloth for clothing and household purposes, save, however, where the prepared deerskin and the furs from the fur-bearing animals were utilized. Luxuries were obtained at great cost, and many times at no small sacrifice. Groceries and the commonest kinds of merchandise were in those days catalogued as luxuries, only to be indulged in in the most sparing manner. Trading points were miles away through dense woods, without road or perhaps trail. Danger was upon all sides; wild beasts were prowling around, maddened by hunger; impassable swamps impeded progress, unbridged streams were almost insurmountable barriers, and only to be crossed—except by fording—with the possibility of the faithful horse and its rider being carried down by the rushing waters. The Indians, though generally friendly and harmless in this locality, were not always to be trusted, and to be intercepted by them was attended with an uncertainty as to results. The traveler without guide, and perhaps compass, was liable to lose his way and be overtaken by darkness; these and many others were the surroundings to be taken into consideration

when about to start upon a journey. In those days, the nearest trading-point of any considerable importance was Fort Wayne, Toledo, Hillsdale or Michigan City. To these points grain was hauled for marketing under the most trying circumstances, and at prices so insignificant the farmer of to-day would not consider it sufficient remuneration for the mere transportation to market over the best of roads. Yet, with all of these impediments to be surmounted, there was real and unalloyed happiness to be found in the pioneer's cabin. In those primitive days, their wants were of the simplest kind and in keeping with their surroundings. Society was upon a common level; the only passport to a membership was good character; even the want of this was not always taken into consideration. For the young man or the young woman to go to church barefoot was no disgrace; for whole families to eat, sleep and live in one room was the rule, and to be in the enjoyment of more than that was the exception. The influx of settlers necessitated home industries, and a demand for milling facilities was among the first and the most important. In all communities, and upon all occasions, there are those, prompted partly by gain and partly by an *accommodating spirit*, who are ready to supply the wants. Saw-mills in various parts of the township were built at an early time. The first of these was put up by Daniel Harding in the year 1835, in Section 17, and though a rude affair was a great convenience to this advance guard of civilization. The Van Kirk Mill was built quite early on the farm now owned by Christian Miller, a short distance south of La Grange; it was erected by Peter Prough, now a resident of Clay Township. Among others were Newton's Mill, built by Otis Newton, of Lima Township; Green's Mill, now owned by Jonathan Dorsey; and Hill's, all on Fly Creek, on the old Fort Wayne road.

Ira W. Brown built the first steam saw-mill, on his farm, about three miles east of La Grange, and Jeremiah Outcalt the second, a short distance south of Brown's; these are still in operation. Whilst these mills have been a great convenience to the community, and a source of profit in most cases to their owners, the effect of their existence is plainly manifest by the denudation of the land of the best timber afforded by the magnificent forest trees that once covered the township surface.

Other callings of a lesser nature were prosecuted to meet the growing wants of the neighborhoods, and here, as elsewhere, the tastes of the people were not altogether agricultural. Some had learned trades before coming, others being handy at almost anything to which they might turn their efforts. They usually gave attention to such occupation as would offer the best remuneration, and subserve the interests of those about them. David Hanson, the first settler in the township, was the first to manufacture brick, not only in the township, but in the county. Joseph Welch was the first cabinet-maker and undertaker, thus providing for the convenience and comfort of the living and the decent burial of the dead. Contemporaneous with the early saw-mills was Levi Green, the first carpenter; and before the development of "bog iron" as

an industry in other parts of the county came John Hardy, who operated at the forge as the first blacksmith. Caleb Jewett was the first shoemaker to provide for the wants of the bare-footed denizens in his time. Moses J. Hill, as a physician, is said to have been the first to administer professionally for the sick.

New communities, as well as old, require a civil organization and officers to execute the behests of the sovereign people and conserve the peace. Bloomfield having been organized into a civil township, an election was ordered to be held at the house of Moses J. Hill, on the first Saturday in June, 1835, for the purpose of electing a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Hill was appointed inspector of said election, and was also elected as said Justice. A division of the township was made into two road districts. All the territory west of the middle line of Range 10 comprised the first, and all east of said line comprised the second district. William Hern was appointed Supervisor. The first general election for the township was held April 3, 1837, at the house of Abel Mattoon, on the southeast quarter of Section 21. Solomon Scidmore, John Davidson and Horace Bartine constituted the election board. Jacob D. Groves was elected Justice of the Peace; George D. Carl, Constable; William Hern, Jr., Inspector of Elections; E. W. Weir and Daniel Carl, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph Davidson and Alanson N. Dewey, fence-viewers; John Davidson, Hiram Babcock and Marvin J. Hill, Supervisors. The young people in the primitive years of the township, in *some essential particulars*, were not unlike those of later times. Whilst in those days the young men and women were not being constantly "mashed" on each other at first sight, as expressed in the modern vulgar vernacular, yet there were genuine love affairs; and the courting, though from the very nature of the surroundings conducted under difficulties, was earnest and with a proper purpose in view—that of marriage and a prospective home, where each could be a source of aid and comfort to the other. Among the first legitimate results of these mutual admiration scenes in the township was the marriage of Moses N. Hill and Nancy Martin, January 28, 1832, by Luther Newton, one of the Associate Judges of the county; Washington Adams to Miss Laura Hill, who were united by S. Robinson, a Justice of the Peace, at Lima, August 9, 1832. The license for the marriage was issued on the 18th of the same month, and was the first issued after the organization of the county; Elijah W. Weir and Amy Hern, by Rev. T. B. Connelly, May 16, 1836.

[In May, of the year 1836, William C. Tillman, proprietor, employed a surveyor, and laid out twenty-four blocks of twenty-four lots each, and nine blocks of twelve lots each, on the north half of Section 1, Bloomfield Township, and named the village thus founded Burlington. The proprietor was something of a speculator, at least he was a shrewd man, for, it is said, he had a large, beautifully colored plat of his village made, showing that it was located on the bank of the Pigeon River, which was represented on the plat as being of sufficient size to be navigable by the largest vessels. Armed with this map, and



loaded to the inuzzle with glowing metaphors in praise of his village, Mr. Tillman went East, and there exhibited the plan of his Western town, and succeeded in selling lots (corner ones), to some six or eight families, and inducing them to move West to the village. When these families reached what their imaginations and the promises of Mr. Tillman had pictured as a fine growing village, they found the site to be in a swampy place, and half of the lots covered with water. The disappointment and dismay were complete. Not an effort, with one exception, was made to colonize the place, but all left for some other locality. One man made arrangements to build a house, obtained some lumber, and perhaps got the frame up, but soon abandoned the attempt, and the prospective Burlington was left to the sole habitation of the snakes, birds and batrachians.—ED.]

The village of Bloomfield, now more generally known as "Hill's Corners," is in the eastern part of the township, on the old Fort Wayne Road, and was platted on the southeast quarter of Section 23, by Moses J. Hill and Ivory Crandall, September 14, 1836. It bid fair for a time to become a flourishing town, and was a rival for the location of the county seat; but not succeeding in that, and the railroad having been located through La Grange, it failed to meet the expectations of its projectors, and still remains but a mere hamlet.

The church interests of the township have principally centered in La Grange, the several denominations maintaining organizations there affording more satisfactory opportunity for the people in the country to worship according to their belief than could be secured in any other way. In the early days of the settlement of the country, itinerant preachers of various denominations visited the township and dispensed the Gospel at the cabins of the pioneers in the good old-fashioned way, when people cared less for style and more for the benefits derived than at the present day. Some attempts to maintain church societies have been made in the township, but with little permanent success. In 1835, the Rev. Thomas B. Connelly, of the M. E. Church, organized what was called the Bethel Church in his neighborhood, in the east part of the township, with seven members—himself and wife, Jacob D. Groves and wife, Joseph Welch and wife, and Mary Groves. In 1852, this society built the Bethel Chapel, which was constructed of hewed logs, which was used by them for a place of worship until it fell into disuse for church purposes. Mr. Connelly was a native of Maryland, and came to this county in 1835, settling on a farm about four miles east of La Grange. He is described, by one who knew him well, as the embodiment of goodness, and as having "preached more sermons and visited more sick persons than all the other ministers combined." The school opportunities of Bloomfield Township are on a par with those throughout the county, and varying in no essential particular from the regular district school system. The first schoolhouse in the township was built of logs in the spring of 1838, on the southeast corner of Section 23. The school was taught the ensuing summer by Miss Almira Crandall, now the wife of Ebenezer Hill,



and living in the township near Hill's Corners. Malcolm Burnett taught the school the winter following. Among the earlier teachers in the township were Rev. T. B. Connelly, John Rhodes, R. C. Blackman, Miss Griffith and Miss Weir. The number of schoolhouses and schools now in the township, exclusive of the town of La Grange, is nine; pupils enrolled, 169 males and 150 females. The school buildings are generally neat and commodious, and are furnished with school furniture and apparatus of the modern style, the schools generally being conducted in a satisfactory manner.



## CHAPTER VII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.\*

LIMA TOWNSHIP—THE PIONEERS—CATALOGUE OF EARLY SETTLERS—THE RED RACE—FIRST LAND PURCHASED IN LA GRANGE COUNTY—INTERESTING INCIDENTS—FOUNDING OF LIMA VILLAGE—OUTLINE OF ITS GROWTH—MANUFACTURING INTERESTS—VILLAGE OF ONTARIO—ITS INDUSTRIES AND DEVELOPMENT—THE LIMA SEMINARY—THE LA GRANGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE—FIRST SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

LIMA TOWNSHIP justly enjoys the distinction of having been the site of the first white settlement in La Grange County. Benjamin Blair, Nathan Fowler, Jason Thurston, William Thrall and Jonathan Gardner located within the limits of the township prior to the spring of 1829, and it is quite certain that the first three were residents of the township in 1828. Benjamin Blair, who moved from Ohio to Southern Michigan in about August, 1828, did not remove to Lima Township until November or December of the same year. During the interval he selected his land, now the Craig farm, a mile west of Lima Village, and erected thereon a small log cabin. At the time his family moved into this unpretentious domicile, the families of Nathan Fowler and Jason Thurston were already occupying a small log dwelling situated on the north side of Crooked Creek, and almost directly north of Lima. Both families, though small, were occupying one small room—the only room of the dwelling. To render the situation more trying at the time the Blairs appeared, a small child of the Thurston family died, and its corpse was lying in the cabin when the Blairs first occupied their new home. This was, unquestionably, the first death in the township. In 1829, there came, among others, Moses and Ica Rice, William Gardner, Arthur Burrows and very likely several others. Among the earliest were Lemuel Fobes, John Hewett, John Kromer, Thomas Gale, John Gardner, Miles Bristol, Mr. Horning, Mr. Sinclair, Nathaniel Callahan, Frederick Hamilton, T. R. Wallace, David Smith, Daniel Fox, Almon Lawrence, Micajah Harding, Moses Price, Andrew Newhouse, Clark Classon, William Leverick, Daniel Davis, Lewis Switzer, William Adair, John Adams, John and Asa Olney, Nathan Jenks, John B. Howe, Christopher Cary, George Egnew, Oliver Classon, Nehemiah Coldren, Luther Newton, Elisha H. Shepard, Matthew Hall, Joshua T. Hobbs, Samuel P. Williams, John Jewett, Andrew Crawford, David Jewett, Cornilius Gilmore, Nathan Corwin, Robert Breckenridge, Stephen Corwin, George Latterar, William McCoy, Lorenzo Bull, Benjamin Corder, John C. Kinney, Robert Hamilton, William Hamilton, Jacob Sidener, Michael Riley, Jonathan Stephens, Sylvanus Halsey, E. A. Brown, Abbott Fleming, John Trask, Sydney Keith, John G. Lewis, Peter Miller, Samuel A. Howard, Jesse Ingraham, Hiram Harding, Daniel Harding, Enoch

\* Portions of the facts contained in this chapter were compiled by John P. Jones, J. C. Kinney and others.

Layton, Joseph Leverage, Augustus Hewins, Seth Tucker, William Whitney, John Taylor, Thomas Lock, Ralph Herbert, Merriam Fox, Joseph Keir, William A. Mills, C. K. Shepard, Emilius Bartholomew, Richard Ferry, Joseph Kerr, T. J. Spaulding, L. P. Hutchinson, Jeremiah C. Robble, Isaac Wallace, William T. Coddington, Robert B. Minturn and Dickinson Miller. Some of these men did not reside in the township except, perhaps, for a short time.

It is a matter of regret that the names of all the earliest settlers cannot be given. No one seems to have had either time or inclination to keep a record of early events, and the familiar proverb, "What is everybody's business is nobody's business," is thus verified. For an indefinite period preceding the occupation of the county by the whites, the site of the village of Lima was a well-populated and widely-known Indian village. Here large numbers of Potawatomies had congregated for many years, as was shown by the well-cultivated garden near by, and the large number of deeply-worn trails which seemed to center from all directions upon "Mongoquinong," as a local point. Notwithstanding the ravaging effects of time, some of these trails may yet be seen in the vicinity of Lima; and where the village now stands, especially the northwestern part, the corn-hills hoed up by the Indians more than half a century ago are yet easily traced. The old settlers say that, growing from the sand in the western part of the village was quite a large orchard that had been planted either by the Indians or the French traders, or (who shall say not?) "Johnny Appleseed." The trees, though seedlings, furnished, in some cases, excellent fruit. From reliable authority, it is certain that Mongoquinong Village contained an Indian population of several thousand before the white race had entered Northern Indiana or Southern Michigan. While, so far as known, the French traders erected no store building at the village, nor perhaps established no constant trading-point there, yet it is certain that the French were often there with Indian trinkets and supplies, strapped in packs on the backs of ponies. These traders were accustomed to travel from village to village, remaining several days at each point, where their goods were displayed in some rented wigwam, and sold or traded for all kinds of valuable furs. As the Indian's standard of the measure of values differed essentially from that of the trader's, and that of the latter was in all cases used, it is not to be wondered that the red men were fleeced to an almost unlimited extent. As the settlers began to appear in Northern Indiana, the Indians began to scatter and retire, until, in 1828, perhaps no more than about thirty wigwams were standing at Mongoquinong. Even these had been removed somewhat farther west, and scattered for some distance along Pigeon River; in truth, the place scarcely looked like an Indian village. The large population seemed to have been parceled out among the number of lesser chiefs, and to have been thrown out upon their own resources, as small bands were to be found every few miles, on every stream. Mrs. (Blair) Eno says that her father, Benjamin Blair, during a portion of the year 1829, permitted Isaac Rice to sell whisky to the In-



Sincerely yours  
J. D. Crane

LA GRANGE





dians in the cabin of the former. One day a very thirsty Indian pledged his blanket for a drink of whisky. The blanket was thrown for safe keeping upon the roof of the cabin, but after a few hours it had mysteriously disappeared. The Indian had undoubtedly taken it, and thus succeeded in getting his liquor for nothing. To make good the loss, Mrs. Rice poured two or three pailfuls of water in the barrel. This was the beginning of quite an extensive barter with the Pottawatomies at the village. The trade was carried on through the years 1830 and 1831, in a small building that had been built for the purpose. Mr. Rice sold whisky, blankets, beads, tobacco, powder and lead, or exchanged them for furs. The Indians were peaceable, except when inflamed with passion while under the influence of whisky. An Indian one day became so incensed at Mr. Rice that he raised his rifle and fired at him, but luckily missed the mark. They were consummate beggars, and were often extremely skillful in their efforts to secure coveted articles from the whites. They would quietly enter cabins without warning or invitation, seat themselves usually on the floor and light their pipes. In cold weather, they were often permitted to roll themselves in their blankets and sleep upon the floor by the fire until morning. Sometimes the floor was covered with them. Many interesting incidents might be narrated if space permitted. No serious outbreak ever occurred, though an occasional knock-down would take place. At the time of the Black Hawk war in 1832, the Indians were somewhat excited; but this was owing to the possibility of their being drawn into the fray, not against the whites, but against the Sacs and Foxes. In about the year 1839, the Indians were removed, and were not afterward seen at Lima, except an occasional straggler who had sorrowfully returned to view for the last time the happy home of his youth.

The following were the only tracts of land in the county entered during the year 1831, all in the present Lima Township:

NAMES.	Section.	Township.	Range.	Location.	Acres.	Date.	Number of Patent.
William Gardner.....	24	38	9	N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	160	March 31	568
Robert Hamilton.....	13	38	9	N. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	March 31	569
Same.....	13	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	March 31	570
Daniel Fox.....	13	38	9	S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	March 31	571
Same.....	36	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	March 31	572
Benjamin Blair.....	25	38	9	N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	160	April 29	649
Francis Blair.....	26	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	May 7	658
Frederick Hamilton.....	25	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	May 7	659
William Thrall.....	25	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	May 16	665
William Thrall and John Gardner.....	24	38	9	S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	160	May 28	720
John Gardner.....	28	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	May 28	721
Nathaniel Callahan.....	17	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 13	921
Asa Olney.....	18	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 13	922
Ami Lawrence.....	18	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 13	923
Obadiah Lawrence.....	18	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 13	924
John Cook.....	17	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 23	934
Richard Smart.....	17	38	9	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 23	935
John Olney.....	19	38	9	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	80	June 27	940
Peter Prough and Jacob Sidener.....	12	38	9	{ fraction 1 section }	100.30	Oct. 10	1065

"At the session of the Board of Commissioners of the county, commencing May 14, 1832, it was ordered that the county be divided into two townships, all the territory west of the center line of Range 10 to constitute a township known as Lima, and all the territory east of such line to be known by the name of Greenfield. Benjamin Blair was appointed Assessor for Lima Township. At the same session an election for township officers was ordered held on the second Saturday in June of the same year. Lemuel Fobes was appointed Inspector of the election. Micajah Harding, Sr., and William Adair were appointed Overseers of the Poor; Andrew Crawford and John Jewett, Fence Viewers; Clark Clossen and Andrew Crawford, Constables. The township was divided into four Supervisor districts in January, 1833. Daniel Harding, William Thrall, Arthur Burrows and John Jewett were appointed Supervisors. As the other townships were created, Lima was gradually cut down to its present size and shape."\*

Thomas Gale and George Egnew each had a store in the township before goods were sold in the village of Lima, except by the Rices. As the establishment of the Rices could scarcely be called a store, these were the first two in the township. Both men kept a few notions and groceries and a small stock of dry goods. How long Mr. Egnew continued is not remembered, but Mr. Gale, some time during the year 1833, removed his stock to what is now Lima. He increased his goods until they were probably worth \$1,500. This was the first well-patronized store in the township. In October, 1834, the village of Mongoquinong (now Lima) was laid out by John Kromer, Surveyor, and Moses and Ica Rice, proprietors. Lots to the number of 286 were laid out, and eighty-four of these were given to the county in consideration of having the county seat located there. A public square was donated, as were also two acres in the southern part for a cemetery. In April, 1836, Samuel P. Williams, who was destined to figure prominently in the affairs of Lima, laid out an addition to the village on the north. He laid out twenty-four blocks of ten lots each, two blocks of sixteen lots each, and three blocks of eighteen lots each, and also donated a block for a public park or square. The growth of Lima between 1832 and 1838 was very rapid, and it even continued to grow and thrive until the county seat was removed to La Grange, and various branches of business had sprung into life there. As soon as the county seat was established at Lima, lawyers and constables and judges began to appear. John B. Howe, one of the clearest and most profound thinkers ever in Northern Indiana, appeared in 1833, and began the practice of law. Old settlers tell the writer that John B. Howe had no equal at the Lima bar in early years for lucid, cogent and logical argument. In the presentation of a legal proposition, no matter how intricate and baffling, he could make the simplest auditor understand him. If any doubts existed as to his unusual ability in this particular, they would at once be removed by the perusal of his publications on

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\*J. P. Jones.

the subject of that blindest and most complex of all questions—finance. There is not a superior thinker in the county.

The presence of such men at Lima could not but result in benefit and general prosperity. This will more clearly appear as the reader continues. Among the men who have sold goods of various kinds in Lima, have been in nearly the following order: Ica Rice, Thomas Gale, Jonathan Woodruff, George Egnew, Seth Tucker, Jonathan Stevens, Gale & Woodruff, John Cook, Woodruff & Kellogg, Albert Powell, Nathan Merriman, Elias S. Swan, Gale & Williams, Delavin Martin, Harrington Bros., King & De Puy, William M. Holmes, Mr. Case, Kinney & Powell, Richard M. Fury, H. W. Wood, Hobbs & Gardner, S. M. Cutler, John Trask, Powell & Haskins, Hill & Morrison, Nichols & Smith, Woodruff & Morse, Morrison & Beecher, Jewett & (somebody), Mr. Kane, Joseph Wright, J. R. Kirby, H. J. Hall, Mr. McBride, Mr. Wicker, Barber & Wolcott, Durand & Shepardson, Jewett & Rawles, Rawles & Hull, A. Atwater, Mr. Searing, Mr. Shoop, A. W. Beecher, Cooper & Thompson, Stephen Cooper and others. One of the best (if not the best) stores ever in Lima, was kept by Gale & Williams, and afterward by Samuel P. Williams. It was opened in the spring of 1837 with a general stock valued at \$20,000. The goods were purchased in New York, shipped by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, transported by vessel to Michigan City, and then hauled in wagons to Lima, the freight bill alone amounting to \$3,000. In 1839, Mr. Williams purchased his partner's interest and continued the business on a gigantic scale until 1853, when he sold out to Jewett & Rawles. Owing to the scarcity of money in early years, sales were usually a sort of barter, and from this fact merchants were compelled to take certain kinds of produce for their goods. Mr. Williams took large quantities of pork, wheat, butter, eggs, etc., shipping the same by wagon to Eastern markets. Live hogs were bought, butchered and salted down during the winter months. Running accounts were opened with all the settlers whose credit was good, and a large proportion of the pay was taken in the products of the farm. Merchants usually went East twice a year for their goods, and necessarily had to buy at one time enough to last them six months. Mr. Williams at one time bought nearly \$25,000 worth of goods. It is impossible to tell all the hardships met by the settlers owing to the lack of money. They often came with the most pitiful stories to the merchants in hope that the latter would assist them. Merchants made their calculations to lose a certain per cent of their sales. Lima was the center of a trade extending over a tract of country fifty or more miles in diameter. One day, Philander Isbell, of Noble County, a young man who had married but a few months before, came to Mr. Williams, told him in confidence that he had no money, nor property that could be readily converted into money, stated soberly that he expected an increase in the family soon, and must have a few necessary articles for the prospective mother and child. Becoming satisfied that the young man had told him the truth, Mr. Williams gave him what he wanted, to

the amount of about \$10. A year or two later the supplies were paid for, and nothing further was heard of the affair, until a short time ago, when Mr. Isbell, who is yet living, related the circumstance to Mr. Williams, and said it was the greatest favor he ever received from any one. Thousands of instances, showing the trials of early years, might be mentioned. The other early merchants of Lima had an experience similar to that of Mr. Williams. Delavin Martin had about \$12,000 worth of goods, and several others owned nearly as much. In 1829, Moses Rice erected a small log dwelling in the southern part of what is now Lima. This was the first. Arthur Burrows was licensed to keep a tavern in 1833, it being the first in Mongoquinong, as Lima was then called. Mr. J. P. Jones says the name was changed by special act of the Legislature in 1833 or 1834. Court was held in the houses of Thomas Gale, Arthur Burrows, Moses Rice, Mr. McNeal, David St. Clair and perhaps others. The land upon which the village stands was held jointly by the Rices and Jonathan Gardner, and was purchased of the Government August 29, 1832. Not more than eight or ten families resided in the village in 1832, but within four years the population had reached over two hundred, and in 1840 was probably about three hundred and fifty. The population probably at no time reached 450. Nathan Merriman opened a tavern in 1835. The old court house was used as a tavern after 1844, for a time, by Dr. F. F. Jewett; it was finally destroyed by fire. Henry W. Wood and Warren Lee kept the Lima House where the Kingsbury House now stands; it was burned, as were also all the buildings on the east side. The loss was about \$10,000. The present block on the east side was erected in 1860, by Samuel P. Williams, John B. Howe, Samuel Burnell and G. J. Spaulding, at a cost of some \$18,000. Howe and Williams built the Kingsbury House at the same time, at a cost of about \$8,000. Mr. Crandall conducted this house before it was purchased by M. Kingsbury. Among the Postmasters have been Thomas Gale, George Egnew, J. Whittaker, C. Ward (a man who robbed the mail and was prosecuted), John Moore, S. M. Cutler, J. S. Castle, F. F. Jewett, Mrs. Wicker, A. C. Van Arnum, Mr. Strong, A. M. Kromer, W. H. De Puy, Mrs. L. Wicker. Among the physicians have been Elias Smith, B. Smith, Mr. Alvord, J. McCelvy, C. A. Montgomery, George Dayton, Mr. Hughes, George Palmer, C. C. Holbrook, W. M. Fox, Mr. Parish, Mr. Bossinger, T. J. Hobbs, Mr. Sanger, William McCue, Mr. Goodrich, Mr. Griffith, Charles Thompsen, F. F. Jewett, G. P. Fletcher, Mr. Pary, Whitefeather (an Indian doctor), Mr. Jones, Mr. Arnold and Mr. White. Cornelius Gilmore is said to have been the first blacksmith. The old jail is yet standing on the southwest corner of the square. The Cooper store building is quite an old one. The brick block on the north was erected in 1878. Its proprietors are C. S. Atwater, A. W. Beecher and the owners of the bank.

In about 1838, David Pucket began manufacturing furniture, which he continued quite extensively several years. The same year Wright & Drake



erected and began conducting a wagon factory, employing from twelve to twenty hands, and continuing a number of years. In about 1850, Lyman Wilcox was conducting an excellent cabinet-shop. He turned out a considerable quantity of furniture, making a specialty of bedsteads. Nathan and William Place also manufactured wagons, together with coffins, etc., carrying on the business eight or ten years, beginning about 1840. Theodore Moore, in about 1840, manufactured gloves and moccasins, dressed deer skins, and made robes, etc. In about 1845, Richard and John Salmon erected a wooden building, converting the same into a foundry. Here they began manufacturing all kinds of general castings, and quite a large number of plows, that were largely used in all the surrounding country. They employed about a dozen workmen. In about 1849, Samuel P. Williams purchased the entire business, but soon afterward sold to Taylor & Vance, who, a little later, sold to Hill & Taylor, the latter firm conducting the enterprise successfully for many years. Mr. Keith is the present owner of the factory, which is yet doing good work. Other men have owned and conducted the foundry, among whom are Hawks & Co., Woodruff & Morse, and Gore & Hardesty. Bar-iron was manufactured from bog-ore obtained in some of the neighboring swamps, and a portion of the iron thus obtained was so tough and malleable that it was used for horseshoe nails and steam boilers. Some of the owners have shipped large quantities of ore. Hawks & Co. kept a store to supply their workmen with goods, etc. In 1870, the Star Grist-Mill was erected on Crooked Creek, two miles northwest of Lima, by Post & Torry, in which were placed two sets of buhrs. A little later, S. Flusher bought the mill, and soon sold an interest to Mr. Arnold. Another set of stones and a turbine water-wheel were added. W. T. Miller began, in about 1837, to manufacture wagons, continuing the business some twenty-five years, turning out about thirty vehicles per annum, on the average. John Taylor also followed the same occupation in an early day. In about the year 1836, Albert Powell erected a distillery on the bank of "Still" Lake, named thus from the location of the distillery. No very large quantity of liquor was made there, although that which was distilled is said to have been of excellent quality. This statement is clearly proved by the rapid disappearance of the whisky as soon as made. The business soon passed to the ownership of Hiram Harding, and later to H. W. Wood, who removed the still, and began to manufacture potash on quite an extensive scale, continuing as long as ashes could be obtained cheaply. A Mr. Hort manufactured the potash. The corn, or other grain, used in this distillery was mashed by hand, some four men being employed. In about 1845, William Marten erected a distillery in Lima. Ten or twelve workmen were employed, and from 15,000 to 20,000 bushels of grain were annually consumed in the manufacture mostly of what were called "high wines." Several teams were constantly employed to convey the liquor to market. One set of 44-inch buhrs was used to grind the grain. Two teams were necessary to draw the wood used, and four or five coopers were



employed to make barrels to contain the liquor. From thirty to sixty head of cattle and about two hundred hogs were fed largely from the refuse of the distillery. This was, in many respects, the most extensive industry ever in Lima. After about twelve years, the building was rented by Robert Triplett and Samuel Ruick, who carried on the same business for a few years, after which Mr. Burdick took control. But the enterprise was soon abandoned, Mr. J. H. Ladd placing in the building a turning lathe, though at the end of a year this business was discontinued.

In about 1838, Follet & Johnson built a tannery at Lima, sinking some fifteen or twenty vats. They dressed large quantities of skins, selling the leather both at home and abroad. Mr. Sering began making chairs about thirty years ago. The old saw-mill at Lima was built in 1831, by Lewis P. Judson, probably, but in 1833 it was destroyed by fire. About the time the saw-mill was built, or perhaps a little later, Mr. Judson and William A. Mills erected the grist-mill that, under many alterations, is yet doing good work. The mill was conducted by Palmer Grannis in 1837. The mill in its day has been a good one, and has been a great accommodation to the citizens of Lima. Two sets of buhrs were placed in at first. Many have conducted the mill; but all who tried to carry on a merchant business, with few exceptions, have been bankrupted. When the old saw-mill was burned, another soon took its place. One was built in about 1846 by Samuel Howard for John B. Howe. In 1847, Alphonso Martin built a saw-mill in Lima, but soon afterward sold to S. M. Cowley. It was finally thrown down by having its supports washed away by the water. It is probable that Mr. Judson erected the saw-mill that took the place of the one destroyed by fire, at the same time he built his grist-mill. Attached to the Martin Saw-Mill was a shingle factory, by Alvaro Hunter; also a lath-saw by S. M. Cowley. Palmer Grannis conducted the saw-mill at the "Lima Mills," and might have erected the same. About the same time, John Shortell was conducting a harness-shop there. A man (the name is withheld) erected a building 16x26 feet, near the mills, designing the same for a store. Dry goods were placed therein, and, for a time, things went on nicely; but suspicion fell upon the man, and his building was searched, whereupon three sets of counterfeit dies, two for quarter dollars and one for half dollars, were found, together with about half a peck of half-finished bogus coin. Some of the finished article was also found, which could not be distinguished by novices from the genuine coin. It was reported that some of it had been passed upon the agent at Fort Wayne for lands, and that he took it for genuine money. The building was transformed, first into a schoolhouse, and afterward into a dwelling now occupied by Mr. Doll. In 1833, a brick-yard was opened, and a kiln burned on the bank of Pigeon River, half a mile west of Lima: but the soil was such that the bricks were worthless, as they fell in pieces within a short time. Later, another kiln was burned a short distance southwest of the old foundry.

In 1854, Samuel P. Williams and John B. Howe founded the La Grange Bank at Lima, receiving a charter under the free banking law of the State, and having a circulation of about \$70,000. A good banking business was done until 1857, when the bank became a branch of the State Bank of Indiana, with a capital stock of \$150,000, which was owned by twelve men, among whom were John B. Howe, Samuel P. Williams, Samuel Burnell, James B. Howe, Thomas J. Spaulding, S. Halsey and Philo Nichols. The bank sustained itself easily, and the stockholders realized handsome revenues. In 1862, in accordance with Congressional enactment made at that time, the institution became a National Bank, with about the same stockholders, with a capital stock of \$100,000, continuing thus until 1880, when a private banking business was begun. The same stockholders, a number of years ago, founded the National Bank at Sturgis, owning a controlling interest in the stock, and also bought largely of the stock of the National Bank at Coldwater, and of other banks. The bank at Lima is firmly founded, and has the unlimited confidence of the public.

The village of Ontario was laid out by Nathan Jenks, proprietor, early in March, 1837, on the southwest quarter of Section 33. There were laid out twenty-three blocks of ten lots each, two blocks of five lots each, two blocks of six lots each, and a public square. In June, 1844, Mr. Jenks made an addition to the village of ninety-five lots of the usual size, and seven large lots, four of which were north of the river. The addition was laid out between the original town and the river. The first settler on the present site of Ontario was George Latterer, who built a log cabin in 1834. During the same year, or perhaps during the early part of 1835, Henry Lake and Mr. Gibson also located there in small, rude log dwellings. At about the same time, J. C. Kinney and Mr. Hubbard, from Blissfield, Ohio, settled on the north bank of the river, and began building the dam, which was finished after a great deal of hard labor; when it was completed, which was the same season, a saw-mill was immediately built on the south bank, having one of the old-fashioned up-and-down saws. About this time, or a little later, a Mr. Allen came there from Ohio, with a small set of "niggerhead" buhrs, and effected a contract by which the power operating the saw-mill was also connected by belts with the machinery which ran the stones. Here was ground the first grain in Ontario. Allen had hard luck for some time; he suffered with ague and fever, and lost money, and thus became so discouraged that one night he took the pillow case from under his head, went down to the mill dam, filled the case partly full of sand, tied it up and attached it with a stout cord to his person, and plunged into the mill-flume. He was found dead in the flume early the next morning by Mr. Kinney's son, who was sent to call him to breakfast. His clothes and hat were first noticed lying on the bank. The old saw-mill was quite well patronized, the work being done mostly on shares. Elisha Thorp, who hauled logs there with a team consisting of six ponies, owned a wagon, the wheels of

which were made of huge, solid, wooden cross-sections of some large log. In 1836, Nathan Jenks purchased the mill property, at which time he stated that it was his intention to secure an act of the Legislature to charter a company who should bear the expense of conducting the water-power created by the dam at Ontario, from the latter place, through a long race, to Lima. The act was passed by the Legislature, the location of the race was staked off, subscription books were opened and liberally signed by the citizens of Lima; but for some reason *unknown* to the writer, and to most of all the old settlers, Mr. Jenks subscribed a controlling interest in the stock, and abandoned the project without further ado, greatly to the regret of Lima. It is thought by the writer that, as Mr. Jenks was dissatisfied about this time with the offers made him by Lima to induce him to locate the "La Grange Collegiate Institute" there instead of at Ontario, and as he refused to accept their proffered assistance as being not an adequate consideration, this had something to do with his action in canceling what had been done toward continuing the water-power to Lima.

The real facts could not be ascertained why Mr. Jenks so completely "squelched" the work on the race. It is also stated that, about this time, the surveyors of the proposed Buffalo & Mississippi Railroad surveyed a route east and west, a short distance south of Ontario, and that Mr. Jenks thought that, by building up Ontario at the expense of Lima, he could, in the end, succeed in securing the removal of the county seat from the latter village to the former; and that, therefore, he located the Institute at Ontario, set aside the work on the race, and did all he could to kill Lima and infuse vitality into Ontario. In that day, as steam had not come into general use in mills, a good water-power was alone sufficient to insure the building of quite a town. More on this subject will be found in other parts of this volume.

Mr. Jenks built the present mill-race at Ontario and, in about 1843, erected the large grist-mill, that, in its time, was one of the best ever in the county. It cost about \$10,000. The building was four stories in height and in it were placed four sets of French buhrs. Others were afterward added. The mill was so well patronized that it was found profitable to run it day and night and two sets of mill hands were employed. The work increased until some thirty thousand barrels of excellent flour were shipped, by wagon, to market in one year. This infused life into various other industries, such as cooper shops, stave factories, etc. Ontario grew very rapidly at first. C. W. Wilson probably erected the third or fourth house in the village. Mr. Coddling also erected an early one. In 1838, there were living in the village the families of Messrs. Salmon, Seymour, Mills, Hawley, Bassett, Jenks, Wilson, Doolittle, Coddling, Field and five or six others. However, two or three of these were unmarried. In 1840, at least twenty-five families lived in Ontario, representing a population of about 120. Perhaps at no time has the population exceeded 300.

In August, 1838, Jenks & Fields built a storeroom and began selling goods from a stock valued at about \$5,000. They were purchased in New York, shipped to Toledo, and from there drawn to Ontario by wagon. At the end of two years, Nathan Jenks sold his interest to W. C. Jenks, and two years later the goods were sold at auction. Boyd & McCoy conducted a good store about this time. Jenks & Wright opened a store about 1843, with about \$1,000 worth of goods. They dealt in cattle, losing considerable money, and closed their store, in consequence, two years later. Robert Dykes began selling goods in about 1844, from a stock worth probably \$6,000. This was about the best store ever in Ontario. Hestus & Hamilton owned a store in the village. Among other merchants, have been Charles and Anson Vaughan, George Mallow, Aaron Mallow, John Scott, Rufus Herrick, Jenks & McKinley, Turley & Parish, William Scott, Mr. Dickinson, W. H. Hendricks, and Timothy Field, who again began eleven years ago, continuing until the present. The Vaughan boys conducted a good store. George Mallow was shot by Stephen Jenks (not a relative of Nathan Jenks). The cause is not clearly known. Jenks was tried for the crime, convicted and sentenced for life to the penitentiary. Warren Green was probably the first Vulcan in the village. Doolittle, Wilson, Bassett and Mills were carpenters, and the first. Among the village physicians have been Messrs. Bassinger, Dayton (a good one), Sargent, Jenks, Evans, Pendleton, Jenkins and Newton.

Ontario saw its best days between 1850 and 1864. Franklin Duncan opened a hotel not far from 1840. L. M. Abbott did the same about six or eight years later. Ontario was the northern terminus of the famous plank road that was built about 1848-49 and kept up some ten or twelve years. George Mallow sold liquor at an early day. Alanson Beers was the first Postmaster. Uncle Sam's agents since then have been Robert Dykes, James Turley, Mrs. Farrand, O. W. Parish, Henry Grannis and Timothy Field. Charles Miller owned a fine hotel, which was destroyed by fire. The Good Templars organized a lodge in about 1856, continuing two or three years.

A little later than 1860 (Henry) Jenks & McKinley purchased the grist-mill owned by Nathan Jenks; but three years later, Henry Jenks sold his interest to his partner. The mill was finally mortgaged to Mr. Blodgett, into whose control it passed in about 1878-79; but it soon after was purchased by Alexander Beach, upon whose hands it burned down about a year ago. This was a serious loss, not only to the owner but to the village. In 1842, L. M. Abbott erected a woolen factory, the entire cost, including the water-power, etc., amounting to about \$10,000. The building, three and a half stories high, and thirty-six by forty feet, alone cost \$6,000. Two sets of machines for custom work were placed in the building, as was also one for the manufacture of flannels, fulls cloths, satinets, cassimeres, etc. From 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of wool were handled annually, the work being done mostly on shares. The various kinds of cloth were kept for sale in a small storeroom. After



four years, the factory was bought by Nathan Jenks and Andrew Dutcher, who added several power-looms and other machinery. They continued from three to five years, and then rented to James Scott, who continued on through the last war, making a great deal of money. At the close of the war, between \$5,000 and \$6,000 worth of new machinery took the place of the old; but hard times came on, and the factory was mortgaged to Dr. Dayton, and perhaps others. It finally went to Dr. Dayton, who rented it to Chapman & Chess. Two years later, Joseph J. Scott rented it, and about the 1st of January, 1882, bought it. Charles Doolittle, who owned part of the water-power, built a cabinet shop not far from 1847. He made a goodly number of bureaus, chairs, tables, bedsteads, etc., and added a turning lathe. Daniel McKinley, about the same time or a little later, built a tannery on the race, and sank some twenty-five vats. He dressed large quantities of skins, and in the upper story of the building manufactured boots and shoes. George Mallow also conducted a tannery, employing about four workmen. It was afterward owned by Sol. Liphart, and later was turned into an ashery, where potash was manufactured. Argus McKinley erected a small building on the race, not far from 1850, and began manufacturing buckskin gloves, mittens, etc.; his sales running up during the year to about \$4,000. He carried on the business three or four years. The old tannery was finally turned into a barrel-stave factory. He made large numbers of excellent flour barrels that were used in the grist-mill. Keith & Son transformed the old shoe shop into a sash, door and blind factory. John Shingler manufactured wagons ten or twelve years. In about 1850, Carlos Jenks and a Mr. Wright opened a factory for the manufacture of saleratus from potash and pearlash. But little was done, however. About the same time, or perhaps earlier, Carlos Jenks attempted to introduce the manufacture of silk. He planted mulberry seed to raise plants, the leaves of which were to be used as food by the caterpillar of the silk moth *Bombyx mori*. Pupæ of this moth were obtained from Roop & Mosher, who came from the East; but about this time neither the mulberry seed nor the pupæ did as had been expected, and within two years the whole project was abandoned. It was about this time that the locust tree (*Robinia pseudacacia*) was introduced into the county for the first. The first newspaper in the county was published at Ontario, and afterward at Lima. Full account of this will be found elsewhere. Charles Doolittle has resided in Ontario longer than any other person. He has for many years been dealing in furniture, for the manufacture of which he has a shop. George Mallow conducted a tailor shop in the village about forty years ago.

In 1833, a small log schoolhouse was built about a quarter of a mile south-east of Lima. Here it was that John B. Howe taught the first school in the county. The house was a most rude affair, with three or four small windows, a huge fire-place and a few rough desks and benches. Some eighteen or twenty scholars were in attendance, and the teacher was paid some \$10 or \$12 per month for his services. Mr. Howe says that the funds from which he was



paid were either raised by ordinary taxation, or from the sale or other disposal of Section 16. It was not a subscription school. All accounts and reports agree in saying that Frederick Hamilton taught the second term in the same house. After about 1835, no other terms were taught there, but school was held in several vacant buildings. At last, a frame schoolhouse was erected where the depot now stands, and was used until the beginning of the last war. Among the early teachers at Lima were T. H. Coddington, Nelson Prentiss, Rev. Christopher Cory, Mr. Seymour, Hugh Hamilton, William Hamilton, Miss Sarah Smith, Miss Eunice Moore, Miss Laura Brown, Mrs. Dr. Butler and others. Before the house at the depot was built, school was held, among other places, at Mr. Cory's residence, in the Presbyterian Church, in the court house, and in private dwellings. After the county seat was removed to La Grange, the court house was used for a schoolhouse, and for a hotel. Among the teachers were Miss Julia Sanborn, Mrs. J. M. Flagg, Miss Almena Mason and Miss Lucinda Keith. The teachers were usually paid by rate-bills. The house at the depot was built with funds donated by S. P. Williams, John B. Howe, H. W. Wood, Abram Nipp, William Ingraham, J. C. Kinney and others. It cost about \$500. On one occasion, this building was struck by lightning during a thunder storm, while it was filled with children. The building was shattered, and about a dozen of the children scattered. Two boys were quite badly burned, but soon recovered.

In 1855, Samuel P. Williams, assisted somewhat by the citizens, erected a frame building at a cost of \$2,500, designing the same for a young ladies' seminary. Miss Eliza Dimond, a graduate of Mount Holyoke Seminary, and a lady of unusual talent and culture, was employed to take charge of the seminary. She was assisted by Miss Julietta L. Oaks, and by Miss Mary A. Sherring, teacher of music and drawing. Mr. Williams collected the tuition, and paid Miss Dimond about \$300 per annum. The school was barely self-supporting. Miss Dimond fixed the tuition as follows: Common English branches, \$3; higher English branches, \$4; Latin (extra), \$2; French (extra), \$2; penciling, \$2; Monochromatic, \$5; Crayolithic, \$7; Pastel, \$7; piano, with use of instrument, \$10; melodeon, with use of instrument, \$10. Miss Dimond was one of the many young ladies sent out to teach by Gov. Slade, of Connecticut. From twenty-five to sixty young ladies were in attendance. Mr. Williams donated the land where the house stood to be used only for school purposes, in any other case to revert to himself. In 1862, the seminary was sold to the village, and used as a public schoolhouse until the present fine school structure was erected at a cost of over \$20,000. It was built in 1874-75. The funds to build the house were raised by issuing certificates, drawing interest, to be paid from school-money, obtained by levying a tax on the property of the township not to exceed a certain specified per cent per annum. The house has already cost twice as much as was expected, and several thousand dollars are yet to be paid. Mr. Howe gave \$2,500 toward the house in addi-

tion to his tax. Mr. Burnell also gave liberally. The house is one of the finest in Northern Indiana. Lima has always had good schools and good morals.

In 1835, a small log schoolhouse was built at what afterward became Ontario. It was a small, insignificant-looking structure, and was located about twenty rods southwest of the present mill-dam. The seats were slabs, with long wooden pins, driven into auger holes, for legs, and the desks were made by driving strong pieces of wood horizontally into mortises in the walls, the other end being supported by a strong leg, and a slab being placed upon two of these contrivances, to be used as desks. A huge fire-place graced one end of the room, the smoke and flame passing up a broad chimney built of sticks and plastered with clay mortar. The first teacher was an English lady from White Pigeon, Mich. She taught twelve or fourteen scholars until within a short time before the close of her three months' term, when the house was destroyed by fire. In about 1840, a small frame schoolhouse was built in Ontario at a cost of \$500. It was used until a few years before the last war, when the present two-storied frame building was constructed. It cost about \$800, and, though remodeled several times since, is yet in use. About the year 1836, or a little later, Nathan Jenks founded the "La Grange Collegiate Institute." The idea had its origin at Victor, N. Y., as early as 1835, at which place it was resolved to establish such an institution somewhere in the West, by a number of prominent men, among whom were Nathan Jenks, Elisha Dickinson and others. A number of these men came to the vicinity of Ontario during the year 1836, where they purchased land and settled. Here the plan was perfected to build a literary institution modeled after the then Oberlin Institute of Ohio. So far as known, the first public meeting was held at the residence of Lewis Vance, Lima, on the 6th of February, 1837, at which time it was resolved, "that, in view of the prospects before us, we are warranted in undertaking to establish a literary institution to be located in this neighborhood, to be denominated the 'La Grange Collegiate Institute.'" Joshua T. Hobbs, Nathan Jenks, Mills Averill, Elisha Dickinson, Thayer H. Codding, Ansel Dickinson and Rev. John J. Shipherd were selected and recommended as a Board of Trustees. At this meeting, offers of assistance of money, lands and labor were freely given, and the outlook seemed promising. At the same time a prospectus was framed and adopted, setting forth that the institution should be modeled after the Oberlin Institute, that its course of instructions should embrace five departments, as follows: A preparatory or academical school, a collegiate course, a full theological course, an irregular, or shorter course, for those advanced in life or in peculiar circumstances, and a thorough course of female education; that "the several courses of study should be decidedly of a Christian character, to the exclusion of demoralizing pagan authors and sectarian principles;" that the manual labor system should be incorporated in all the scientific departments; and that "a liberal charter should be obtained as soon as may be, empowering the trustees to fill their own vacancies." It was

also decided that the institute should be founded upon this, that "corporate bodies and public institutions, no less than individuals, are bound to do right, irrespective of worldly expediencies, popular favor, or any consequences. Therefore, this institution will allow free discussion and openly sustain the great moral enterprises of the day, such as revivals, temperance in all things, the sanctification of the Sabbath, moral reform, Christian union and human rights under whatever color or circumstances. As this is a great work of public utility, which cannot be done by individual enterprise, the liberal co-operation of the philanthropic and pious is solicited." Two days later, the trustees located the proposed institute at Ontario, just across the line, in Bloomfield Township. Nathan Jenks had at his disposal \$5,000 (whether his individual property or that of the men in the East is not known), which he offered as a conditional subscription toward the erection of the building, provided an additional \$10,000 could be raised by the citizens. In May, 1837, it was ordered that a frame building, 18x26 feet, be erected, to serve as a workshop for the erection of the main structure and to be used later as a preparatory school-room and dormitory. In this building C. W. Wilson and his wife, Beulah Wilson, taught during the winter of 1837-38, the lady continuing until July 4, "when that terrible sickly season came on, stopping all business before the 10th. From the 20th, there was only one man—Mr. Salmon—able to go round to the fifteen or eighteen families, and he only just able to carry a pitcher of water to each."\* Mr. and Mrs. Wilson also taught the succeeding winter in the same building. During the year 1837, the funds were secured, and in June such advance had been made that it was determined to erect a frame building, 50x60 feet, three stories in height. The frame was raised about the 1st of August, but the building was not wholly completed until 1840. It was used, however, in 1839. During the years 1837 and 1838, strong inducements were held out to the founder to induce him to locate the institute at Lima. He was offered thirty village lots, an eighty acre tract of land at half-price, adjoining the village, for a site, besides a considerable sum of money, grain on the ground, etc., privately subscribed by the citizens of Lima. This offer was rejected, but was afterward somewhat favorably reconsidered, when some changes were made in the offer, until finally the negotiations ceased and the house was finished at Ontario. The following proceedings relative to this topic are recorded on the trustees' books: "This proposition not being considered equal to Nathan Jenks' pledge of \$10,000, and in view of our having a flourishing school in operation, numbering from fifty to sixty students and a building erected worth about \$4,000, the proposition was rejected by a unanimous vote." On the 13th of February, 1840, the incorporating act passed by the Indiana Legislature was approved by the Governor. Nathan Jenks, Joshua T. Hobbs, Thayer H. Coddington, Aaron Thompson, Rev. Christopher Cory, Joel K. Salmon, Cyrill W. Wilson, Charles Mosher and their associates and successors were created a body politic and cor-

\* C. W. Wilson, Rockford, Ill., May, 1872.

porate, to be styled the "Board of Trustees of the La Grange Collegiate Institute." On the 21st of October, 1839, the institute was formally opened by W. J. Baxter, Principal, in charge of the then only course—Preparatory. The building cost about \$4,000. The \$10,000 (only partly paid) raised by subscription in 1866-67 was employed as an endowment fund, drawing interest, and as fast as the notes were redeemed the money was reloaned. In this manner, and by means of a small tuition and the rent of lands, buildings, etc., the expense of carrying on the school was defrayed. From 25 to 125 students were in attendance annually during the continuance of the institute, and more than 2,000 names of students are on its catalogue. The Principals in charge of the institute were as follows: Cyrill W. Wilson, 1838-39, one year; Witter J. Baxter, 1839-40, one year; Rev. John D. Skelly, 1840-41, one year; Rev. Julius Steele, A. M., 1841-42, two terms; Henry Steele, 1842, one term; Rev. William Jones, A. M., 1842-44, one and one-third years; Edward Brown, 1843, one term; Rufus Patch, A. M., 1844-49, five and one-eighth years; Rev. A. H. Kerr, A. M., 1849-50, two terms; Rufus Patch, A. M., 1850-56, six years; Rev. Henry C. Morse, A. M., 1856-57, one and one-third years; A. G. Van Etten, 1858, one term; Frank Cotton, 1859-60, one year; interregnum, one and one-half years; Rufus Patch, A. M., 1862-79, sixteen years.

It may be justly said that the institute, during the long period of its continuance, did a great deal for the morality and education of La Grange County. Its presence at Ontario attracted wide attention, and directed capital, intelligence and energy to that point, that otherwise would have passed on to distant places. Ontario became noted for its thrift, intelligence, morals and general excellence. Its literary societies are highly spoken of, and are remembered as sanguinary ground for the intellectual encounters that occurred. Neighboring towns were green with jealousy, and coveted the really excellent effects the presence of the Institute insured.

"With the multiplication of village high schools, and the improved facilities for imparting classical instruction in the preparatory departments of neighboring colleges, the field of patronage of the Institute at length became so limited that its affairs were placed in the hands of a receiver and wound up in 1881."

\* "In the month of July, 1832, Rev. Christopher Cory preached in Lima, in the open air, having a stump for his pulpit. From this time onward he continued his labors, preaching in private houses, schoolhouse and elsewhere, until November, 1833, at which time he organized the Presbyterian Church of Lima. The first members were Samuel Cory, Phebe Cory, Mary A. Cory, Aaron Cary, Phebe Cary, Abigail McNeal, Elizabeth Blair, Anna Blair, Elizabeth C. Blair, Martha Gale, Catherine P. Judson, Emeline Cory and Elizabeth Miller. Samuel Cory and Aaron Cary were elected Elders. Rev. Mr. Cory continued his pastoral labors, and by 1834 had organized two or

\* John P. Jones.



three other societies in other neighborhoods. By 1839, some 149 persons had been received into the church, many of whom were dismissed to form the other societies. Rev. R. L. Sears took charge of the Lima society in 1842; After him came Revs. S. E. Lane, H. C. Morse and D. C. Meeker. The first church, a small frame, was dedicated February 15, 1843. In 1855, the membership was 72. Rev. A. S. Wells was pastor in 1851; after him came Rev. Lewis Hamilton, who, a short time ago, was killed in Colorado by a switch-engine; Rev. B. Farrand was pastor for a time, beginning in 1859, and continuing until 1864; then came Rev. W. Pattinson, who served until 1869; then Revs. C. M. Temple, T. E. Hughes, J. M. Drake; and T. E. Hughes since 1873. Present membership, about 70. The Sabbath school numbers about 150; W. B. Cory, Superintendent.

"Rev. Leonard B. Gurley organized the Methodist Church, at Lima, in the house of Robert Hamilton, in 1831—the first religious society organized in the county. The class consisted of six members, two of whom were Robert Hamilton and wife. Ministers served the society regularly, and the class grew and thrived. The church was built in 1847; present membership is 70; Rev. J. K. Watts, Pastor; Mr. Duck is Superintendent of the Sunday school. Rev. R. S. Robinson was pastor in 1836; then came Revs. G. M. Beswick, Erastus Kellogg, Warren Griffith, Mr. Sanford, R. C. Weeks, G. M. Boyd, William Jenkins, Wade Posey, L. L. Allen, Enoch Holdstock, G. H. Hard, W. J. Forbes, J. C. M——, E. Doud, W. B. Storux, J. P. Jones, Benjamin Winans, I. M. Stagg, J. J. Cooper, E. S. Preston, Emanuel Hall, W. S. Birch, Isaac Ayres, D. P. Hartman, Thomas Colclazion, J. P. Force, W. F. Hemminway, G. W. Newton, C. P. Wright, J. Edwards, A. V. Gorell, J. P. Greer, and the present minister, Mr. Watts.

"The Baptist Church at Lima was organized in the schoolhouse, September 24, 1846, with fourteen members—Enoch Leighton, Phebe Leighton, Josiah Shumway, Lydia Shumway, Oliver Smith, Polly Smith, Abbott Fleming, Margaret Fleming, Cyrus Sprague, Oliver Cowan, Sally Cowan, Charlotte Flagg, Margaret Winnie and Mary J. Thrall. Ten of the above are dead. The society occupied the schoolhouse until 1853, when their present house of worship was erected. The following ministers have served the society: Revs. Cook, Spear, Fleming, Fish, Bailey, Briggs, ——, Chaffee, Lamb, Keene, Latham, Stevens and Childs. Accessions to the society, 129 by baptism; 104 by letter and experience; removals by death and dismissal, 193. Elder A. Fleming served the class from 1851 to 1855, the longest pastorate. In 1853, Elder D. S. Dean, evangelist, held an important revival, many joining, and the other societies sharing in the results. Elder Fleming preached the first sermon in the church. In 1881, he preached in the same house the Garfield memorial sermon.

"Bishop Philander Chase was the first minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church who preached in Lima. He was the first Bishop of the Diocese



of Ohio. He preached at Lima as early as 1834, but resided in Michigan. In 1836-37, Rev. Mr. Whitesides preached every alternate Sunday at Lima. The church was established at Lima in 1851, and the church building erected in 1852. The first settled minister was Rev. John O. Barton.

"The Congregational Church at Ontario was first organized as a Presbyterian Church in April, 1840, by Revs. Stephen Thompson and Christopher Cory. The change in the form of government was made in March, 1843, by a unanimous vote of the members. It, however, retained its connection with the Presbytery until 1854. For fourteen years, services were held in the chapel of the institute. In 1854, the present church building was erected. Some 200 accessions have been made to the membership, seven of whom have become ministers. The resident pastors have been Stephen Thompson, D. M. Bardwell, C. M. Morehouse, A. G. Martin, H. C. Morse, E. Halliday and W. E. Catlin. The following Presbyterian ministers also served the society: A. S. Wells, Lewis Hamilton, B. Farrand, W. Pattinson and J. M. Drake. Great revivals were held by Morehouse, Farrand and Pattinson.

"The nucleus of what is now the Methodist Church at Ontario was formed by the organization of a class consisting of eight members, by Rev. G. M. Boyd. Charles Doolittle was one of this number, as were also Joseph Wilson and wife. Services were held in the institute and in the public school-house until the erection of the present church. Rev. H. B. Hunt preaches to the class every alternate Sunday. Lima Township is well supplied with religious privileges."



## CHAPTER VIII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

JOHNSON TOWNSHIP—THE EARLIEST SETTLERS—THE FIRST ELECTION—THE TAMARACK—WRIGHT'S CORNERS AND VALENTINE—INCIDENTS AND ADVENTURES—RISE AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH OF WOLCOTTVILLE—INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS—THE WOLCOTTVILLE SEMINARY—MISS SUSAN GRIGGS—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

JOHNSON is decidedly the lake township of the county. No other has such a number nor such a variety, as there are some fifteen either wholly or partly within the township limits. Oliver Lake is the largest, covering about six hundred acres, while Adams is perhaps second in size, though Witmer and Atwood are almost as large. Several of them have fine gravelly, or sandy, shores, and all are bordered by beautiful clusters of oak, maple or beech. There is great diversity in the soil which, in some places, is deep and black, like that in States farther west, while in other places it is sandy, gravelly, or even stony.

Nelson Nichols and Peter Lampson were the first two settlers in the township, both coming in June, 1834, the former entering his land (160 acres on Section 34) on the 23d of the same month, and the latter (eighty acres on Section 33) on the 30th. John Adams came to the township in November, 1834, entering his land (on the shore of the lake that took its name from him) on the 15th of the same month. These three were the only men who entered land in Johnson Township prior to January 1, 1835. Levi Wright came to the township in the fall of 1834, but did not enter any land until February, 1835, at which time he purchased eighty acres on Section 13, and, within the next two years, over three hundred acres more. The following men also entered land in the township in 1835: Samuel Benham, Peter Tillipough, George Walker, John Hughes, Jeremiah Bidwell, Robert Meeker, John Doty and Robert Latta. Several of these men never resided in the township. Daniel Martin was in the township in the fall of 1834, but he entered no land. Five men were present and assisted in the erection of Mr. Wright's cabin in the fall of 1834; they were John Adams, Nelson Nichols, Peter Lampson, Daniel Martin, and another whose name is forgotten. From the above it may be seen that Mr. Wright either built his house before he bought his land, or his daughter, Mrs. Vaughan, is mistaken when she says the house was erected during the autumn of 1834. It is probable that the house was built in 1834, as stated. Following the above men, there came in Thomas Oliver, Philo Taylor, two or three Indian traders at the Tamarack, George Wolcott, Henry Nichols, Almon

White, Hiram Gardner, James Campbell, John Benham, Simeon Cain, John and Abraham Rowe, Allen Brundage, Stephen Pierce, William Dickinson, Thomas Koon, Nathan Sherman, William Hardin, Abraham Eiman, Charles Doty, Aaron Hill, John Parker, Abraham Brayton, George Dickinson, Samuel Barnes, Ozias Wright, Levi Wildman, Thomas Higgins, Mr. Olin, James Oliver, Selah Benham, Joseph Caswell, Anthony Dickinson, James Dunbar, Erastus Disbrow, William R. Hill, Samuel Koon, Henry Miller, Hiram Meeker, William McCollum, Ira Nichols, George Noble, James Parker, Ross Romine, Phineas Tillotson, William Taylor, John Vaughan, Alexander Vaughan, Isaac Wright and others, all locating in the township prior to 1840.

The township of Johnson was created at the March session, 1837, of the County Commissioners, and an election was ordered the first Monday in April of the same year, at the residence of James Campbell, Hiram Humphreys being appointed Inspector by the board. At this election, James Campbell was elected Justice of the Peace; but who the other officers were is not remembered. Before the creation of the township by the board, Johnson was attached to Bloomfield for election purposes. During the years 1836 and 1837, the greater number of the above men bought their land, and began the long and tedious process of clearing. It is stated by several old settlers, and currently believed in the township, that the first settlements of whites was at the Tamarack, as it was called, in the southeastern part. This seems to be confirmed by the statements of those who passed through the place at a very early day. The facts seem to be about as follows: As early as 1833, and perhaps 1832, the trading-house of Comparet & Bowrie, or Comparet & Cuttieaur, at Fort Wayne, sent to the Tamarack one or more Frenchmen to open a trading station with the Indians. A small cabin was at first built, but later a double log building designed for a hotel was erected, in which the traders had a small stock of goods, including whisky, which they sold to the Indians, who often came there in great numbers. A man named Runeaux was one of these traders. He is said to have been a brother-in-law of Comparet. After his death, which occurred quite early, his widow (Comparet's sister) conducted the tavern for the Fort Wayne firm. This tavern was built of tamarack poles, six or eight inches in diameter, and was known far and near as the "Tamarack House." In July, 1836, Burris & Durand, or Burris & Hitchcock, built a dam and saw-mill just south of the Tamarack House. It was a small, rough frame structure, in which was placed a sash saw and an old-fashioned flutter wheel. The water-power was not very good, and the mill, at its best, could not turn out to exceed about 1,500 feet of lumber per day. Hiram Hardy was one of the sawyers. The mill was owned by these men until about 1838, when it and the land around there were purchased by Comparet, who, a short time afterward, opened a good store in another building that was erected. During the time the saw-mill was owned by Burris & Co., the Tamarack House was also conducted by Mr. Burris. His wife, in his absence, tended the bar. It is related that one day,

while she was thus engaged, several Indians came to the tavern bar and bought and drank some whisky. One of them soon became half tipsy. He saw Mrs. Burris leave the room for a moment, going into the other part of the house on an errand, and when she attempted to open the door on her return, the tipsy Indian, who had stationed himself behind it, struck at her with his knife. But she was too quick and dodged the stroke, at the same moment leaping behind the counter and catching up a rifle that was standing loaded there. The Indian had sense enough remaining to know what was coming if he remained there, so, without waiting for the "order of his going," he ran out of the door and off at full speed. Mrs. Burris ran to the door and fired at him, but, of course, missed the mark, and the redskin was soon out of sight in the woods. The others were ordered out, and peace was soon restored.

In 1844, Comparet erected the grist-mill that is yet standing, dismantled and abandoned, on the south side of the river. It was a three-storied frame structure, and, in its day, was an excellent mill, turning out large quantities of excellent flour. It is said that Miss Jane Creigh, of Noble County, made the first bolting cloths. At the death of Mr. Comparet, the property went to his sons, and, in 1856, was purchased by O. P. Grannis, in whose possession it remained until 1879. It is said that, in 1866, the mill cleared for its owner \$3,000. In about 1845 (or at least just before his death), Comparet built the second saw-mill near the old one. At his death, his goods were sold out at auction. The Tamarack, in later years, became a noted resort for the blacklegs, as they had their hiding-places in the swamps and marshes in the vicinity. Stolen horses were brought to the vicinity and secreted. Passers of bogus coin and counterfeit bills found it a safe place when closely pursued. Men living in the neighborhood assisted them in the concealment of stolen property and the disguise of their personal identity. Tamarack was truly a bad place.

When the first settlers reached Johnson Township, they found it a tangled wilderness, filled with wild animals and semi-wild men. The latter had quite a large temporary village on the west bank of Oliver Lake. They mingled freely with the white settlers, going to the cabins to barter, to beg or to borrow. They often stopped to stay all night and were perfectly satisfied to roll themselves in their blankets and lie down until morning before the fire-place. Two of them, one cold night, called at the cabin of Thomas Oliver, and asked to remain until morning, and was granted the privilege. Mr. Oliver was engaged in some sort of work in his cabin that required the assistance of two additional persons. He therefore enlisted the two Indians, placing them so near the fire that in a short time they were reeking with sweat. At last the work was finished. The next morning, Mr. Oliver concluded he wanted more help from his red brethren, as he had several instruments to be sharpened at the grindstone. So he called upon them to turn the stone, but the Indians, true to their habits, shook their heads, wrapped their blankets around them and walked away. They did not bother Mr. Oliver again. They were in the habit of



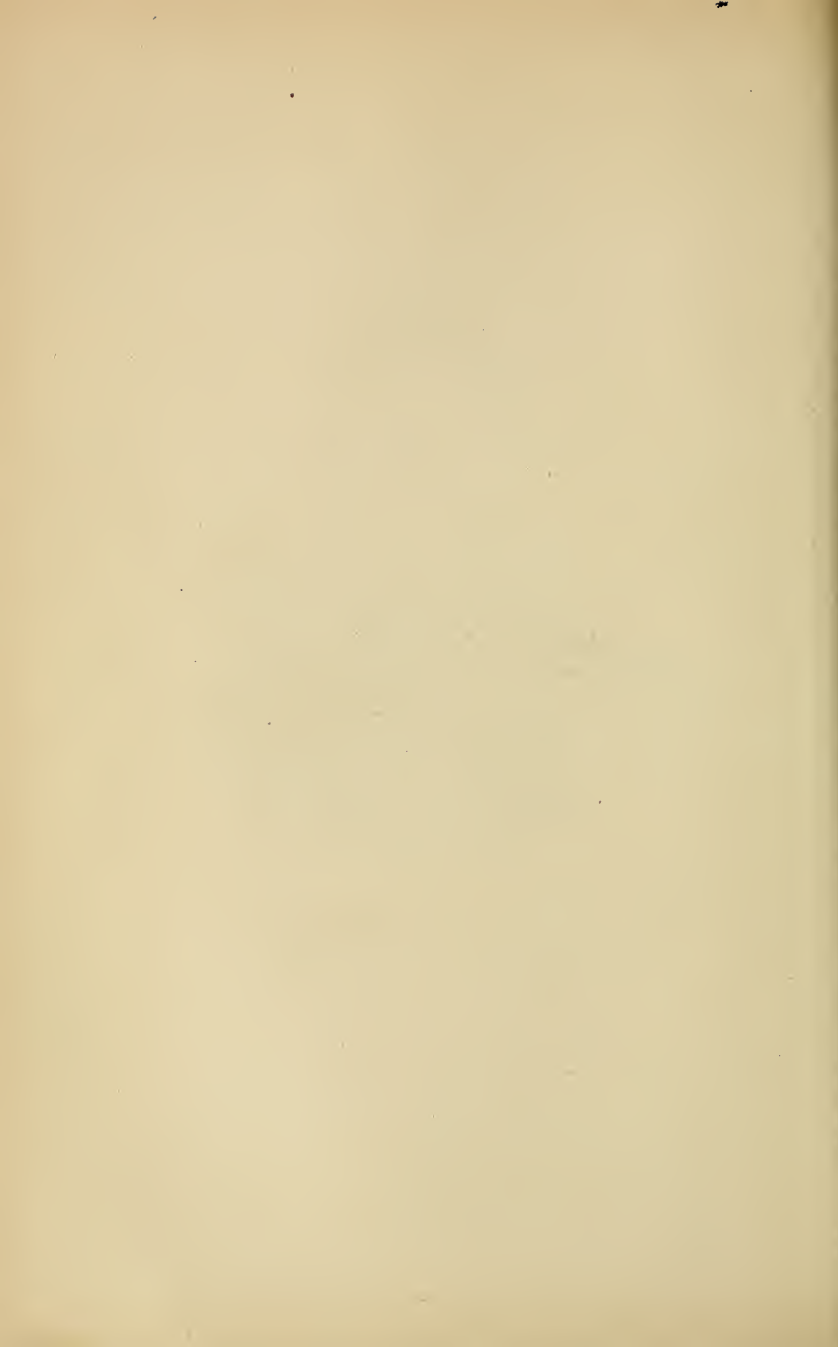
bringing venison to the settlers' cabins. This was traded for potatoes, beans, pumpkins, corn, etc. Occasionally a bear steak was brought in. Bears were rarely seen, but sometimes stragglers passed across the township, several of which were killed. It is said that Serenus Heibargen and Henry Randall were out hunting deer one morning after a big snow, when they came across a fresh bear track. They started in pursuit and finally found the animal in the middle of a swamp. They fired, badly wounding it, and, after a little chase succeeded in getting in a couple more shots which finished the animal. The meat was divided up among the settlers. It was quite a thing to have bear's lard in the house. One night after Mr. and Mrs. Oliver had retired, the latter was awakened by a strange noise in the door-yard. She arose, went to the door and peered out, and saw that the yard was full of deer, whose broad antlers could be seen against the sky. She told her husband, who got up and dressed, took his gun, and going to the door, shot one of the largest, whereupon the whole herd, including the wounded one, ran off at full speed. The next morning a large fine buck was found lying dead a few yards outside the dooryard. Mr. Oliver, one day, had a severe fight with a wounded buck. He shot it through the hips, and the animal fell on the ground, to all appearance dead. Mr. Oliver, without loading his gun, hurried up to cut its throat, and while leaning over the prostrate animal for that purpose, was suddenly kicked back by the deer, the knife flying off several yards. The furious animal leaped up on three legs, and with head down, made at the hunter. The dog of the latter came to his assistance. Mr. Oliver seized the buck by its antlers, and, by a little maneuvering, succeeded in getting his knife, whereupon he immediately ham-strung the enraged animal. It fought on after that, standing only on its fore legs, but it was soon dispatched. It is related that Abraham Eiman, one day, set out a fire in the woods which soon got beyond his control. The roaring flames swept southward and soon the Indian village went up in smoke. It is stated that the fire swept upon them so closely as to destroy some of their property. This roused them into retaliating for the injury done them. A band of warriors presented themselves at the residence of Mr. Eiman, demanding where the latter could be found, but they were informed that he was not there, although at that moment he was under the floor. Mr. Eiman kept close watch for several days until the wrath of the Indians had subsided. Many more incidents similar to the above might be narrated. An amusing story is told of an old settler, not a thousand miles from Valentine, who shall be nameless here. He was out in the woods one evening just at dark, several miles from home. Being a timid man and unused to the ways of the woods, his fears were naturally on the alert as he hurried on toward home. Two of his neighbors, who had been hunting and had become somewhat belated, saw him hurrying along, without being perceived by him, and knowing his disposition and weakness, resolved to give him a scare. They therefore began to imitate the howl of the gray wolf. This had an instantaneous effect on the settler. He glanced





*Jacob. Mills*

JOHNSON TP.



wildly around him, and then started on a rapid run in the direction of his cabin. The others followed fast after him, howling frequently, which had the effect to greatly accelerate his traveling qualities. Excellent time was made through the woods until the settler arrived panting and tired at his own door, announcing that he had been chased by wolves and that he had just escaped their clutches by the "skin of his teeth." The story is told at the expense of the old settler even to this day.

Levi Wright entered his land in the vicinity of Wright's Corners, named thus in his honor. He had considerable property, and, as a matter of course, had considerable influence. A few years later, Joseph Head erected a house at the corners; and still later Mr. Kimble built another, which was thrown open for the entertainment of the public. In about the year 1847, Vaughan & Wildman opened the first store at the corners. Their stock was worth several thousand dollars, and comprised about everything sold at that day in country stores. They did not confine their entire attention and capital to the store; but bought considerable country produce, which was shipped to distant and larger places. They also dealt to some extent in live stock, buying the same from the settlers living over an extensive scope of country. It is said they made no little money in these various transactions. Two or three years after they had begun, Wildman sold his interests to his partner; but the latter continued until about the year 1851, when he, too, retired from the business. Contrary to the usual condition of things, Mr. Wright was averse to the establishment of a small village at the corners. Mechanics and artisans applied to him for lots upon which to build their shops; but he obstinately refused to sell, and was thus the means of preventing the growth of quite a village at that place. Had he encouraged its growth, as he alone could, the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad might be running through the place to-day. In spite of him, a small country village sprang up, and has endured until the present. Other merchants have been Messrs. Adams, Crandall, Strayer, and the present one, Mr. Woodruff; there have been times when there was no store. A post office was established quite early. Some milling interests have been established there in late years. Mr. Wright kept some twenty cows, and his wife manufactured butter and cheese. In 1836, Mr. Wright procured about fifty apple trees and a number of currant bushes from a nursery on one of the neighboring prairies. These were set out at the corners, and, so far as known, were the first of the kind planted in the township. The population of the village has never exceeded eight or ten families. It has a fine schoolhouse and a fine church, which will be described further along.

Valentine is yet in its infancy. Barney Newell lived in the present Valentine House years before the village was thought of. Some twelve years ago, or immediately after the Grand Rapids Railroad was completed, Sergeant & Clugston built a saw-mill at the place. Steam and double circular saws have been used. The mill has been an excellent one. It was conducted by Ser-

geant & Clugston until about two years ago, when the latter sold out to his partner. George Hobson obtained an interest in the mill a year ago. A considerable quantity of lumber is shipped away by rail. They are manufacturing a small quantity of lath at present. Some six or seven years ago, Albert Scoville, of Sturgis, Mich., erected a large frame building and began the manufacture of all kinds of wooden handles and staves for barrels, kegs, butter-tubs, etc. Four or five car loads have been shipped annually. A planing-mill is connected with the factory. Leonard Butts has obtained an interest in the business. In 1874, William Painter placed a stock of goods (no dry goods), valued at about \$800, in the office of the present Valentine House. In 1877, when William Rowe opened his store, Mr. Painter disposed of his stock, and retired from the business. Rowe had some \$700 worth of goods. He did not remain long, and was succeeded by James D. Clugston, who, with a stock worth about \$1,000, remained about a year. Then Oscar Gardner was in with a stock about a year. He was succeeded by Albert Markel. Clark Betts is merchandising at present. The mercantile pursuit at Valentine has been extremely fickle and uncertain. William is at present conducting a shoe-shop. George Slack was the first blacksmith in the village. William Painter opened his hotel (Valentine House) in 1874. Oscar Gardner also entertains travelers and others. William Painter was appointed Postmaster in November, 1873, retaining the office until April, 1881, when William Rowe received the appointment. In April, 1879, James McKibben employed a surveyor, and properly laid out Valentine, recording the plat at the county seat. Twenty-one lots were laid out on Sections 8 and 9. The present population is some eight or ten families.

For a great many years, George Wolcott, a native of Connecticut, was the leading spirit at Wolcottville. He was a very energetic, hard-working, generous man, but burdened, as many of us are, with a high spirit. He had considerable means at his command, and, upon his arrival in September, 1837, began industrial enterprises on an extensive scale. He immediately built a saw-mill that soon became known far and near. It was completed in 1838, and a year or two later a small set of buhrs was placed in an addition built to it. This building was standing just below the present grist-mill. In about the year 1841, that portion of the building occupied by the sawing machinery was vacated, and a new saw-mill was erected some twelve or fifteen rods farther up the race, the old room being fitted up with machinery for carding wool. About this time, Mr. Wolcott had in his employ many workmen, as he was conducting quite a large farm in connection with his industrial enterprises. Philo Taylor, who purchased a farm just north of Wolcottville, in June, 1836, became a well-known and prominent man. Himself and sons have done a great deal to render Wolcottville an attractive place, and its present thrifty condition is largely due to their efforts and those of L. L. Wildman. In about the year 1839, Mr. Wolcott built a storeroom and placed therein goods worth about \$1,000, but subsequently greatly increased the stock. Eight or ten years

after beginning, he probably had on hand \$7,000 worth of goods. At this period, his trade was large, and, of course, lucrative. While he was conducting the old grist-mill, it is said he boarded, free of charge, the men who came to him for flour. The old set of buhrs had been obtained of Mr. O. P. Grannis, who had come to the county in 1834, first locating near Lima, where he engaged in the milling business, but subsequently removed to the Tamarack, where he yet resides. In 1845, Mr. Wolcott erected the present grist-mill, placing therein the old set of buhrs and two new ones. This mill is yet in operation, and, in its day, has been one of the best for miles around. With it, the owner did a large amount of merchant work, besides custom work, over a large extent of country. In 1847, he built a new storeroom to accommodate his stock of goods that had greatly increased. It is said that at one time Mr. Wolcott was engaged in seven different occupations—milling, sawing, blacksmithing, merchandising, “coopering,” farming and manufacturing potash. He probably had twenty workmen employed at one time. He had erected some fifteen buildings in the village, which were rented or sold as required. It is said that his brother James had an interest in the property at the village. No cloth was manufactured at the carding-mill, which was conducted about four years. A small distillery was conducted for a short time at Wolcottville, some say by Mr. Weston, and others by Mr. Wolcott. Both, perhaps, had an interest in it. The kegs, barrels, etc., manufactured at the small cooper-shop, were probably intended for and used in this distillery. What liquor was manufactured there was consumed about as fast as it was made. A considerable quantity of pearl-ash was manufactured at the ashery, and shipped away by wagon. O. B. Taylor remembers of going there one night, when a boy, with a quantity of eggs (he did not say where they were obtained), and of roasting them in the hot ashes. He also well remembers that many of the eggs had suffered severely by the process of incubation, and that he received the full benefit (?) of that mysterious process. Is the trite axiom, “The way of the transgressor is hard,” applicable in this case?

In about the year 1851, Mr. Wolcott disposed of his various industrial pursuits, McMeans & Weston, it is said, buying the mills and perhaps other property. After a few years, these men sold out to Wilbur & Hitchcock, who owned the mills until 1860, when they were purchased by Taylor & Wildman. In 1866, they went to other parties. Among the industries that have flourished in the village are the following: A rake factory, owned and operated by Alvin Hamlin. He continued the occupation about ten years, and turned out no small number of implements. A tannery, owned by Anthony Watson, which was conducted some ten years. In about the year 1855, E. Bunce built a foundry, and commenced the manufacture of plows, scrapers, kettles, machine-castings, etc. The industry was continued about fifteen years, passing through the hands of Paulus & Ewing, Higgins & Harnes, Mr. Hutchins, and, at last, to Mr. Cochran, in whose possession it was abandoned. A few years ago, Ed

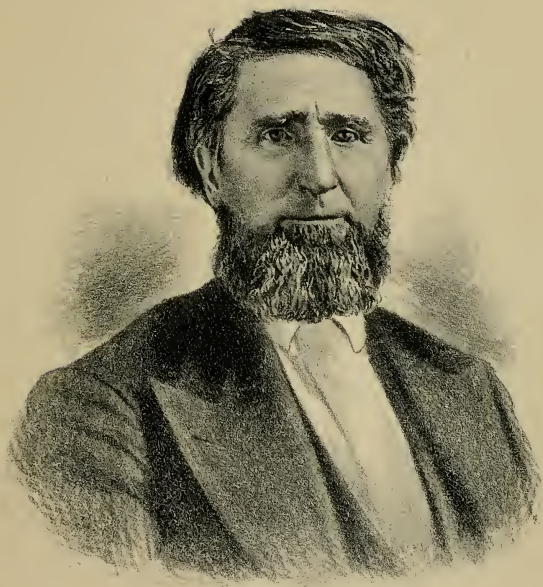


Harding built a new foundry, which is being conducted by him at present. Moon & Rogers are the present proprietors of a carriage factory. It was first established some eight or ten years ago, and some changes in the ownership have since been made. Some ten or twelve years ago, Paulus & Yeager built a planing-mill. It is now owned by Paulus & Nichols. Doors, blinds, sash, etc., etc., are manufactured. Mr. Haley owns a cooper shop.

L. L. Wildman opened the second store in 1849. He had previously been in business at Wright's Corners. He began with about \$3,000 worth of goods, and continued merchandising some sixteen years, having associated with him at different times William Taylor, Mr. Law, O. B. Taylor and others. He was a member of the excellent firm of O. B. Taylor & Co., that continued about seven years; also of the firm Taylor & Wildman. H. L. Taylor was associated in the partnership of O. B. & H. L. Taylor. Considerable money was made during the war by these men. Taylor & Woodruff were merchants for a few years at the close of the war. Mr. Wildman went into the hardware business in 1867. More of this may be learned by asking him. In 1873, he began a private banking business under the name Wildman's Exchange Bank, the same being continued until the present. There are now in Wolcottville three dry goods stores, one grocery, three drug stores, one hardware store, one stove and tinware establishment, two milliners, one art-gallery, one harness shop, one furniture shop, etc., etc. The estimated population, decennially, is as follows: In 1840, 20; in 1850, 100; in 1860, 300; in 1870, 450; in 1880, 500. Wolcottville is one of the liveliest business points of the size in the State. This is given on the authority of commercial travelers who ought to know.

Dr. Leonard Barber, who resided at Northport in Noble County, was the first physician to administer to the bodily ills of the citizens of Wolcottville. Dr. Myers was perhaps the first resident physician. Others have been Eno, Chappell, Gower, White, Raby, Scovill, Shepard and others. Lawyers have lately dared the frowns of the villagers by hanging out their signs. An Odd Fellows' Lodge was instituted May 10, 1875, with the following charter members: A. Axel, M. Westler, W. H. Rodgers, L. D. McGowen, A. Blackman, J. White, N. M. Bassett, E. Bryan, J. L. McQueen, J. Bally and E. Blodget. The present membership is about twenty-seven. The lodge is out of debt, and has about \$500 worth of property, but has no hall. The present officers are M. Westler, N. G.; D. Whitmer, V. G.; E. Stanbaugh, Treasurer; W. H. Rodgers, Secretary. The Masons also have a lodge, which was instituted in May, 1868, with the following charter members: A. Eminger, William Myers, William Guiser, G. Miller, N. Nunun, C. Hurlbert. The present officers are John Grannis, W. M.; William Culver, S. W.; George Nunun, J. W.; O. B. Taylor, Treasurer; W. H. Rodgers, Secretary. The lodge is out of debt and in good financial condition. Present membership is about forty-two.

In about 1839, Mr. Sabin built a dam and a saw-mill on the river a short distance west of Wolcottville. A few years later, he sold out to Dr. Leonard



*Zopher Case*

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Barber, who operated it successfully for a long period. At last it went to Andrew Ponty, thence to John Swain, thence to Aaron Kimmell, thence to Horace Hamlin.

Wolcottville was laid out into thirty-three lots and recorded in October, 1849.

In 1880, there were living in the township the following persons over seventy-five years of age: Gideon B. Johnson, seventy-five; William Ryan, eighty-eight; George Meeker, seventy-seven; Luke Briggs, seventy-eight; William Loret, eighty-one; John Martin, seventy-seven; Nathaniel W. Bates, seventy-eight; Tempy Olenhouse, eighty-five; Mary Wolcott, seventy-six.

Where the first school in the township was taught is not clear, but was, most probably, at Wright's Corners. A log schoolhouse was erected there at a very early day, and used until not far from 1848, when a small frame structure took its place. This was used until after the last war, when another frame was built, but this house, in a few years, became too small to hold comfortably all the scholars, and, at last, in 1878, the present fine two-storied brick building was constructed at a cost of over \$2,000. Two teachers are now employed. The evidence seems to show that the first school was taught at the corners as early as 1836, although it might have been a year later, or, as Mrs. (Wright) Vaughan thinks, a year earlier. The first school is remembered as being very insignificant, and it is to be presumed that very little was learned save mischief. In 1838, Mr. Barns, who lived a short distance north of Wolcottville, built a log barn, in which his daughter taught during the summer of the same year. Wolcott, Taylor, Culver, Lampson, Nichols and others sent to her. No other term was taught there, as at its close the house was occupied by Mr. Barns' domestic animals. In about the year 1839, a log schoolhouse was built a half mile north of Wolcottville, or one mile north of the township line. Ozias Wright taught the first term in this house the same year. After a few years, the building was destroyed by fire, and another was built in its place, which was used until the Seminary was erected. Several early terms were taught in a house belonging to Mr. Wolcott, Volucia Brown being one of the teachers. In 1838, a log schoolhouse was erected half a mile south of Wolcottville. Levi L. Wildman became the first pedagogue, receiving \$10 per month and "boarding round." McQueen, Nichols, Pierce, Dyer, Hovey, Lampson, Munger, Cunningham, Greenman, Taylor, and perhaps others, sent children to him. No schoolhouse was built in Wolcottville until several years before the Seminary was abandoned. At that time a frame house was built and used until the present ample, two-storied frame house was erected some ten years ago at a cost of about \$2,800, under a contract with Henry Haller. Frank P. Taylor is the present Principal, and has two assistants. In about the year 1841, a log schoolhouse was erected one mile north of the Tamarack. Among those who sent children here were Jeremiah Bidwell, Phineas Tillotson, George Meeker, Daniel Lewis, Henry Miller, Robert

Meeker, Oliver Osborn and others. After five or six years of use, this house was abandoned, and a frame was built at the same place, which was burned down two years later and replaced with another, which lasted until the present brick house was erected in 1881. A log schoolhouse was erected at Valentine, not far from 1840, Thomas Oliver furnishing a portion of the lumber, and Abraham Eiman making the shingles. Hiram Gardner helped build the house. Elmira Crandall was one of the first teachers, her term being the winter of 1842-43. She boarded at Hiram Gardner's, paying two bushels of corn per week for her board. This house was used until about 1848. A log dwelling on the Schoonover farm was devoted to the uses of education after that, but was finally destroyed by fire about twenty-five years ago, when the present small frame was built. Since the village of Valentine has sprung up with an increase of families to send to school, the house has become too small to properly accommodate the children. A new and larger house should be built without delay. A log schoolhouse was built near Mr. Dickinson's, or near Mr. Koon's, in 1841. Lucretia Crandall, now the wife of Hiram Gardner, was the first teacher, most probably. She taught during the summer of that year, and was paid ten shillings per week. During the winter of 1840-41, this lady taught in a building belonging to Almon White, and was paid twelve shillings per week. The school building north of Oliver Lake was erected some twenty-one years ago, Benjamin Williams being the first teacher. A log building in the northeastern part, on A. J. Rayer's farm, was devoted to school purposes as early as 1842. It was probably used until a schoolhouse was constructed about six years later. The present country schools are above the average.

The most important school in the township, and one of the most important in the county, was the "Wolcottville Seminary." In 1851, ex-Gov. Slade of Vermont was President of the National Board of Education. The Protestant denominations in the East saw, with concern, that the Roman Catholics, with greater religious enterprise, were sending teachers out into the backwoods, and were founding many Catholic schools and churches in the great West. This led to the creation of the above-mentioned Board of Education, a Protestant organization, whose object was the establishment of Protestant schools and churches in the backwoods. This led to a strong demand for Christian workers who were willing to take their chances in the rapidly growing West. About this time, also, Mr. Wolcott became dissatisfied, for some reason, with the schools in his vicinity, whereupon he wrote to ex-Gov. Slade, asking that a thoroughly competent Christian teacher be sent out to Wolcottville, to labor as a governess in his family until some arrangement could be made for her in a public school. It had entered Mr. Wolcott's mind to build a seminary at Wolcottville. Ex-Gov. Slade promptly sent out Miss Susan Griggs, a very earnest, true-hearted Christian lady. She was immediately employed as governess in Mr. Wolcott's family at a salary of \$250 per year, and, to commence with, had but one scholar. Miss Griggs reached Wolcottville and began her



labors in October, 1851. Her presence at the village was soon known, and several citizens asked that she might teach their children. A house belonging to Mr. Wolcott was fitted up for her, in which she taught during the winter of 1851-52, having twelve scholars. She also taught in this house the following summer, having thirty scholars. During the summer of 1852, Mr. Wolcott, at an expense of over \$3,000, erected the Seminary building, and also a large frame structure in which students might find rooms while attending the school. In November, 1852, school in the Seminary was begun. A tuition of \$3.50 was asked for the term of eleven weeks, and if Latin, French, German, painting in oil or music were desired, extra tuition must be paid. About fifty students were in attendance during the winter. Miss Eliza Dudley, of York State, was employed as assistant. Miss Griggs was to have all she could realize from the school tuition, and was required to keep the buildings in repair. The doors of the Seminary were thrown open to young men, although the school was originally designed for females alone. Here it was that Miss Griggs, for seventeen long years, labored in the field she had chosen. Sometimes she had enrolled as high as 115 students, the average being about sixty-five for the entire period. Sometimes two assistants were required. Diplomas were not granted. The Seminary was not denominational, though Christian exercises were regularly held. A catalogue was published, and perhaps two-thirds of the students came from abroad. The effect of the school upon the neighborhood was soon seen. Education and intelligence were at a premium, and Wolcottville acquired fame over a large section of country for its thrift, brightness and general excellence. Too much cannot be said in praise of Miss Griggs. She gave herself no relaxation from labor, and, as a necessary consequence, lost her health in 1869, and was compelled to sever her connection with the Seminary, greatly to her regret. A Sunday school was organized in the Seminary in 1852, under the superintendence of Miss Griggs, and continued through the years until school there ended. Miss Griggs was Superintendent for thirteen consecutive years. Through her earnest determination alone, the Sunday school not only lived, but greatly prospered, with an average attendance of about fifty. Miss Griggs has shown a heart and a character extremely rare in this gilded age of money-making and sordid selfishness. The best years of her life have been spent in self-denial, charity, humanity, and pure womanly work. Her health has been sacrificed, her means employed, and her life dedicated to the struggle of widening the sphere of Christian intelligence and human happiness. True as a magnet to her life duties, she has beaten down all obstacles, and inspired those around her with the enjoyment of noble endeavor. In view of her long years of labor at the village, how scores have been made happier by her, how hundreds have gone out from her instruction with truer ideas of life and its duties, how patient self-denial and faith in God have been the watchwords of this noble woman, it is unquestionably due her from the citizens that her declining years be rendered free from the bitterness of poverty and thanklessness. And

the part borne by Mr. Wolcott, does not that deserve recognition? All the expense of erecting the buildings was sustained by him. In one year he paid as high as \$75 tuition, when, under the contract with Miss Griggs, his children were to receive instruction free of charge. Lack of generosity was not one of his faults.

The Evangelical Lutheran society, which has a frame church on Section 15, was organized in 1856 by Rev. J. G. Biddle. During the winter of 1856-57, a memorable revival was conducted by Rev. Biddle. Among the early members were Elias Plank and wife, Mrs. Mariah Teeter, Michael Hoff and wife, Tobias Aichele and wife, Mr. Alspaugh and wife, Daniel Holsinger and wife, and others. In 1858, the membership was about fifty. The pastors after Rev. Biddle have been A. J. Kromer, W. Waltman, Jabez Shafer, D. Smith, Leander Kiser, and, at present, L. Rice. The church was erected in 1860, and cost about \$1,600. The society has preaching every two weeks. Sunday school has been had occasionally. In 1840, a Methodist Episcopal society was organized near Valentine, by John and Abraham Rowe. Among the early members were the Rowes, the Brundages, the Flints, the Braytons and others. For a time they met in John Rowe's house; but later, schoolhouses were used. The society has lived until the present. It has now a fine brick church at Valentine, erected last year at a cost of about \$3,000. The Albrights effected an organization at Wright's Corners about the close of the last war. Their fine church was erected twelve or thirteen years ago. The society is prosperous. In July, 1837, the following persons organized a Baptist society at Wolcottville: Samuel Barnes and wife, Almon White and wife, Dr. Perkins and wife, D. A. Munger and wife, Nancy Dickinson, Julia A. Pierce and Sister Sawyer. Elder McMack presided, and L. M. Chont acted as clerk. Elder Burroughs became the first pastor, continuing until 1845, when Elder C. H. Blanchard succeeded him, giving the society half his time. Elder Blanchard has been with the society the greater portion of the time since. In 1843, a log meeting house was built one-half mile south of the village, and used until 1851, when the frame church was erected at Wolcottville. In 1844, the Sunday school was organized. The Methodists effected an organization at Wolcottville in 1839, under the ministration of Revs. Posey and Allen. The society started with but four members, A. Witter, Mrs. Witter, Kizziah Nichols, and another, whose name is not remembered. Schoolhouses and dwellings were the first meeting houses. A building owned by Ozias Wright was used several years. The society became quite strong in 1844; but, in 1858, had weakened until only seven persons belonged—seven women—as follows: Susan Griggs, Mary A. Taylor, Melinda Strayer, Mrs. Strayer, and three others. The society got its first real start from a revival held in the Seminary building by Rev. D. P. Hartman, at which time some thirty persons became members. About as many more joined at the time of a revival held by Rev. William Van Slack. Meetings were held in the Seminary until 1874, at which time the church was built at a cost of about

\$3,000. As stated above, Miss Griggs conducted the Sunday school for years, but was finally succeeded by Mr. Cutler. The society is now strong and prosperous. Posey and Allen organized a Methodist society at the Tamarack in 1840. There were some eight members at first. In 1852, a small frame church was built, and was occupied by the society until about ten years ago, since which time the membership has been so small that but few meetings have been held. The church is at present used to hold funerals in, there being a cemetery near it. Other small religious societies have flourished in the township at different times.



## CHAPTER IX.

BY R. H. BERICK.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP—SURFACE FEATURES—INCIDENTS OF EARLY SETTLEMENT  
—CATALOGUE OF PIONEERS—VILLAGE OF MARION—INDUSTRIAL GROWTH—  
VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN—THE DWIGHT AND BARNES TRAGEDY—LEARNING  
AND RELIGION.

VAN BUREN, as named by the founder of the second village of the county in honor of the then President-elect, was "admitted into the Union" in 1837. Van Buren is the northwest township of the county, bounded by the Michigan line on the north and Elkhart County on the west, and comprises a variety of lands—level, fine farming land in the east, and in the west a beautiful country, which in part compensates for a little lack in suitability for the farmer, by affording, in its rolling hills and beautiful lakes, a refreshing relief from the monotony of sandy prairies.

The township is well watered by Pigeon River, flowing through the middle, and its tributaries: Crooked Creek to the north, and Shipshewana, Muddy and Buck Runs at the south. Pigeon River supplies a valuable water-power, which was early utilized, and in such capacity that surveys were made at an early day to discover if it could be made navigable as an outlet for this region to the lakes. But the development of railroads soon discouraged that project. The most important lakes are on the boundary lines—on the Elkhart line: East Lake and Stone Lake, the latter interesting as the most beautiful of the county and as the scene of a sadly romantic tragedy. One-half mile from this place lies Fish Lake, about a mile in length, on the State line. These lakes are rendered very attractive by the unbroken sweep of sandy beach surrounding them, and the picturesqueness of the inclosing hills. They are part of a group which includes Klinger's Lake, a well-known resort on the Lake Shore Railway, further to the north across the line in Michigan. A very large part of the land at the first settlement was in marshes, and though this area has been much reduced, perhaps one-eighth of the land is marsh. The "Big Marsh" includes most of this territory. At the January session of the Commissioners, in 1837, it was ordered that all the county north of Township 36, and west of the center line of Section 9, be set off as Van Buren Township, and John Olney appointed Inspector, and an election set for the first Monday in April for Justice of the Peace, at the house of Seldon Martin. This first election, at the site of the village of Van Buren, called out some thirty voters, but the records are not to be found, and it is only remembered that one Pierce was the first Justice. The next incumbent was Jesse Harding.

The first comers, so far as known, were Jesse Huntsman, who took possession of the only piece of prairie land in the township in 1829, before the land was on the market, and Nehemiah Coldren, who in the same year built the first log house, near the bridge over Crooked Creek. Coldren entered land later in Greenfield. But the first settlement was made east of the village, on land then well timbered, but remarkably clear from underbrush, owing to the fires started by the Indians. Here the grass grew luxuriantly, which was as near as could be had to milk in the absence of kine, and the trees were full of wild honey. The land was open to purchase in 1831, at the land office in Fort Wayne, and in this year Ami Lawrence, Obadiah Lawrence, Nathaniel Callahan and Asa Olney went from Lima to Fort Wayne on foot, following the Indian trail, to enter farms. Soon after, "Uncle" Asa Olney made the same trip alone, in a three days' journey. He remembers distinctly some incidents of this tramp through the forests. The prairie wolves were numerous then, and their noise, as they cracked the bones of their evening meal, made no agreeable serenade as he tried to sleep. One night, during his solitary journey, a party of Pottawatomies held a war dance and jubilee near the place at which he was resting, over the body of some enemy which they had given a quick pass to the happy hunting grounds. Asa Olney was called on to serve on a jury at Goshen before the separation of La Grange from Elkhart County. As an instance of the ways and means of the pioneers: Mr. Olney, who entered at first but eighty acres, enlarged his farm considerably by the proceeds of a two-acre patch of turnips, and a half acre of melons. The new sandy land produced wonderful vines. Melons of thirty pounds were ordinary, and pumpkins frequently reached the comfortable weight of 100 pounds. The vegetables found a good market at White Pigeon and Constantine, Mich. This earliest party of settlers was composed of Nathaniel Callahan, with his family, one of whom, Ami, still lives in the township (other sons died, Almon, in 1846, and Mills, in May, 1881); Obadiah Lawrence, who died in 1852; his brother, Ami Lawrence (died 1839), whose daughter Annie was the wife of the elder Callahan; Asa Olney, brother-in-law of Nathaniel Callahan, who, with his wife, is still living in the township; and his brother John Olney, whose sons, Jackson and William, are still on the homestead. They were all from Washington County, Ohio, and settled within two miles east of Van Buren, at what might be called the Crooked Creek settlement. In the spring of 1831, John Cook, an Englishman, entered land in Section 17, where his son William still resides. Cook soon succumbed to pioneer hardship, and died in August, 1831. His was the first death among the settlers. At the other portal of existence, the first events which the chronicler can discover were the births of a brother of Ami Callahan, who died at the age of one year; of Sylvanus Olney, born February 20, 1832, who died here July 10, 1879, and Huldah Lawrence, December 25, 1832.

The pioneers, in the custom, since become quite popular and romantic, of a matrimonial journey to Michigan, were Hiram Harding, of Lima, and Miss Lola



Callahan, who were married at White Pigeon. Then, however, that was the nearest place where the legal sanction could be found. Since then, a great many lovers, without the same necessity, have made White Pigeon their Gretna Green. Another early wedding was that of Alfred Martin, of Van Buren, and Ellen Hubson, of White Pigeon. In 1833, the neighborhood was increased by the settlement of Tyler Fleming and John and David Cowan. Philip Munger, who died about 1842, and Kellogg Munger, who lived until the last decade, were the new-comers of the next year.

In June, 1835, Peter and Nicholas I. Sixby entered lands in Sections 10 and 14. Solomon Whitney settled in the Crooked Creek neighborhood in 1836, and Robert Scott, who, however, died after a year's residence. These were families of this neighborhood for several years. Among later comers was, in 1843, Arby Crane, who afterward removed to Lima and La Grange. His son, Samuel D. Crane, became County Superintendent. When the settlement began again to increase after the "sickly season," it was in such a rapid manner as to defy the chronicler. The first burial-place of the neighborhood was on Callahan's land, in Section 17, where members of the Callahan family, Philip Munger and Robert Scott were buried. The earliest public ground was in Section 20, on the White Pigeon road. On the lands of Berry and John Cook, in addition to these, there were private burial-places.

The first road to be surveyed was through this settlement—the Defiance & White Pigeon road—of which Judges Newton and Seeley were viewers, and John Kromer, surveyor. The first county road in the township was laid out in 1838, joining the Defiance road, between Sections 17 and 20 in the east. The second State road passed through the center of the township, and is called the Vistula road, as it was intended to connect "Vistula on the Maumee"—now Toledo—with South Bend. Thomas P. Bulla and John Kromer surveyed the road in 1835. There were settlements along the line of this road south of the river, before the survey. John Belote and his son Elmer were here in October, 1834, and built a house on the present Belote farm next year. The father was from Western New York, where he had been a member of an independent company of horse in the war of 1812. He was one of the first Trustees, and held that place for several years. He died August 20, 1857, at the age of sixty-two. Elmer Belote, a steadfast bachelor, is still a well-known citizen, and has served the county for two terms as Coroner. His brother, James S. Belote, died in 1865. In the winter of 1834-35, the Belotes built a log bridge across the river, on their land, which endured seven or eight years. Before that a canoe had been used as a makeshift for a ferry at this point, and travelers on the other side, with good voices, were promptly served. A substantial bridge now spans the stream at this point, and also the Sidener bridge, at another old crossing, a mile below. William Tharp, in Section 30, and Jacob Butt, who died here, in 1868, aged seventy-two, came in at the same time as the Belotes. In 1835, Nicholas Sidener, of Clearfield County, Ohio,



*Ami Calabresi*

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came to his present farm in Section 30, and with him, his brother, Samuel Sidener, who afterward removed. Samuel Berry lived in this vicinity. George Turnbull, who, with Ami Whitney, was chosen Constable in September, 1837, were in the neighborhood, and Edward Robbins and one Nobles. These were probably all the earliest settlers here, and of them only Nicholas Sidener and Elmer Belote are still residents at the writing of this history.

A burial-place in Section 30, on the Vistula road, known as the Belote Graveyard, was opened in 1836, and is the last resting-place of the following old settlers: Mrs. John Fowler, died 1851, aged fifty-one; Sylvanus Olney; Peter Fox, died 1859, aged fifty; Jacob Butt, John Belote, James S. Belote and Elisha Tharp.

On the Vistula road, upon the present farm of Richard L. Newman, a village was laid out in June, 1836, by Francis Rhoads, Isaac Buckley and Eppah Robbins, who were then the owners of the land. The village was named Marion and a tavern was erected by the owner of the plat, and a store started by James Belote and Buckley. By the vigorous efforts of the projectors of Marion, quite a "huddle" was built up, but it soon became evident that it could never grow up to the paper, and the owners of the lots joined in a petition to have the village resolved into wheat fields, and thus Marion disappeared forever. John Fowler lived in the place for a short time. He was the owner of a distillery near Buck Creek. Best was another of the residents. A saw-mill was built by Harding & Johnson on Buck Creek in 1836 and run for several years.

The western portion of the township began to receive settlers about 1836. In November of this year, Peter L. Keightley, brother of John Keightley, of Newbury, a native of Lincolnshire, England, came into the township and occupied his land in Section 22. Mr. Keightley used to take the liberties ordinary in the old country with the letter "h." Not far from his place there was a tree in the road with the letter L cut upon it, which was a well-known land-mark, and it is still told that Mr. Keightley's manner of directing travelers to "go to the heL," and so on, would frequently cause a misunderstanding. Mr. Keightley is still an honored resident of the neighborhood where he has spent so much of his life.

About 1837, there settled west of Van Buren, Jacob Moak, whose son Peter now lives near the State line. Other settlers, west of the river, up to 1840, were Robert and John Marshall, Englishmen, Bower, George W. Ferguson, Garel Osborne, John Sallier (who made the first clearing in the southwest, and died before 1840), and several on the Vistula road near the county line, including Widow Dodd, William Mack, whose sons are still upon the old farm; and at Stone Lake, William Davis, a friendly Quaker who is kindly remembered.

The first burial-ground in this vicinity was near the county line, in what was called the Mack settlement. The first interment was of Josiah

Remington, at which the sermon was preached by a young minister, John P. Jones, since prominent in county and State history.

Charles Dwight, with his wife and child, came to the quarter section which he now resides upon, March 9, 1841. Mr. Dwight in his early days was a boatman upon the Erie Canal in New York. He is a member of the seventh generation in America of this distinguished family. His later life has been saddened by the tragedy of which an account is given elsewhere, in which his youngest daughter was the victim. In 1843, Alonzo Clark settled near the county line, and Aaron Freeman, still a prominent citizen of the township, came upon his farm in the same year.

Crooked Creek curves down into Indiana, inclosing with a lake to the north a fertile territory called "The Island." This land was held by speculators at first, and one of the earliest actual settlements upon it was by John Dalton in 1840. Mr. Dalton had been with his brother James in White Pigeon since 1836, where he had come from Rochester, N. Y. In 1850, he bought the Van Buren Mills, and has since resided in the village, where he has a comfortable residence. Mr. Dalton, starting with little of this world's goods, has amassed a considerable fortune.

About 1850, a settlement was started in the southwest corner called New Pennsylvania. John L. Rhoades, Jacob Mehl and John Foster were the earliest settlers, but all have removed. They were all Pennsylvanians. The schoolhouse on this section now bears the name of the settlement. John Klingaman made the latest original entry of land, taking the southeast quarter of this section in May, 1848.

About the year 1840, the population began to increase rapidly, and as a consequence the prices of provisions began a considerable rise. This was possible, however, and the prices do not seem extravagant at this time. In 1834, wheat drawn to Constantine, Mich., brought only 35 cents, and corn 18 cents, but in 1836 the prices were doubled. Before the Van Buren Mills were built, about a week would be consumed in going to mill, and farmers often preferred to grind a small grist in a common coffee-mill. It was delicate work raising wheat then. About one-sixth of it was apt to be smutty, and the cereal had to be washed and spread out to dry upon the upper chamber floors. Farmers of the early day hardly dreamed of the wholesale methods of modern agriculture.

By 1837, the land was practically all taken up by actual settlers and speculators, and was held at \$5 per acre. The most efficient aid in the development of the country has been the building of the Michigan Southern Railway, through one of the early trading points, White Pigeon. At that time land at once rose from \$10 to \$20 per acre. Since then the advance in prosperity has been steady and marked. The population has gradually increased and embraces, besides those already named, many men of wealth and social importance. In politics the township has been steadily Republican. The records show the



following persons to have served as Justices of the Peace, though the list may not be complete: Alfred Martin, 1841-46; Charles Dwight, 1844-49; David Elmore, 1844-49; H. B. Ostrander, 1849-54; Josiah B. Cook, 1851-52; C. W. Wilson, 1852-68; John W. McIntyre, 1854-58; C. W. Chapin, 1867-77; James Galloway, 1869-73; James Haggerty, 1877; Edwin Owen, 1878.

Schools were a matter to which the earliest comers gave their attention. Until the sale of the school lands, the settlers paid their teachers directly, which was not a severe tax, as the usual rate was about \$1 a week. Clarissa Munger was the first school-ma'am, and gathered the young ideas at a log schoolhouse on the land of Nathaniel Callahan in Section 17. Later, a school was started at the village, in 1835, at Marion, and, in 1836 or 1837, another south of the river at Nicholas Sidener's, where a graveyard now is. In the west the earliest were the Marshall Schoolhouse on the Vistula road, the Bethel on Section 17, and a log house on the shore of Stone Lake.

There are now in the township ten neat frame houses, valued at \$6,000, which are attended by 410 pupils. Eleven teachers are employed at an average rate of \$1.50 for men and \$1.37 for women. In 1880, some \$2,500 were expended for tuition.

The history of the churches is another matter intimately connected with the lives of the people. A Methodist Episcopal society yet exists at Van Buren, which was organized in 1834 by Charles Best, an Ohio exhorter. There were about five members, including Esther and John Olney and Nancy Callahan. The first preacher in the township was Christopher Cory, a Presbyterian minister, then of White Pigeon. In 1848, the Methodist Church at Van Buren was erected, and has since been used as a union meeting-house.

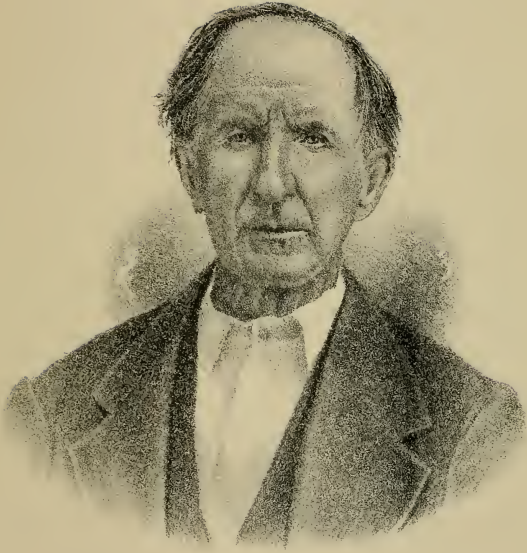
In the west, the earliest religious meetings were held at the house of Jason and George Jones, north of the old Bethel Schoolhouse, in 1841 or 1842, Prayer-meetings were held there, and at the time of the Millerite excitement they were largely attended. It was in "about 1843" that the world was to finish up its career, and the year before, 1842, Elders Speers, Stalker and Burns, of "somewhere about" Orland, commenced revival meetings in the old Callahan Schoolhouse. A very exciting and memorable time followed. The meetings lasted six weeks, and about forty persons were converted. The Baptist Church in Van Buren was organized in 1858, with fifteen members. Since then they have steadily maintained their meetings, and have since received some forty members; but, owing to constant changes in residence, the society is hardly more numerous now than at first. In 1864, a Methodist society was organized at the Marshall Schoolhouse by George W. Newton.

The Protestant Methodist society in Van Buren was organized by Fred Soy about 1851, with twenty-five or thirty members, as the result of an extensive revival. About 1869, an "Abright" or Evangelist Church was organized and a church built on the Defiance road, two miles east of the village, at a cost of about \$2,400. There were about fifty members in 1881.

The only county officers the township has furnished besides Coroner Belote have been Gabriel T. McIntyre, who was a resident of the township a year or two before his election as Sheriff, in 1853, and Seldon Martin, who was elected a Commissioner in 1837.

The township has suffered very little from crime. There is a remembrance of one case of horse stealing, in 1844 or 1845, from Henry Albert. The freedom of the people of late from these marauders is no doubt due to the organization of a Protective Association, September, 1866. This was re-organized for ten years in 1876, and had, in 1881, sixty-five members, and \$135 in the treasury, devoted to the capture of criminals. The association is so organized that a strong body of men can be collected, at any point, in an exceedingly short time. An annual meeting of the members is required each year, in September. In 1880-81, the officers were Frank Galloway, President; John McDonald, Treasurer; and William Bycroft, Secretary.

The saddest tragedy in the annals of the county took place, singularly enough, on the quiet, charming beach of Stone Lake, where one would expect nothing but the ripple of the waves, the songs of the birds, and the laughter of children, which this mad crime so rudely disturbed. Addie Dwight, a charming young lady of eighteen years, who was admired and respected by all who met her, the youngest daughter of Charles Dwight, was teaching at the Lake Schoolhouse and took her pupils down to the lake at noon, on June 22, 1871, to give them a promised frolic on the beach. While here, unconscious of any danger, Chauncey Barnes, a young man living near this place, in Elkhart County, drove up, accompanied by a young woman of White Pigeon, and asked for an interview with the school-teacher. They walked away together for a short distance. Barnes had, for some time, been paying marked attentions to Miss Dwight, but she had declined to receive his company, and his attempts at a reconciliation had been in vain. He took his disappointment very much to heart, and, suffering from jealousy, he went to see her this day for a last attempt, and madly resolved to end her life and his, if he could not win her. As the children came toward the two, seated together at some distance, a pistol shot was heard, and Addie was seen, with her hands raised, begging for her life. But a second bullet was sent crashing through her head, and she fell dead at the feet of her lover and murderer. Barnes then emptied the revolver into his own head, and when the neighbors came to the scene, though bleeding horribly, he was re-loading his revolver, determined to take his own life. The murderer was confined in the county jail, and for some time was at the point of death, but finally recovered. At his trial, the defense was insanity, but though ably defended, he was found guilty of murder, and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. He is still confined there. This causeless crime, which so cruelly blotted out an innocent young life, aroused great feeling throughout the county, and much sympathy was expressed for the victim, and indignation toward the murderer. This latter, however, was softened by his attempted



*Nicholas Bidener*

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suicide, and the sorrow of his family. It was one of those events which, though having a tinge of romance in history and stories of love and sorrow, are too terribly tragic in the real life of one's own generation.

Since that time, the history of the township has afforded little of interest. In 1880, according to the census of that year, there were ten residents of the township, each of whom was seventy-five years of age, or over, their names being, with their respective ages: Ann Brockway, seventy-eight; Robert Smith, seventy-six; Maria Hoff, seventy-five; Elizabeth Smith, seventy-five; John H. Hoofnagle, eighty-three; Elizabeth Dayton, seventy-five; David Seybert, eighty-one; Henry Young, seventy-five; Lydia Young, seventy-five; Andrew Henkle, eighty-five.

Van Buren is the only village, and Scott is the only post office in the township, and these are one and the same. The original plat of the village was owned by the Martin brothers—Seldon, Phylammen and Alfred—who bought 280 acres in this section of the Government in December, 1833. In 1837, the village was surveyed by Delevan Martin. The plat was in April, 1844, enlarged by an addition at the north by Nicholas N. Sixby. Before the plat was surveyed, the enterprises were established which have since been the chief feature of the town—the lumber and flouring mills. The Martins built a saw-mill upon the fine water-power which the Pigeon affords at this point, in the summer of 1834, and, during the next, erected a flouring-mill. The mosquitoes were formidable at that time, and it is said that the Martins could not sleep until they constructed a platform up in the trees, where the troublesome insects would be less numerous. The old mills have, of course, disappeared, and, since then, mills have been put in, capable of turning out, in the palmy days of Van Buren, 15,000 barrels of flour per year, and 350,000 feet of lumber. But at the present time, little more than custom work is done.

James Haggerty, who was, in 1881, still living in Van Buren, came to the place in 1835, having exchanged his land in Michigan for mill property. Mr. Haggerty was originally from New Jersey, where he lived in the town of New Brunswick, just across the street from old Commodore Vanderbilt, whom the old pioneer remembers gratefully as a kind neighbor and generous patron. His brother, Michael Haggerty, was here in 1837, but removed, and returned in 1855, since when he has been a resident of the village, and for some time Justice of the Peace. In 1836, Pierce built a blacksmith shop, and was rewarded for his enterprise by being elected, in 1837, the first Justice. Thus the village smithy became the hall of justice. Harvey B. Ostrander, about the same time, established himself in the cooper business, one Crary built a wagon-shop, and C. Z. Barnes, carpenter, came to town. L. D. Brooks built a house on Lot 5, in Sixby's Addition, and kept a tavern. A physician, Dr. Sidney Cobb, lived in the village about a year, then dying, he was succeeded by Dr. William Fox in 1838. His brothers, George and James Fox, were the shoemakers of the town. John Rank and father, Joel H. Sanford, Kellogg



Munger and Miner were among the residents. Thus it will be seen that Van Buren in its early days was a flourishing and promising settlement, and would have fulfilled all its early promise had it not been for the perverse running of the railway too far to the north. A log house, owned by Pierce, vacated in 1857, and donated to the township, was the first schoolhouse in the village. There is now a two-story frame building, 26x40, devoted to this purpose.

In 1836, the Martins started a distillery in a large log building near the mill, and ran the establishment until after 1840, when the removal of the Indians terminated the greater demand for a distillery. Another one was run for some time after, at the Hart place, below the mills. A post office was established at Van Buren under the name of Scott, in 1836, and was upon the line between White Pigeon and Fort Wayne. Clark was the first Postmaster. A frame church was built about 1858, and is still in use by all the denominations. In 1881, there were two stores in the village, owned by Frank Gallo way and Dr. W. B. Grubb, who has practiced medicine here since 1865. Dr. A. Toms is another physician at this place. William Allison, a resident of the village since 1867, and of the township since 1860, has held the position of Trustee for ten years in succession, and, in 1881, was commencing another series of years. He has proved one of the most efficient officers in the county.



## CHAPTER X.

BY R. H. RERICK.

EDEN TOWNSHIP—PHYSICAL FEATURES—THE FIRST SETTLERS—INCIDENTS OF THEIR LIFE IN THE WOODS—ERECTION OF MILLS, STORES, ETC.—VALUABLE STATISTICS—THE "HAW PATCH"—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—THE GROWTH OF EDUCATION AND RELIGION—THE SYCAMORE LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE southeastern quarter of Eden Township is included in that broad area of fertile country which the early settlers called the Haw Patch. About one Congressional township of land in La Grange and Noble Counties is embraced in this tract, which is distinguished throughout by a rich soil, freedom from marshes, level, or very gently rolling surface, and a perfect adaptability to successful agriculture. At the opening of the country to settlement, it was densely covered by beautiful forests, in which sugar maple and black walnut were most abundant, and remarkably free from small growths, except hawthorn and wild grapes. The abundance of the hawthorn was the most striking peculiarity of the region, and gave rise to the name by which it is so widely known. Now that the forests and the hawthorns have vanished, the region has taken on another style of beauty, and is made doubly attractive by splendidly kept farms and elegant residences, where every comfort possible has taken the place of the hardships of log-cabin days.

This is the Eden of the township. But to the north and west lie the great marshes which are the sources of the two forks of the Little Elkhart. These marshes furnish a great deal of hay, and are the home of an abundance of game, but are, nevertheless, a dreary waste, and it is likely irreclaimable for some time to come, at least. Persistent efforts are being made to drain them, but the continual drying of the country in general will probably prove to be the most efficient aid in their improvement.

To the west of the Big Marsh lie a few sections of good land, but with a soil which contains more clay than that of the Haw Patch.

No lakes or streams of any value are found within the township.

There is some dispute about the first settlement of the township, but the account here given is believed to be the correct one. This is, that the Latta family were the first in Eden. In 1830, Robert Latta, who lived near Urbana, Ohio, came to Goshen to bring medicine and stores to his son, Johnston Latta, who was then a practicing physician in that settlement. While at Goshen, the elder Latta heard from surveyors who had been through La Grange County of the fine Haw Patch land, and he visited it on his return, and it seemed to justify all the praise he had heard. He had a good farm in Ohio, under cultivation,

but he longed for new forests to conquer. Accordingly, in the spring of 1832, leaving his Ohio home, he came to the Haw Patch, with his wife and daughter, Achsah. His log house was built on Section 26. In the fall of the same year, William McConnell, of Ohio, settled in Section 35, south of the Latta home, with his wife and sons, James, Alexander, Thomas C. and William A., and a daughter, Mary Ann, who was married November 17, 1835, to Isaac Spencer. The McConnells had a remarkable leaning for public affairs, and since then there have been few matters of public interest in and about the Haw Patch in which they did not have a prominent part. The other well-known family which preceded them was not less public-spirited, and, as was very natural, a rivalry soon arose. There were special reasons for this. Latta was a Whig, and McConnell a Democrat; the former was a Methodist, the latter a Presbyterian. The contest early showed itself in the purchase of land, and the result was that each was the owner of about eighteen eighty-acre tracts, which was considerably more forest land than was profitable in those days. Much of it was afterward given away. Eighty acres were given as pay for one man's work for a year, and a job of rail splitting was the consideration for another considerable piece of land. In 1841, Dr. Johnston Latta moved to the Haw Patch, giving up his practice, and lived upon the old homestead until his death, in 1873, at the age of sixty-five. His widow, Martha L., still lives here, adjoining the farm of her son, James Norman Latta. The McConnells, in later years, were more prominent in Noble than La Grange County history. They have now no living representative of their name in the township. But the family graveyard still receives, from time to time, some descendant of the old pioneer. It is a suggestive fact that this family burying-place lies just across the road from the site established for similar purposes by Robert Latta, and where he now rests. The first burial in the former yard was of Thomas C. McConnell, who died in 1836, at the age of twenty-six. Here, also, lie William McConnell, who died at his home south of Eden Chapel, April 13, 1848, aged sixty-seven; Agnes, his wife, died in 1851, aged sixty-six; their sons, Alexander and William A., and others of a later generation. The eldest son, James, of considerable note in Noble County history, died at Albion, June 2, 1881. In 1832, as near as can be ascertained, William Dempsey, of Ohio, and his young wife, came to the township and lived on land in Section 35. He died about thirteen years later. Early in the next year, Nehemiah Coldren, another Ohio man, settled in Section 13, and in 1837 his brother, Harvey, on the same section. Sibyl, the wife of Nehemiah, died in 1848, and he in 1871, at the age of seventy-one. Harvey Coldren died seven years later.

There also came in the spring of this year, Laban Parks, with his family, including an eight-year-old son, Harlan, who recently died upon the old farm on Section 25. Before his settlement, Laban Parks and Anthony Nelson had come over from Elkhart Prairie, where Parks had been since 1830, and viewed this country over before there were any marks of the presence of white men.

Laban Parks died in November, 1870. A few months after Parks had settled, Anthony Nelson followed, and built his log house a short distance west, upon the Clearspring Township line. The first part of his house was built in Eden, but an addition was soon made in Clearspring. Kensell Kent, of New York, settled in 1833, and was one of the early owners of the land on which Slabtown now flourishes. He moved to Iowa, and died there in 1879. Reuben McKeever, of Virginia, was living in 1833 on Section 27, but in later years emigrated to Iowa. During this year or the next, Samuel Curl, of Ohio, a son-in-law of Robert Latta, moved to the Haw Patch, and settled on Section 35, and his brother, John Curl, at the same time on Section 26. Samuel Curl died in 1863, and John Curl and family removed from the township. About 1834, Obed Gaines, of New York, built his cabin, in which early elections took place, a quarter of a mile north of Sycamore Corners, on the township line, but was not long a resident. He was the only settler who raised hops for sale. In October, 1834, Mrs. Elizabeth Ramsby, a widow lady, with her family, moved upon land in Section 27, where her son, John S. Ramsby, now resides. Mrs. Ramsby died upon the old homestead November 12, 1869, aged eighty years. John S. Ramsby settled here in 1835, and besides being a wealthy farmer, has become noted as an admirer of the chase. Deer and bears in the early days, and foxes and coons of later years, furnished the sport. The marsh has been an unfailing source of game. Bears, of course, have long since gone. Thirty years ago, Mr. Ramsby captured three, but since then only a straggler has now and then appeared. Deer were very numerous at the first settlement, so much so as to be troublesome. The pretty animals had a great fancy for pawing up the young wheat with their dainty hoofs, and meddling with the husked corn before it was put away. But they soon vanished before the hunter. Trapping in the marshes, especially of the little animal of bad repute and valuable hide, coon hunting, and following the hounds after "Reynard," have been sources of much recreation and no little profit since the first settlement of Eden. But to return to the settlers.

On the 1st of October, 1835, John Thompson, from Ohio, reached the land upon which he has since lived. He bought his farm from Mark Cahoon, who had been upon the land long enough to make a little clearing, and who, after marrying Ann Modie, a member of another early family, in November, 1835, moved further west after Mr. Thompson's arrival. The price paid for this land was \$4.37 per acre, a little below the average price of land partially improved. Wild land was held at double the Government price. Mr. Thompson, soon after his arrival, was called upon to administer justice as Squire, and, besides township offices, represented Noble and La Grange Counties in the Lower House in 1841. In those days, the people's law-makers had to make the journey to Indianapolis on horseback, and undergo great tribulation on the road for the sake of legislative honors, at a salary of \$3.00 per day. Mr. Thompson was afterward (1856-60)

a member of the State Senate for two terms, and has always been prominent in political affairs. James Taylor, another old settler, came with Mr. Thompson, and entered land in Section 23, where he died in 1880. His widow still lives upon the farm. William Parks, a brother of Laban, settled on Section 27 in 1835, and joined in the emigration to Iowa about fifteen years ago. Orvin Kent was at the Haw Patch in the spring of 1833, and bought land. He was here again in 1835, but did not settle permanently until 1847, after his marriage in Ohio. He then built a home upon his land in Eden, at Sycamore Corners. Mr. Kent has for a number of years lived in Clearspring, but his two places of residence are upon the town line road. Mr. Kent has always been interested in the welfare of the Haw Patch, and has done much in aid of its social and material improvement.

The whole number of householders in Eden, in the fall of 1835, was fifteen, and the men, women and children all told numbered seventy-two.

In 1836, William Collett settled on the Haw Patch. His son, William C. Collett, was in later years prominently identified with the Granger movement in Indiana. The other son, Jacob Collett, married Anna Mary Swart, who has the distinction of being the first born in the township. They removed to Iowa. In 1837, John Denny, his wife Mary, and sons, settled on Section 35, where Mrs. Denny yet resides, at the advanced age of eighty-four.

About this time, the settlement of the region west of the marsh began. Robert McKibben settled here in 1836, but moved West in 1850; John and Andrew Funk in 1837; in 1838, David Carr, who moved to Ligonier and died there, and Thomas Short, who still resides on Section 6. John Prough settled on Section 18 in 1842. In the same year, William H. Poyser and John Poyser settled in this neighborhood, but the former removed to the Haw Patch eight years later and now lives on Section 27. After 1835, the settlement of the township increased rapidly, and this department of the history will not permit any extended notice of the later comers. It is mainly in the first settlers that all feel an interest. Their comings and goings and haps and mishaps are worthy of note, while similar occurrences of to-day concern few besides those who are immediately interested.

Eden Township was organized in November, 1832. Its formation was the second division made in the county, being a subdivision of Lima Township. But this township, as the order of the Commissioners read, was to include "all that tract of territory south of Township 37 and west of the range line dividing Ranges 9 and 10;" that is, it included the present townships of Eden and Clearspring and ran south of Ligonier. La Grange County then included part of Noble. The election was ordered to be held at the house of John Hostettler, who lived near the county line, in Perry Township, on the first Monday of April, 1833, for the purpose of electing two Justices of the Peace.

Who these first officers were cannot be said from the records. Township records of that time have vanished and the county records are silent. William



McConnell, however, is claimed to be the first Justice of the Peace. The earliest record to be found of his official acts is of the marriage of Minerva Gaines to Norman Sessions, February 8, 1835. John Thompson was elected and served as Justice a short time after he settled here.

On the 7th of May, 1833, the Commissioners made a further division of the territory, setting off that portion of Eden south of the Elkhart River as Perry Township. At a later date, all the Noble County territory was separated. At the March term, 1837, Clearspring Township was set off from Eden, and that date may be taken as the official beginning of the township as it is now defined.

In 1845, the Town Clerk, Mr. John Thompson, made an entry *nunc pro tunc*, and noted, as his apology, that it got out of place in copying, for no books had been provided by the Trustees, as required by the State, "until the present time, March 1, 1845." Before this the proceedings of the Trustees had been jotted down loosely, and all the notes made before 1842 were lost. On June 6, 1842, the records show the township was divided into four road districts, with Anthony Nelson, William Swartz, Silas Longcor and Andrew W. Martin as Supervisors. The elections were ordered to be held at John Thompson's. The Trustees elected in 1842 were Robert McKibben, James Taylor and Mahlon Hutchinson. John Thompson was elected Clerk and held the place after this for four years. The Trustees were then paid \$2.50 for their year's services and the Clerk \$2. In 1844, there were five road districts, and a tax of 10 cents on the \$100 was levied for township expenses. The Trustees of this year were John Poyser, William Collett and Laban Parks; and then followed, in 1845, Thomas Fisher, W. H. Poyser, John Denny; 1846, John Poyser, John Denny, William Collett. Thomas Short was elected Clerk that spring, and served ten years. From 1847 to 1850, it seems that William Collett, Peter Prough and Jacob D. Poyser held the trusteeship undisturbed. In 1850, Peter Prough was replaced by William Swartz. John Poyser, William Swartz and John McDevitt were elected in 1852. At the November election of this year, the polls were located, by ballot, at the Denny Schoolhouse. For 1853-54, the Trustees were John D. Stansbury, John Thompson and James Taylor. At this time, the school fund received from the Auditor amounted to \$356.70. In 1854, J. D. Stansbury, William H. Poyser and David Sutton were Trustees; 1855, J. D. Stansbury, Harlan Parks, Hiram I. Parks; 1856, Harlan and H. I. Parks and E. B. Gerber; 1857, H. I. Parks, John Poyser, James Tumbleson; 1858, H. I. Parks, William Walker, Nehemiah Coldren. Orvin Kent was Clerk this year. This was the last triumvirate in the trusteeship. Since then one man at a time has been found able to take care of the township business. D. B. Carr held the office in 1859 and the succession has been: James Mearl, S. S. Keim, 1865; John L. Short, 1866; John W. Lutz, 1869; Milton Rowe, 1874, William Roderick, 1878; W. L. Sipe, 1880. The Justices of the Peace since 1840, when the records begin, have been: Leonard Wolf, 1840-45; Anthony

Nelson, 1841; John Poyser, 1845-50, 1850-52, 1855-63, 1872-76. (John Poyser is emphatically the Squire of Eden.) William T. McConnell, 1845-47; James Tumbleson, 1847-50, 1852-56, 1870-74; Peter Prough, 1866-70; Jacob Crusen, 1873-77; John J. Arnold, 1876-80; Isaiah Immell, 1878-82; Samuel Stutzman, 1881.

In the year 1880, at the time of taking the census, and according to the returns, there were then residents of the township the following persons who had reached the age of seventy-five or over: J. J. Bontrager, seventy-five; Mary Denny, eighty-three; Leah Morrill, seventy-five; John Thompson, seventy-seven.

The almost impassable swamps running through the township from north to south have prevented the building of many important roads. The Indians even left the swamps severely alone, and made wide detours to avoid them. Their trails, which were the first highways, ran from northeast to southwest through the Haw Patch, from Clearspring to Ligonier. These trails, of course, were only passable in places for walking or riding, and they were so snugly lined by sunflowers and stinging nettles, as high as a man's head, that travel was not at all pleasant. But the country about Haw Patch was so free from underbrush that roads were easily made. The first one was the Goshen road, which wound without regard to anything but convenience and the shortest cut from Benton and Millersburg, south of Big Marsh to Salem, and up by the Latta farm, passing north of the present Sycamore Corners, and on to Clearspring and La Grange. One of the earliest regularly established highways was the State road, laid out several years before 1840, from Perry Prairie to White Pigeon.

In the spring of 1832, Benjamin Gale, William McConnell and Robert Latta viewed a road to run from the southwest corner of the county to Lima. This was afterward known as the Haw Patch road. These and later roads did not adhere to section lines at first, but have been since changed for that purpose.

Life in Eden before 1840 was from all accounts less enjoyable than existence in the earlier Eden about the year one. The weeds seemed to defy the farmers; they choked the grain and covered everything. It is said that horses and cattle were often lost in them. As if the weeds were not enough, the birds were innumerable, and they flocked to the little wheat patches, making music all day long and helping themselves for reward. Between the weeds and the birds, "what shall the harvest be," was a serious question. But in a few years the condition was changed, the wheat acreage began to yield twenty bushels, and the corn as much as fifty bushels, and the crops on the Haw Patch since then have been wonderful. There was no mill in the township and the grist had to be taken to Dallas' Mill in Clearspring, to Steinberger's in Noble, or to Jonathan Wayland's and other mills near Benton, in Elkhart County. The journey with fifteen or twenty bushels of wheat to Benton from the Haw Patch

would occupy one day, and the next day would be taken up in the return. The earliest trading was done in Goshen and Lima, except such as was done at home with the Indians, who were always anxious to exchange something for "shuma"—silver coin.

The first birth in the county is believed to be Anna Mary Swartz, who was born about 1837. She was married to Jacob Collett and now lives in Iowa. A child was born to William Dempsey very early, which may contest the claim; and Sophronia, daughter of Nehemiah Coldren, afterward the wife of William Walker, of Lima, was at least one of the very earliest natives of Eden.

In September, 1836, the County Commissioners selected the house of Obed Gaines as a voting place, and the first Presidential election in the township was held there in November, 1836. Norman Sessions was Inspector. There were fifteen to twenty votes cast, and of these the Democrats had a large majority. The township has usually had a Democratic majority of one or more ever since then, though during the life of the Whig party it sometimes carried an election.

The resident physicians who have practiced in the township have been Dr. John Brown, who lived near "Slabtown," and died in 1851. Dr. Waller, of about the same period; Dr. Abner Lewis, who lived some time at Sycamore Corners and then moved to La Grange, and finally West, and for the last twenty years, Dr. John M. Denny, who has his office at the old Denny homestead on Section 35. The township, especially about the Haw Patch, has been healthy since the fever and ague days of the first settlement. There have been seasons which were exceptions, however, notably the epidemic of erysipelas in 1850.

A widely-spread gang of horse-thieves and general outlaws, in an early day, made the Haw Patch an unsafe and disagreeable place. To these marauders the Haw Patch was indebted for a reputation as a lawless locality, which it required many years to overcome. Horses would be taken and sent out of the county by regular lines, along which the thieves and their harborers were permanently stationed. Finally, the reign of crime became unendurable. The citizens organized themselves in police associations and resolved to take the law into their own hands. The Regulators for Haw Patch and vicinity organized March 1, 1858, at the residence of Francis Ditman, in Clearspring, with the title of the Clearspring and Eden Detective Police. The President was Abner Lewis, and the Vice Presidents, Charles Roy, Francis Ditman, William Gibson and William Denny. John McDevitt was chosen Secretary and Hawley Peck, Treasurer. Then there occurred the great parade at Kendallville by the Regulator companies, when an immense crowd gathered, and one of the criminals was seized and soon after hung near Diamond Lake, in Noble County, and his body taken back to his wife. The criminal class was awed by the determined spirit of the Regulators; arrests were speedily made, and in a very short time the country was quiet. Since then, the feeling of peaceful security has been disturbed only during the era of tramps.

The Latta family were Methodists and the McConnells Presbyterians, and this determined the denominational lines of the early efforts toward church organization. The first society to be organized was the Methodist, which had its meeting place at the residence of Robert Latta, Sr. James Latta, who had been for some years an itinerant preacher, and had settled in Perry Township, was the one who most frequently conducted the meetings. Among the members of this pioneer church were, besides the Lattas, Samuel and John Curl; Laban Parks, wife and daughter; Elizabeth Ramsby; John Thompson and wife, and James Taylor. Rev. S. R. Ball was Pastor in 1835, and Revs. Robertson, Boyd, Harrison, Posey and Allen, Dowd, Storex and Forbes, followed in very nearly the order given. In 1842, the society, aided by general contributions, built a frame meeting-house on Latta's land, called Eden Chapel. A graveyard was opened west of the old chapel about this time, on an acre donated by Robert Latta. The first buried here was a child of Judge Stage. The grant of land was afterward enlarged to two and one-fourth acres. The old church was, after many years' service, torn down and a neat frame chapel, capable of seating about 300 persons, was erected on the west side of the churchyard, and dedicated in 1866. The building cost about \$1,500 and was built by James Tumbleson. The churchyard is surrounded by a handsome wire fence, and the house and its surroundings kept in a manner which is in itself an index to the wealth and refinement of the neighborhood. A camp-meeting was also held for many years at a grove on Mr. Latta's land, and largely at his expense. He was generous in support of religious enterprises. The church is at present included in the Wawaka Circuit and Rev. James Johnson is the preacher in charge. There are some fifty members enrolled.

The Presbyterian Church was organized at the house of William McConnell, of which his family and Denny's, and the Cavens, of Perry Township, were the earliest members. Rev. James B. Plumstead was the first minister, some time before 1835. Rev. Christopher Cory also preached at this place in 1837 and 1838. The society was not long-lived, and the members were gradually drawn into the congregations of Salem Church and Ligonier.

The Baptist Church had a society, formerly meeting first at Sycamore Schoolhouse and then at Horner's. But since the death of Harvey Coldren, its most prominent member, the society has had very few meetings.

A Methodist Episcopal society was organized west of the Marsh in the winter of 1842-43, and met at John Poyser's house. The early members were John Poyser, Thomas Elliott, Andrew Elliott, John McKibben and Isaac Sparks and their families, and Susan and William H. Poyser. The membership was from Elkhart and La Grange Counties. The congregation also met at the Eden Valley Schoolhouse, until their chapel was built in 1856. This building was erected by James Hart, and was, in dimensions, about 32x45. Rev. Lamb, of Goshen, was one of the earliest preachers, and it was included in the Goshen Circuit. During the war, when feeling was very intense and



persons were divided in opinion about where preachers should draw the dividing line between politics and patriotism, a split was made in the church, and a considerable number, including some of the Virginian settlers, organized a Lutheran Church. This new society built a brick church just over the line in Clinton Township in 1877. The old meeting-house is still in use by the Methodists.

The Amish Mennonite Church was organized in 1854 by German-speaking residents in the township. Before 1842, the settlement by members of this denomination had been begun by David Kurz, John Hartzler, Isaac Hartzler and Gideon Yoder. Later comers were Isaac Smoker, in 1843, and David Hartzler, in 1845. About 1860, a frame church was erected south of the village, on the county line road, and here Bishop Isaac Smoker and Revs. Joseph Yoder and Joseph Kaufman were the earliest preachers. In 1870, this building was torn down and moved to Sycamore Corners, and a handsome brick church was erected, with a seating capacity of 300, at a cost of \$2,000. The church was dedicated by Rev. John F. Funk, of Elkhart. The district now includes all of the Haw Patch, and contains something over one hundred and thirty members. The present preachers in charge are Bishop Smoker, who has now served in this church forty-two years, and Revs. Jonas Hartzler and George Buller. The Amish people are in greater numbers in the northern sections of Eden, owning, in fact, all the upper half of Eden, east of the West Fork of the Little Elkhart. In this part, the first Amish settlers were John Bontrager, Christian Miller, Sr., and Joseph Yoder, about 1844. Most of this territory is included in the Newbury District. The other leading German denomination, the German Baptists or Dunkers, is represented by a flourishing society, organized in 1866, with a present membership of about one hundred and fifty. The society erected a commodious frame meeting-house at Haw Patch Village, in 1870. Rev. David Bare is the minister at this time.

The first school taught in the township was in the winter of 1834, when Kensell Kent organized a school in a log cabin a half mile west of Denny's Corners, at which the few children in the neighborhood found instruction. The big boys in those days were as unruly as in modern times, and a disturbance at one time arose in this school which compelled the attendance of a number of them at the court in Lima for several days. The first schoolhouse was a log building at Denny's Corners, where school was taught by Robinson Ramsby in 1836. Old Mr. Lucky, about 1837, also taught in this schoolhouse. It was a primitive affair; one end of the building was the fire-place; there was nothing in the way of chimney but a hole in the roof, and the rest of the building, it seems, was the hearth. Pins were put in the logs of the wall, and slabs laid on these were the desks. The seats were made from slabs, and were, of course, without backs. Achsah Kent, now Mrs. Nathan Frink, was one of the earliest teachers here. After the log house, there was a frame built upon the same spot, which has been gone some twenty years, and the location of the house to



take its place was on the east line of Section 26. A house was early built on the east line of Section 26, where school was kept for fifteen years. The site was then changed, and a brick house was built at the corners south in 1877, called the Haw Patch Schoolhouse. The Horner Schoolhouse, on Section 13, was built several years before the war, a rough frame, and was rebuilt about 1870.

About 1840, the first schoolhouse was built over the marsh. It was a log house in Elkhart County, near the chapel. Here Thomas Short was one of the earliest teachers. In 1845, the Eden Valley Schoolhouse was built within the township on John Aker's land. A new house has since been erected. In the old house, Margaret Bean was one of the first teachers. Noble County has built two schoolhouses within the limits of Eden, attended mostly by children of this township. The Sycamore School District, with the house in Clearspring, but including a portion of Eden, was organized in 1842, when Mahlon Hutchinson was one of the trustees. The district receives its name from a tall sycamore of the Haw Patch, which used to stand at the corner until it was mischievously girdled.

From the latest school statistics it appears that the township has 288 children of school age, 190 of whom are in attendance each day upon the schools. The length of school is 142 days on an average. Nine teachers are employed at \$1.55 and \$1.39 per day. The revenue for the past year was \$4,823.67, and the value of the school property is put at \$5,890.

An important movement in the direction of popular culture is the Sycamore Literary Society. This was started about seventeen years ago as a debating society at the schoolhouse. But in 1878, a wider field of usefulness was chosen, and a more permanent organization effected and a charter obtained. Ira Ford and J. N. Babcock conceived the idea of the society's obtaining a hall for its exclusive use, and the other members went into the project enthusiastically. The old Dunkard Church, then for sale, was bought, torn down, moved and rebuilt, in 1879, upon land at the "corners," donated by Orvin Kent. The building as refitted is 30x52 feet, and affords a good auditory for 350 persons, and contains a stage and scenery. To do this work, the society borrowed \$500 and was aided by donations. The debt is being paid from the proceeds of entertainments. The society at present has over forty members. J. N. Babcock is President and E. E. Stutsman, Secretary.

There are but few industries in the township besides farming and stock-raising. But two permanent saw-mills and one grist-mill are in operation. The first saw-mill and grist-mill were built near the center of the township in 1854, by Benedict Miller. The flouring-mill had two run of stones and did a fair custom work, but both mills were long ago burned down.

In 1877, John and Amos Schrock built a grist-mill with two run of stones, and a large saw-mill on Section 9, at which a great deal of custom work has been done. The mills were sold in 1881 to Tobias Eash. The only business

place in the township is Haw Patch Center or Haw Patch or "Slabtown," as it has been variously called. The most popular name for some time has been Slabtown, which the saw-mill has the credit of giving the origin to. This point was early selected as a site for trading. William McConnell, the first Postmaster, kept a small stock of goods near by at an early day. Timothy Hudson, Jr., kept a store on the Clearspring side of the street quite early, and also ran an ashery. The saw-mill, which is the most important part of Slabtown, was built by William and Timothy Hudson in 1856, and moved and rebuilt in 1874, by John Keim, who still runs it. About 1871, Jacob Crusen built a store in Slabtown, which was destroyed by fire two years later. John Keim then rebuilt upon the lot in 1877, and in this building a general store was kept by Samuel Holland for a short time, and, since he retired, by Mr. Keim.

In 1878, a building was erected by Thomas Trittapoo, in which another store has since been kept. John Peck, in 1877, made a substantial addition to the place by starting a well-equipped wagon and blacksmith shop. A large harness shop and fine brick residence were erected, in 1881, by J. Zook, on the Clearspring side, at the place of the old Hudson store. These business places and the Dunkard Church are the only public buildings in the village. "Slabtown" has never had the distinction of being platted, but that is among the bright prospects of the future. The neighborhood expected speedy prosperity and a great impetus to the growth of the country when the Canada Southern Railroad extension was surveyed through here in 1872. There was talk of railroad shops being located here. Thomas H. Gale, of Michigan, purchased over a section of improved land at high figures, as a speculation, and the road seemed certain to come, but the panic of 1873 came instead, and there is now little hope of a railroad through the Haw Patch.

During the dry season of 1871, at the time of the Chicago fire, there was considerable danger to buildings near the marsh, and great loss in the way of fences and timber. About nine-tenths of the timber in the township was injured by the fires which swept over the swamp. Almost the entire marshes were burned over, and nothing but deep ditches, aided by persistent fighting of the fire, could check its course. That season of fire by night and clouds of smoke by day will long be remembered. But those few years, when the marshes needed some water, were exceptions. The great problem has been, generally, how to get rid of the surplus of water collected in these vast bogs. The first effort at drainage was the State ditch in the Big Marsh. Johnston Latta, at about the same time, a little before 1850, commenced the first private ditching, in the face of considerable discouragement from the neighbors, in the eastern branch of the swamp. The viewers and surveyors on these early ditches had a hard time of it in the trackless and bottomless bogs, and among the poison sumach. Since then, considerable attention has been paid to the drainage of the marshes, under the various laws of the State; and it has perhaps resulted

in as much litigation as drainage. In fact, however, a great deal of land has been reclaimed. A larger ditch than has ever yet been dug is being surveyed on the line of the old State ditch, and is to be made by assessments.

The Eden of to-day is happy and prosperous. Part of the land is yet uninviting, but it is nowhere so bad as in the "New Eden" Dickens settled Mark Tapley upon; a great portion of it is a beautiful garden, if not a paradise; at least, as near one as any spot in Hoosierdom. As for the people, they are intelligent, enterprising and cultured, and with a decided penchant for large farms and comfortable or even elegant homes, where a generous hospitality is always found.

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## CHAPTER XI.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP—MONGOQUINONG FIFTY YEARS AGO—THE FRENCH TRADERS—MORE OF THE GAGE AND LANGDON WAR—SAW-MILLS, WOOLEN-MILLS, DISTILLERIES, ETC.—INCIDENTS OF THE "HARD CIDER CAMPAIGN"—WILD GAME—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—VILLAGE OF SPRINGFIELD—SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES—SPIRITUALISM—UNION HALL.

THE first white settler in what is now Springfield Township was probably John B. Clark, who, according to his sister, Mrs. Judge Prentiss, located on the west bank of Turkey Creek, near the center of the township, some time during the autumn of 1830. He was, of course, a squatter, as were also all others before the fall of 1832, and, so far as known, was the only one before the spring of 1831. At that time, a man named L. K. Brownell, an enterprising settler, located a claim at what is now Mongoquinong. He had considerable money at command, which was immediately invested in the construction of a dam across Pigeon River. At the same time, he began the erection of a two-storied grist-mill, completing both it and the dam during the summer of 1831; so that, in August of the same year, a fair article of flour was furnished by the mill. Two sets of buhrs were employed, one for wheat and the other for corn. Mr. Brownell was not a practical miller, but employed a man, whose name is not remembered, to manage the running of the mill. The vicinity of the mill, in years before, had been the site of a temporary encampment of Pottawatomies, and, for a number of years afterward they continued to assemble there at certain seasons. As every one knows, they were extremely fond of whisky, and would resort to any means to get it. An Indian (unless pretty well civilized) does not sell his furs; he barter them for something he wants. He goes in for bulk, much as the Irishman did with the boots. The result was that they were easily cheated by unscrupulous traders, who obtained their peltries for a comparative pittance. French traders from Fort Wayne established themselves at Mongo, two of them being (as well as the writer can

spell their names), Druryeur and Cuttieaur. The latter was in business in Fort Wayne, in the partnership of Comparet & Cuttieaur, while the former, so far as known, was not connected with them, unless in the purchase of fancy articles for the Indian trade, and in the disposal of the furs thus obtained. Druryeur was at Mongo as soon as Brownell, and there he remained until late in the autumn of 1832, when so much hostility was shown him by every one, on account of his responsibility for the "Gage and Langdon war," that he found it unprofitable to remain longer, whereupon he removed his trading station, some say, to an Indian village in Michigan. Brownell, at the time he built his grist-mill, saw at once the profit to be realized from the sale of whisky to the Indians and the settlers; and he, therefore, erected a large distillery building near his mill, and employed a practical distiller to conduct the manufacture. His expectations were more than realized, as the most of his whisky (from thirty to forty gallons per day) was purchased and consumed almost as fast as it was made. The distillery and the mill together furnished a market for grain that the settlers appreciated. They could take their corn to the mill, get it ground, and then take it to the distillery, where it was either exchanged for so much whisky, or was brewed on shares. Druryeur had a small trading-house across the river from the mill, where his furs were kept, and where he dealt out whisky to his red friends. As soon as the mill and the distillery were up and running, many persons searching homes were attracted to the spot. The place was certainly promising at that time, for there was the large encampment of Indians across the river from the mill; there was the grist-mill furnishing flour and meal for a large section of country; there was the abundance of large and excellent fish in the broad mill-pond; there were the wild game and the furs of all kinds brought in by the Indians and the white trappers and hunters, and there was the market for grain. The mill and the distillery were no sooner up than a man named John O'Ferrell, a native of the "Emerald Isle," came to the place and erected a small storeroom, in which was placed a stock of goods worth about \$400. The stock consisted mainly of those miscellaneous articles most needed in the backwoods. Some say that Brownell owned part of the stock, and it is very likely he did, as he would scarcely let the golden opportunity of deriving so excellent a profit pass easily into other hands. The facts, however, as to the ownership of the store are not clear. O'Ferrell was certainly the first store-keeper, and, while he was there, kept the post office for a short time. Arthur Burrows opened a hotel in 1833, paying \$7.50 per annum license. At the same time, O'Ferrell was licensed to sell merchandise, paying therefor \$10 per annum, and at the same rate for the time he had been selling before without a license. There was a blacksmith at the village, but his name is not remembered. This was the Mongo of 1833.

The originators or perpetrators of the Indian scare, known as the "Gage and Langdon war," were the Frenchman Druryeur, the Irishman O'Ferrell, the Yankee Brownell, the German miller, and a few native Americans. Such



a unity of nationality could not fail to produce a sensation. All persons at the time were talking about the Black Hawk war, and speculating as to the probability of trouble with the Pottawatomies. Those easily frightened saw dreadful times ahead, and were ready for the scare. The details are told in the chapter on Greenfield. Langdon fled to Brushy Prairie, and told the few settlers there of the massacre at the mill. Men for miles around armed themselves and repaired in haste to the spot, to assist in quelling the outbreak. Over one hundred assembled, though, for some reason unknown, no organization was effected. About seventy-five Indians were encamped near by. They thought the whites were going to attack them, and hung out the white flag. In truth, the settlers could hardly be restrained from firing upon them. It was not long before the truth became known, and then the perpetrators of the hoax were treated to an exhibition of wrath and indignation. So hostile were the settlers to the jokers that trade at the mill, the distillery and the store languished. Under this pressure, the Frenchman left the place; and very likely the early disappearance of O'Ferrell, and the sale of the property of Brownell were hastened, if not caused, by their perpetration of the joke. Do not say the story is magnified. When 100 men assemble, armed and prepared for fight; when attempts are made to build forts and garrison islands in lakes, that section of country is in earnest and means business. Such are the facts, at least.

Among the earliest settlers in the township were William S. Prentiss, Benjamin Jones, Jesse Huntsman, Joseph Foos, Benjamin Foos, William Seaburn, Erastus Haskins, George Thompson, Elijah Fothergill, Drusus Nichols, Otis Shepardson, George Ray (Peckham), William Bullmer, Samuel Bradford, Norman Dyer, Jacob and Isaac Gage, David Michael, Barnabas Thompson and others. At the same time, and prior to 1839, there came Leonard Appleman, Russell Brown, Almon Brine, Isaac Carpenter, Moses Chapin, Conrad Deal, W. B. Dunn, George Donaldson, Edwin Davis, Robert Dayton, William Eastlick, the Emersons, Rufus Freeman, Robert and G. W. Greenfield, Elias Gilbert, Job Gifford, Jacob Greene, J. T. Hobbs, John and William Hall, Luke Hammond, Charles Hull, Sylvanus Hatch, Orsemus Jackway, Jehu Lackey, W. S. Newnam, D. I. and N. B. Newnam, T. H. Nichols, Harvey and Elisha Olmstead, Richard Rice, David Sockrider, Edward Smith, George Smith, Hiram Smith, E. G. Shepardson, James Shears, Elisha Talmage, B. B. Waterhouse, the Wades, Sheldon Williams, Job and James Wilcox, A. T. Wallace, Samuel H. Wright, Samuel Westcott, Ephraim Seeley, Jacob Vandeventer and others. The greatest rush into the township was during the years 1836 and 1837. The terrible sickly season of 1838 swept away many of the settlers, and, on account of the drought, the crops of that year were poor. This state of things, following in the wake of the financial crash of 1837, carried hard times to the verge of desperation. Counterfeiters, thieves and others of their ilk overran the country, and soon honest settlers could not depend upon the integrity of their neighbors.





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In 1832, George Bullmer erected a saw-mill on Pigeon River, in the eastern part of the township. A dam was built across the river after a great deal of trouble, and a short race or chute carried water to the flutter-wheel, which communicated motion to the saw. The mill was a good one, turning out a considerable quantity of lumber. In 1833, Samuel Bradford erected a saw-mill on Turkey Creek, about a mile from its mouth. The race was about half a mile long, and the owner himself expressed doubt, while it was being dug, whether it would carry the necessary water to the mill. George Thompson worked on the race, and, according to his account, the mill did not begin to run until the spring of 1834. The mill, greatly altered in appearance and capacity, is yet in operation. In 1838, William S. Prentiss erected one on the same creek, on Section 34; this is yet in operation. A saw-mill was early built at Mongo; it is yet running. These were the only early mills. In the fall of 1834 or spring of 1835, Samuel Bradford erected an addition to his saw-mill, and placed therein the necessary machinery for carding wool. In November, 1836, he sold both mills and the eighty acres of land upon which they stand to Joshua T. Hobbs; Mr. Crane was employed to conduct the carding-mill; wool was taken there by the settlers to be carded, after which it was taken home, spun, woven into cloth, and returned to the mill to be dressed and colored. No cloth was probably manufactured, several old settlers to the contrary. After many years, the property passed into the control of John and James Tinkler, who, for a short time, infused new life into the enterprise, and probably talked of purchasing weaving machinery and employing a weaver; they did not, however, but within about two years left the place with many debts behind, going to some point in Michigan. While the mill was under the ownership of Hobbs, large quantities of wool were carded, the value of the enterprise being fully appreciated by the settlers over a large scope of country. The carding-mill died with the disappearance of the Tinkler boys.

In about the year 1836, or earlier, the mill property at Mongoquinong was purchased by Drusus Nichols, as were also the O'Ferrell store and the distillery. A man named Skeels was employed to conduct the mill. In 1837, George Smith became the distiller. Nichols himself managed affairs at the store. He increased the stock until it was worth about \$6,000, and at times had a very large trade. As high as fifty gallons of whisky were manufactured in one day. The distillery ran very successfully until about 1842, when it was destroyed by fire, and was not rebuilt. The old grist-mill was used under a change of owners until 1869, when the present structure was erected by C. L. Hawk, who is yet the owner. Nichols died about 1848, and the property passed to Robert Dykes, and afterward to others. Staley and Payne were coopers, who were in the village very early; they manufactured whisky kegs and barrels, and found a sale for all they could make, if not there, at other distilleries, of which there were several in surrounding townships. In 1835, there were some seven or eight families living in the village. William Hall

was an early hotel keeper, as were also Albert Powell and a man named Davis. John Brisco and the Sheldons were other tavern keepers. The Sheldon brothers were physicians, and were among the earliest of that profession in the township. Erastus Haskins was an early blacksmith; John D. Filkins was another. While Judge Seeley was at Lima, a post office called Mongoquinong\* was established there, and he received the appointment as Postmaster. About this time he removed to Greenfield Township, taking the office, which retained the same name, with him. Finally, in about 1833 or 1834, he moved to Springfield Township, and the office was removed to Union Mills, as it was then called, and O'Ferrell, or as some say Nichols, received the appointment as Postmaster; the office still retaining its first name. Drusus Nichols was Postmaster for many years. Mason Brown was an early mail carrier on the Fort Wayne & Lima road; Bourie of Fort Wayne was another; William Legg, another. During the years 1844, 1845 and 1846, Drusus Nichols shipped over 1,000 barrels of flour annually to Fort Wayne and other points, as to Adrian, Mich. At the same time, large quantities were consumed at home. Nichols built the first saw-mill at the village about the time he bought out Brownell and O'Ferrell. Robert Dykes, the successor of Nichols, carried on a very extensive business. Edmund G. Shepardson has been in business in the village for the past seventeen years. Mr. Hawk has been in business there for a long time.

During the Presidential campaign of 1840, several prominent candidates for Congress were announced to speak in Mongoquinong. Eight hundred men gathered to hear them. Bands of martial music came in four-horse wagons, with drums beating and colors flying. Great enthusiasm was manifested for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." A gayly decorated wagon from Angola appeared, the wagon-box being a large canoe, in which a fine martial band was seated. It was a great Whig day, though many Democrats were present to see the show and hear the speakers. Games were projected, and the sturdy politicians enjoyed themselves. It is said that Samuel Burnside, at hop, step and jump, on this day, cleared forty-six feet. Losey Young and John Davidson did about as well. Otis Shepardson, Sr., felt unwell while in Nichols' store, whereupon the latter bathed his head with whisky. This started the idea that every Democrat present should be baptized with whisky into the Whig faith. It is impossible to describe the scene that ensued. Whigs with mugs of whisky in their hands were seen in all directions chasing down Democrats, running through houses and gardens, jumping fences, clearing ditches in their precipitous efforts at political regeneration. Many were baptized on that well-remem-

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\*The meaning of the Indian word "Mongoquinong" is uncertain. The most trustworthy reports say that it was applied by the Indians to the prairie east of Lima, the open country being known by that name among the Potawatommies when the county was first settled by the whites, or even years before, when the Indian traders were the only white persons. Various meanings have been given the term—that it signifies "Big Squaw," or "Big Chief" or "Big White Squaw," or as meaning both man and woman. Those who hold the last view say, that *Shi-mo-kah-mong* means white man, *mong* meaning man; also, that *Shi-mo-kah-nong* means white woman, *nong* meaning woman. These two terms placed together and united by the proper connective would give *mong* (oqui) *nong* meaning man and woman. This etymological analysis of the word, though plausible, cannot be maintained on good authority. The burden of evidence is that the term means "Big Squaw."

bered day. Drusus Nichols employed a surveyor, and, in March, 1840, had laid out about one hundred and eighty lots on Sections 5 and 8. This was the first plat of Mongoquinong. That long name has been lately shortened to Mongo. The population of the village has probably at no time exceeded one hundred and fifty.

In early years, the streams of Springfield afforded an excellent place to fish and hunt. Hunters with flaming torches would float down the streams in canoes, and the deer which had come to drink would stand and stare at the light until shot. E. G. Shepardson and a companion were thus engaged one night, when they approached a deer so closely that they could have reached out their hands and touched it. Shepardson shot it through the heart. The report of the rifle rang in the ears of his companion for many years afterward. The deer fell partly across the boat. An old Indian near there was thus engaged one dark night, when he shot a deer that pluaged into his canoe, upsetting it, and spilling the red man and his accouterments into the river. The old fellow reached shore in safety. Many years ago, the workmen who were excavating under a barn in the township unearthed two human skeletons, probably those of Indians. Some say the skeletons belonged to persons who were murdered by a man named Hubbard, who had lived there very early, and who afterward was convicted of murder in Allen County, and punished. Springfield has within its border a Government signal station.

After the organization of the county, and prior to May, 1834, Springfield Township remained attached to Greenfield; but, at the latter date, the County Commissioners—in response to a petition presented them by John B. Clark, Jesse Huntsman, Joseph and Benjamin Foos, William Seaburn, Benjamin Jones, William S. Prentiss, and possibly a few others, who had some time before met at a cabin built and abandoned by Samuel Gauthrop, and had drawn up the petition in which it was asked that a new township be created, and that it be named Springfield—ordered the creation of such township, and directed that the first election be held at the residence of Benjamin Jones, on the first Monday in August, 1834. Mr. Prentiss was appointed Inspector of the election. Who were elected to the different township offices is not remembered. George Thompson was appointed by the Commissioners in September, 1834, to serve as Constable. In May, 1835, they appointed Benjamin Jones and Jesse Huntsman to officiate as Overseers of the Poor; and David Michael and Edward Smith as Fence Viewers. At this time, the township was divided into two road districts, the division line being Turkey Creek. Joseph Foos was appointed Supervisor for the district west of the creek, and Leonard Appleman for that on the east side. Jane Clark, daughter of John B. Clark, was the first white child born in the township, June 4, 1831. In 1832, Ephraim Seeley, Esq., married William S. Prentiss and Jane Mary Clark. Some highly interesting works of the Mound-Builders are found in the western part of the township—fortifications, mounds, war implements, etc.



The village of Springfield was laid out by Leonard Appleman in 1842, 133 lots being surveyed and offered for sale. About the same time, he built a store-room and placed on its shelves several thousand dollars' worth of a general assortment of goods. At this time, he also built a warehouse and began buying a considerable quantity of grain, and began packing pork. He had at his command a goodly sum of money, and for many years he dealt in these articles, hiring teamsters to convey his purchases to market at the most favorable seasons. By shrewd management, experience and a judicious expenditure of capital, he realized handsome profits. Mr. Appleman's besetting sin was his ungovernable appetite for strong drink. After his death, which occurred just before the last war, his son, John Appleman, took charge of the father's business. Frank Hamilton was in the Appleman building with goods for a few years during the lifetime of Leonard Appleman. Zekiel Brown and David Paulus, partners, sold goods in the village about the commencement of the last war. George Porter sold goods some nine years ago. Frederick Neutz and Hugh A. Porter were in with groceries for a short time. Then came William Strayer. Dr. House located there at an early day. He was succeeded by Dr. Griffith. Dr. Alpharis M. Spaulding, a physician of the old school, established himself there some twenty-six years ago, where he has since remained enjoying a lucrative practice and the confidence of his patrons. The whisky traffic became so strong in the village for a series of years before the war, and so many young men through its influence were drawn into dissipation, and even crime, that the sober citizens at last determined that it must stop. In 1857, Dr. Spaulding, William S. Prentiss, Minot Goodsell, T. C. Dille and others, ten or twelve in all, under proper authority, organized themselves into a lodge of Good Templars. This lodge grew rapidly in power and influence, and soon its members numbered over one hundred. Excellent work in the right direction was done, young and old men were reclaimed to lives of sobriety, and the sale for ten months was wholly stopped. But the excitement of war time came on, and, in about 1861, the lodge surrendered its charter. Afterward, when a keg of whisky was brought to the village, three of the most prominent citizens employed a young man for \$3 to bore an auger hole in the bottom, from which all the liquor escaped and was lost. The old "Mayflower Lodge of Good Templars" will be remembered with pleasure for many long years in the future. A Masonic Lodge was organized in Springfield about six years ago, with twelve or fifteen charter members. They were so scattered that, after a short time, the charter was surrendered. The membership did not exceed twenty-five. It was called "Prentiss Lodge, No. 505." George Bassett and Conrad Deal were early tavern-keepers. T. C. Dille was a cabinet-maker, an undertaker, and a carpenter. His work may be seen in all directions. The population of the village has probably at no time exceeded seventy-five. In 1880, the following persons had passed the age of seventy-five: Susan Arnold, seventy-six; Eunice Fuller, eighty-six; Harriet Gilbert, seventy-five; Lydia Hugh, eighty-one; Christopher Hawk, ninety;



*Mrs Grizelle Kent*

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Lena Hawk, seventy-five ; Willis Haskins, eighty-two ; Daniel Hart, seventy-seven ; Sarah Notestine, seventy-five ; David L. Poppino, eighty-two ; Henry Talmage, seventy-six : Maria Tole, eighty-four ; Samuel Westcott, eighty-four.

The first schoolhouse in the township was built on Section 20, near the cemetery, as early as 1836, or perhaps 1835, and Otis Shepardson, Jr., was employed to teach the first term of school. It is thought this term was taught during the winter of 1835-36. A Mr. Melindy was an early teacher in this house. He was a Vermonter, and an eccentric character. After this building had been used but a few years, another was erected about a half a mile south, on Thompson's Corners. This was a frame structure, and was used many years. Finally the district was divided a few years before the last war, and two houses were built, one near the Chapman farm, and the other south on the Sears Corners. The latter was destroyed by fire but was soon rebuilt. New houses have lately taken the place of both. In about the year of 1840, a log cabin that had been built just north of Appleman Lake, for a dwelling, but abandoned, was fitted up for a schoolhouse, and Miss Harriet Twitchell, from near Orland, was hired to teach, receiving about \$1.50 per week, and boarding around. Some ten years later, a frame schoolhouse was built near the same spot, and, in this building, Russell Brown was the first teacher. This house was used until the present one was built some eight or ten years ago. A log schoolhouse was standing at the Talmage Corners at a very early day. The name of the first teacher is not remembered. It is said that this house was either built as a combined church (Baptist) and schoolhouse, or else it was converted to religious uses afterward, as various denominations (Baptist, Methodist, etc.) had small classes there at a very early day. A schoolhouse was built quite early in the Sanderson neighborhood. New houses have succeeded the old. The Schultz Schoolhouse was erected about seven years ago, when the district in the forks was created. For a number of years prior to 1855, the few families in Springfield village had no church, and were compelled to send their children some distance to one of the country schools. Finally it was resolved to build a combined church and schoolhouse. The Township Trustees agreed to give \$300 toward the erection of such a house, providing it was used at proper times as a schoolhouse. To this the villagers agreed, they giving \$400 that the building might, when not occupied by the school, be used for a church of any Christian denomination. The building is provided with a steeple, a curious appendage for a schoolhouse, but an imposing one for a church. This house was built during the summer of 1855, but prior to that several terms of select school had been taught in the village. In about 1838, a log school building was erected on the line between Sections 27 and 28, just north of William Dunbar's. Miss Ellen Wheeler taught the first term here. She boarded around. This house was used for school purposes about four years, and was then superseded by the school of the Phalanx. The schoolroom at the last-named place was in the second story over the dining-room. There were some forty families connected

with the association (for sketch of which see county chapter), with an enumeration of over sixty scholars. School was taught there the year round, save short vacations between the terms. At the time, this was perhaps the best school in the county, or at least one of the best. Judge Prentiss, a noble man, and a graduate of Harvard College, taught several terms. An assistant teacher was employed. Mr. Parker was one of the teachers. None but capable men were given charge of the school, as several of the higher branches were taught, and a thorough system of discipline was required. At the dissolution of the association the school ended, and then the few children in the district were sent to other schools until about thirteen years ago, when the present house, a frame, was built. Miss Ellen Foos was the first teacher in this house. Miss Ella Ewing is the present teacher, receiving \$30 per month. In about 1839, a frame schoolhouse was built about a half a mile northwest of Mongo. It was a good house and was used there until about 1845, when it was moved to Mongo, and used until eight or nine years ago, when the present two-story frame structure was erected, at a cost of about \$1,800. Two teachers are employed at present. The enumeration is about eighty scholars. The house was paid for partly by subscription and partly from the township funds. A schoolhouse was built in District No. 1 about thirty-eight years ago, by E. G. Shepardon. He also built one farther west about ten years later.

The M. E. Church society at Talmage Corners started up in 1838 with a membership of fourteen under the ministration of Rev. G. M. Boyd. Among the early members were Jehu Lackey and wife, Mrs. Nichols, W. S. Newnam, Susan Newnam, William Seaburn and wife, Conrad Deal and wife, William Herbert and wife, N. B. Newnam and wife, Frank Hamilton and wife, and others. The Talmages have been prominent and excellent citizens since a very early day. They have been closely identified with religious work. This Methodist society has had its years of depression, and its periods of financial embarrassment; yet there is not another in the county that has clung to its constant exercises so well. The members are justly proud of their church, which was built many years ago. The Brushy Prairie M. E. Society was organized in 1836 by Rev. T. B. Conley. Eleven persons joined at the time of organization. The church was built in 1842, largely at the expense of B. B. Waterhouse, the Greenfields, Mr. Carpenter, the Austins and others. Rev. Conley was a faithful, consistent, true-hearted Christian. His temporal welfare had at one time been somewhat neglected, as the members of the church gave donation parties to other servants. He said nothing. One evening, a few of the more thoughtful ones, accompanied by a retinue of outsiders, surprised him with a large quantity of valuables. The kind-hearted old man was so touched by the act, that, in his reply to the presentation speech, he completely broke down with sobs and blessings. His God had not forsaken him. The writer was unable to get at the facts regarding the Baptist society of early years at Talmage Corners. A United Brethren society was organized at Mongo in 1879. Rev. T.



A. Childs, of Lima, was instrumental in effecting the organization. The first members were Dr. A. W. Jones and wife, George W. Hall and wife, Benjamin Tanner and wife, James Downs and wife and Abraham Shafer. Samuel McKenzie was the class leader. The society has increased but little in numbers. A neat frame church was built in 1880 at a cost of about \$1,500, one-half being given by outsiders. There is a debt on the church at present of about \$500; but this will soon be paid off, suitable provision having been made with that result in view. Sunday school has been conducted for some two years, Dr. C. M. Whitzel being the first superintendent. T. A. Childs was the first pastor. Rev. Melvin Bell at present preaches every two weeks for the society, and is paid \$50 per year for such service. The lot upon which the church stands cost \$100, and was included in the figures above. There are many Free Thinkers in Mongo, and, indeed, throughout Springfield Township. They are outspoken, argumentative, thoughtful, uncertain, peculiar and iconoclastic. Some thirty-four years ago, the Spiritualists hold "seances" or "circles," in various portions of the township, and large crowds gathered to hear them. Mediums of great repute were secured from abroad, to visit the township for the purpose of giving public exhibition of the fact that the spirits of departed friends could be conversed with. The result was that scores were converted to the new faith; and the other religious societies languished under the influence of the new. At last, great opposition was manifested by the orthodox, who often denied them the use of schoolhouses or other buildings in which to assemble. In June, 1858, at a public meeting of the following men—W. S. Prentiss, Jesse Huntsman, Benjamin Jones, Harvey Olmstead, Ed. Dyer, George Thompson and others—it was resolved to build a free hall, and names and subscribed amounts were appended to the following instrument:

We, the subscribers, a voluntary association, for religious, scientific and benevolent purposes, hereby agree to pay the sums affixed to our names to aid in building a hall, which shall be open for lectures, discourses and discussions on various subjects, with no favor to any one sect or class of persons, and which shall never be closed to any one who may, within the bounds of good behavior, wish to advocate, explain or discuss his or her opinions on the above-named subjects; and, for the purpose of proceeding legally, we hereby avail ourselves of the act of the Legislature of Indiana, approved June 17, 1852, entitled: "An act to enable trustees to receive lands and donations of money, the same for the use of schools, churches, religious societies, etc., and for constructing houses of worship and other buildings named."

The building was immediately erected at a cost of about \$800, and was named "Union Hall." It has been used for the purpose stated since its erection, but the orthodox denominations avoid using it. Free Sunday schools have been held there. An excellent lyceum is conducted there almost every winter, and exhibitions are given to secure sufficient funds to keep the building in repair.

## CHAPTER XII.

BY R. H. BERICK.

CLEARSPRING TOWNSHIP—INTRODUCTORY—TOPOGRAPHY—EARLY APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTRY—THE COMING OF THE PIONEER—THE SETTLER'S HOME—ROLLINGS AND RAISINGS—INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT—INCIDENTS AND STATISTICS—THE TEACHER AND THE PREACHER.

IN the beginning of this century, the beautiful country now covered with fertile farms and meadows and woodland, which is called Clearspring, was a *terra incognita* to the white man. The Indians alone roamed through its unbroken forests, hunting the game and refreshing themselves at the springs that made this locality so attractive. The country presented no peculiar advantages to the farmer, as a whole, though in the southwest there lay the eastern part of that broad and extremely fertile opening, called the Haw Patch. The remainder of the thirty-six miles was a rolling country, covered by forests of beech, oak and maple, which were to be felled before the fertile soil would yield its riches to the patient pioneer. Clearspring and Eden were at first one township, and their fitness for such a union was shown by the first settlement. The best lands in each township lie near the line separating them, and this fact invited settlement about the Haw Patch, while the swamps to the east and the west kept those sections backward in their development. The first settler in Clearspring was not bound down by sectional lines. He rose above township limitations. His log-house, at least, was raised precisely upon the town line, and he could bid defiance, as it was jocosely remarked after the division of the towns, to the constabulary of either. Anthony Nelson, this first settler, came into Indiana from Ohio in 1829, and located first in Elkhart County, and then came to this township and entered two eighty-acre lots in 1831, which he occupied the next year, and has ever since lived upon. Mr. Nelson is now eighty-five years of age. One of the next comers was Dr. David Rogers, who was in the township in 1833, from Wayne County, N. Y., and entered 1,280 acres of land in this township and Eden, as a speculator. He spent much time in the township, however, and for the last fifteen or eighteen years of his life resided here almost continually, collecting herbs and roots for medicine, and attending to a considerable practice as a physician. He also made a business of selling extracts, essences, etc., in the East, and traveled a great deal for that purpose. He collected his simples in all parts of the East, as well as here. He was a man of many eccentricities, and a real "naturalist." He would often spend the summer in a cave or in a slight shed, preferring to have nothing more artificial between him and the canopy of heaven. His house, a sort of adobe contrivance, was on his land in Section 22, but he lived much of the time with his neighbor, Erastus Nelson. Dr. Rogers died in 1871,

and was buried on a little hill near his home, overlooking the Haw Patch road, where there is a fine shaft of marble bearing the inscription: "Dr. David Rogers, born June 2, 1786, died February 24, 1874, aged eighty-five years eight months and twenty-two days. He was the friend of the invalid, and gave medicine without money and without price."

He left a will dated March 7, 1868, by which he bequeathed the remainder of his lands lying in this county, consisting of eighty acres in Clearspring and one hundred and sixty in Eden "to the Commissioners of the county of La Grange and their successors in office forever, in trust forever, for the use and benefit of the orphan poor, and for other destitute persons of said county."

Norman Sessions settled on Section 27 in 1834. He was married to Minerva Gaines, of Eden, by Justice William McConnell, February 8, 1835. This was the first marriage in the township. His first child was, it is thought, the first born in the township and also the first one to die. It was buried in a lot then donated (1837), by Elisha Pixley, for a burying-ground. Mr. Sessions himself died at the age of thirty-two, in March, 1841.

In 1834, John Sprout settled at first with Anthony Nelson upon the line, but afterward moved upon Section 19, where he died in 1878. Nathan Bishop of North Carolina, sometimes called the first settler, came April 12, 1834, with his young son Robert, and nephew, Robert H., and entered upon land in Section 22. Nathan Bishop, a Free-Will Baptist, was the first preacher in the township. He held service at his home for many years, and organized a society which met there, but gradually died out. In addition to this work, Mr. Bishop preached at various places throughout the town. He died March 3, 1850. His eldest son Robert, who was born in 1799, still lives on the old farm. In the early days he was the only blacksmith in the town, and, with his father, built and worked the first tannery in that vicinity. James Gordon, a son-in-law of Nathan Bishop, came with him and had the honor of sowing the first wheat in Clearspring, on Section 28, and of being the first mason. Amos Newhouse, with his son John, settled on Section 32, in the spring of 1835, and began clearing the large farm, which he occupied until his death in 1875. He was a native of Virginia, and is remembered as a quiet and industrious man. A half mile from Mr. Newhouse's estate lies the farm upon the county line, which John S. Gibson, after living at the Haw Patch a short time, occupied in the same year, and at this date still lives to enjoy.

Elijah Pixley was another settler of 1835, from Union County, Ind., and began here his farming life upon Section 28, where he lived until his death in 1874. Upon his land were located the first schoolhouse, the first burying-ground and the first church in the township. His sons Edward and James Pixley have since been residents of Clearspring. The year 1836 was the time of increased immigration, and many of the best citizens coming that year were able, at the time of the Centennial celebration of the nation, to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of their settlement. Among these was Charles Roy, who

came with his family upon his land in Section 22, near the center of the township, on the 20th of June. Mr. Roy has always been an energetic man, and has made valuable improvements. He was the first to raise fruit to any great extent, and early had a nursery of 700 trees, and an orchard of ten acres. He was also one of the first to raise mint and distill the oil, and came to do an extensive business in this line. Simeon Crosby came from New York and settled in the west half of Section 34, but died in 1839, three years after his arrival. A daughter, Sarah Crosby, was one of the first married in the township, then a part of Eden, being married to John Hubbard, September 12, 1836, by Rev. James Latta.

Nicholas Lowe and wife came from Maryland and settled on Section 29, where he came to possess 300 acres of land upon which he and his son, Rev. Thomas H. Lowe, now reside. Ernestus Schermerhorn, of Syracuse, N. Y., was in the township at this time, and bought land in the northeast, but did not settle until 1839. He died forty years later, February 8, 1876. Willard Hervey came in this year, at first to the home of Simeon Crosby, whose daughter he married in 1839. This lady, when Miss Sebrina Crosby, had taught school in Amasa Durand's house, north of La Grange. It is told of her, as an instance of what the pioneer girls had to endure, that at one time, when living at home, and her father dangerously ill and without any remedy or doctor near, she walked through the forests the whole distance to Lima, about fifteen miles, to bring Dr. Jewett, the nearest physician. Most of the journey, an Indian trail was the only road, and at one point she had to cross Buck Creek, which was swollen with floods, and only partially bridged with logs. But she pulled off her shoes, and jumping from log to log, made the passage safely and brought the doctor to her father. In 1836, October 3, William Dallas, of Ohio, settled in Section 26, on the present land of Norton Kinnison. He had with him his sister and fourteen motherless children, of whom, Samuel, Lorenzo, George, Joseph and Levi are now well-to-do citizens of the township. His home was near the Elkhart River, near where it emerges from a group of lakes, of which the most eastern lie partly in the township. These four bodies of water, the largest of which is called Dallas Lake, are the only ones in Clearspring, and occupy but about three hundred acres. Mr. Dallas at once began to utilize the water-power of the river, and in 1837 built a grist-mill near his home. This was a considerable undertaking for a man in his circumstances, and in such a remote place. But his perseverance carried it through, and it was soon completed and ready to grind the grists of the few farmers for miles around. Before this time the wheat had been carried to Goshen, Ontario or Van Buren. "Uncle Billy's corn-cracker," as it was called, was of a very primitive and simple construction. The building, built of whitewood logs, was so low that the man who put the grain in the hopper had to make a humble passage beneath the rafters. There were no castings about the mill; all was wood except the mill-stones, and of these there were but one pair, and



the millstone shaft, a flat bar of iron. A bolt only was necessary and that was soon supplied, but there were no cog-wheels or belting, and consequently this had to be revolved at first by hand, a process which required a good deal of muscle. Sometimes the patrons of the mill were called on to assist in this operation. The mill had a capacity for grinding about fifty bushels in twenty-four hours, but never was called on for such an extraordinary business. To this mill men came with their grain from the whole neighborhood (and neighborhoods were large in those days) in ox carts, on horseback, afoot or in canoes. It was an accommodating institution, run by one of the most accommodating men that ever blessed a new community with his presence.

Three or four years later, Mr. Dallas built a saw-mill near by, which, after his death, was run by Van Kirk until the dam broke, about 1851. "Uncle Billy" Dallas, as he was familiarly called, died many years ago (in 1847), but his many virtues still live in the memory of the old settlers.

Others, who came in 1836, are James Haviland, who built the first barn; Henderson Potts, the first disciple of Crispin; N. P. Osborn and David Ray.

We have named those who were here by 1836, and, by common consent, are called the "old settlers"—at least the earliest settlers. Among them, however, should be included Hawley Peck, born in Connecticut in 1810, who bought eighty acres in Clearspring in 1836, but did not come until 1838, when he concluded to settle here, and bought 160 acres more, and in 1844 commenced improvements upon it. He has done much for the advancement of the township, and his large family of sons and daughters (now grown to manhood and womanhood) are among the best people of the county. Charles S. Sperling, now eighty-nine years of age, the oldest man in the township, settled, in 1843, upon Section 4.

After 1836, the immigration proceeded rapidly, and the many settlers since then we cannot name except as they were connected with the events of the general history of the township.

As the tide of population came in, the price of land rose, and the low price of \$1.25 that the Government asked was increased to \$3 or \$4 in 1836 and to \$8 or \$10 two years later. With this change, the price of products decreased; but in the earliest years the contrast with the present was not very marked. Wheat then was worth \$1 per bushel; corn, 50 cents; oats, 37 cents; butter, 37½ cents; soft soap, 37 cents per gallon; hogs, \$10 to \$14; cows, \$30.

The Indians were removed before 1840 and the white men left in undisturbed possession. The Pottawatomies were, however, not in any way troublesome to the pioneers. There were a great many of them in the township, especially in the south, where they had a camping-ground on a high ridge, now known as the "Hogback." They were agriculturists in a small way, and raised corn on low ground near the ridge. But they were very conservative in their farming. One year a party of them planted corn on the farm of Anthony Nelson and were very much opposed to his plowing and harrowing the ground;



but, when he came to mark out the patch in rows, their disgust was unbounded. The chief Kookoosh, however, was wise enough to respect the pale face's little eccentricities in farming and kept his men at work, and they succeeded in raising a very good crop. Another old chief was one of those few red men who justify the poet's account of "Lo, the poor Indian!" He seemed to see "God in the clouds and hear him in the wind," and at every meal, before he would partake of any food, he would invoke the blessing of the Great Spirit. The Indians were always ready for a trade with the pioneers, and would exchange venison, cranberries, moccasins and trinkets for vegetables and whatever the white men had to spare. A famous spring on the farm of Charles Roy, known as Clearspring, whence the township derived its name, was a great resort for the Indians, and there were many other springs, such as Indian Spring, south of the first named, which their trails passed.

In March, 1837, the Commissioners set off from Eden Township the territory now known as Clearspring, and ordered an election at Elijah Pixley's, on the first Monday of April. In accordance with this, some fifteen or twenty voters met at the appointed place, and proceeded to vote for township officers. The records cannot be found, and, consequently, a full list is impossible, but it is believed that the first Trustees were Ernestus Schermerhorn, Willard Hervey and Elijah Pixley, and the first Justices, William F. Beavers and Norman Sessions. N. P. Osborn was chosen Clerk, and received \$3 for his year's service. The Trustees were paid \$2.25 each for the first year. Beavers was soon after, June 23, married to Mary J. Cummins, of this township.

The Justices since then, as far as the county records show, have been: William Harding, 1839-49; John Strang, 1843-48; Hawley Peck, 1848-51; William D. Sloan, 1849-50; William H. H. Aldrich, 1850-52; John Strang, 1851-55; Nathan P. Osburn, 1852-56; William Price, 1856-60; John L. Strang, 1860-64; William Yarwood, 1865-73; Orvin Kent, 1867-71; Willard Hervey, 1871-75; James Chandler, 1873-77; Thomas H. Low, 1875-79; James Chandler, 1877-81; Norman Babcock, 1879. The records of the township were kept on papers or memorandum books until 1844, when the Trustees made an appropriation for record books and for copying old records. But the records, notwithstanding this provision, are not to be found for any earlier year than 1842. The place of election was then still at the house of Elijah Pixley. The spring election of that year resulted in the choice of Elijah Osborn, William Dallas and John Strang, as Trustees; N. P. Osborn, Clerk, and Anson Lewis and Caleb Strang, Constables. At that time, there were three Trustees. In 1845, William Dallas, William Harding and Benjamin Chandler were elected; in 1846, Chandler, Charles Roy and Amos Newhouse; in 1848, Chandler, Roy and E. Osborn; in 1850, William Baxter, Charles Roy and John Kitchen; in 1852, Baxter, Kitchen and W. D. Sloan; in 1854, Charles G. Doty, Erastus Nelson and John Tumbleson. At the spring election of next year, but one Trustee was elected, and this has since been the



*Chris Howley*

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rule. The Trustees since have been: Schuyler Nelson, 1855; John Kitchen, Sr., 1859; Schuyler Nelson, 1862; John Kitchen, Sr., 1863; Joel Miller, 1864; Christopher Hooley, 1865; Erastus Nelson, 1870; John Greenawalt, 1876; John Price, 1880. Among the early Clerks were W. H. H. Aldridge, in 1846; William H. Price, 1850, who still lives in the township with his son, the present Trustee, and Richard Green, a popular, but rather eccentric old settler, who for many years constituted the "Anti-Masonic party" in the county. The place of election was in 1842 removed to the house of Nathan Bishop; in 1845, to Charles Roy's, and about 1854 to the Bishop Schoolhouse.

At the taking of the 1880 census, the returns for the township show that the following-named persons, residents thereof, were of the age set opposite their names, the object being to show those who had attained the age of seventy-five or over, viz.: Robert Bishop, seventy-nine; Sarah Misner, seventy-five; Eliza Parks, seventy-five; Samuel Smith, seventy-five; Benjamin Wortinger, seventy-five; Charles S. Sperling, eighty-eight.

In 1846, Hawley Peck began the growing of mint and manufacture of oil, which became quite an industry in the township. The oil was canned and shipped to the East, or sold to buyers who would collect it, and found a ready sale at prices varying from \$1.25 to \$5 per pound. Several persons engaged in mint raising, Charles Roy and Erastus Nelson being among the earliest and most extensive growers. The annual production varied in value between \$5,000 and \$10,000, until within the last few years, when the industry has been discontinued.

Before 1850, there was serious talk of running the road now called the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Air Line, through the southern part of the township. A line was surveyed, and there were positive assurances of the building of the road through Clearspring, which induced the hope of a speedy rise in the value of real estate, and the growth of a flourishing town on the site of "Slabtown." Years after, when the road was finally built, the superior persuasive powers of the land-owners of the little village of Kendallville led the engineers to adopt a more southern route, and Clearspring's first hope of being on an east-and-west iron line was blasted. But it was through no fault of the early settlers, who did their best to secure the road, and were at one time positively assured of it.

As there has never been a village in the township, the business history is very light. The first store was kept by the Cummings family, south of "Slabtown," upon the Eden town line, and Timothy Hudson, Jr., afterward kept a store at his house in Clearspring, in connection with the saw-mill and tannery. The first brick yard was on Harrison Smith's land, on "Jordan street," and two are now in operation, by B. F. Ditman and Henry J. Ulmer.

In 1873, there were two granges of the Patrons of Husbandry organized in the township. One, the Clearspring Grange, met at Pixley's Schoolhouse,

and had at one time forty members. The Worthy Master was John Gillette, and Secretary, Ira Ford. The Dallas Grange met at Curl's; Ichabod Jones was the first presiding officer. These associations survived until 1880. This movement met with greater encouragement in this township and Eden than in any other part of the county.

The numerous narrow trails of the Indians were the first roads of the settlers, but steps were soon taken to make highways. Anthony Nelson was at one time notified of his appointment as Road Supervisor, and promptly mustered his forces and went to work, camping out nights until his job was completed. His road district extended from Lima to Ligonier. Elijah Pixley was one of the earliest Supervisors, and built the road running east from Sycamore Corners in 1835-36. Orvin Kent, not at that time a permanent resident in the township, but who later became one of the most influential men of Clearspring, was that year upon his land, and was called upon to assist on this road. This was the first road in the township, and formed part of the Haw Patch, or Ligonier road.

In 1842, the township was divided into four road districts, which increased to eleven in 1846, and now number fifteen. The roads are generally good ones, and kept in excellent condition. In 1872, there was an excellent prospect for the building of the Chicago & Canada Southern road through the south of the township. It was, in fact, a sure thing. But the panic of 1873 came, and Clearspring is still without a railroad.

The first school in the town was held in a little log house on Charles Roy's land, southwest of Clearspring, in the fall of 1839. The teacher was Miss Anna Maria Crosby (daughter of Simeon C.), who married Samuel Dallas in 1841. The pioneer schoolma'am then, dressed in homespun linsey-woolsey, teaching in a log house, twelve feet square, for \$1.25 per week, was in great contrast, as to her surroundings and facilities, with the teacher of modern days in the comfortable buildings which dot the township over. But in earnest teaching and real success in their work, the first school teachers need fear nothing from a contrast with the modern "educator." The text-books which the boys and girls of that day used were mainly Webster's Speller, the New Testament and the Old English Reader. This log building, which has now disappeared, had been Mr. Roy's first house, and besides serving as an educational institution, also afforded a temporary shelter for many poor pioneers until they could build log cabins of their own. In 1840, two schoolhouses were built of logs, one at Hervey's Corners, by Willard Hervey, and the other at Hiram Taylor's, and the township was divided into two school districts. The first teacher at the Hervey Schoolhouse was Joseph Miller. The building of schoolhouses, at this early day, by levies of school tax, was too slow a method, and in 1855 the citizens were granted the privilege of building and repairing schoolhouses with the right of having credit for the same on their subsequent taxes. Soon after, one district agreed, as the record runs, "nem. con. to build



a hewed log house, 18x20." In 1841, the township, divided by sections, included only seven districts, but the schools were not crowded, as the enumeration four years later shows but fifty-two school children in the township. One of the earliest schoolhouses was Pixley's, about 1850, on Section 28, and was built by that neighborhood. The old log house was replaced by a frame in 1861. In 1856, the house at Hiram Taylor's was rebuilt. In 1849, Orvin Kent deeded land for the site of the Sycamore Schoolhouse, so called on account of a tall Sycamore at the corners; this school district was formed through the efforts of Orvin Kent and others, and includes territory in Eden and Clearspring. A new schoolhouse was built further east in 1870; on the same section stands the Walnut Schoolhouse, with the Walnuts still there, built in 1861. The "Jordan" Schoolhouse, built in 1860, and the Wertinger, in 1863, are still in use. A log schoolhouse was erected on Nathan Bishop's land, on the east line of Section 22, in 1850, which has since disappeared, being replaced by the Sloan house in 1860, a short distance north. Near this schoolhouse lies the old burying-ground, started before 1850, now known as Sloan's. The Hackenburg or Red Schoolhouse, dates back to 1865, and Harris' to about the same year. The first brick schoolhouse was the Chandler, built in 1877. Another one has just been completed, in the same quarter, called Streeter's, which takes the place of the old Curl Schoolhouse, which was first built about 1841. According to the latest statistics, the township has 351 pupils, who are instructed in twelve schoolhouses. The average length of school is 140 days. The revenue of last year was \$4,969.67, and the value of school buildings is \$5,000.

The earliest preacher, Nathan Bishop, has already been spoken of. The first society to be organized in the township was one of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which held its meetings at Swank's house, over the line in Noble County. Among the members of this little congregation were Elijah Pixley, Mark Kinnison, Mrs. Ruth Ray and Henderson Potts. Rev. James Latta, of the Haw Patch, was the organizer. The famous itinerants, Posey and Allen, had preached here before the society was formed, and paved the way for it. This society soon died out, and was succeeded in that neighborhood by a Methodist Protestant Church, meeting at Hervey's (or Ray's) Schoolhouse. The first quarterly meeting was held here February 15, 1845, when Willard Hervey was licensed as an exhorter. Rev. Beardsley was the pastor in charge at this time, and this was one of the societies in the Goshen Circuit. A church of the same denomination was organized at the Taylor Schoolhouse in 1851. There was also a Methodist society meeting at John Hammond's on the Clay town line, which was preached to by William Connelly and James Latta.

Of late years, an Amish organization has been formed in the northwest part of the township, which has its meetings by appointment at convenient places among its members. The church of the "Best Endeavor" is one of the most recent religious organizations. This somewhat familiar title attaches

to the congregation formerly meeting in the Pixley Schoolhouse, and now in the Beulah Church, and for several years addressed by Rev. John Paul Jones, of La Grange. It is quite unsectarian in character. The origin of the church building is quite interesting. The land upon which it stands was deeded by John Greenawalt to the Evangelical Union Mennonites, to be used by them, but to be free for other churches, and after their disuse of it, to go to any other Christian organization under the same conditions. Here a handsome brick church was built, principally by popular subscription, and was dedicated May 8, 1881, the services being conducted by Rev. J. P. Jones, assisted by Revs. D. Brenneman and Thomas H. Low. The building is, in dimensions, 32x54, is furnished with comfortable seats, and cost \$3,000. The erection of this church is in great part due to the efforts of Thomas H. Low, formerly a minister in the Mennonite Church. This society was organized in 1867, by Elder John Krupp, with thirty members, and held its early meetings at the Walnut Schoolhouse.

The township, as a whole, does not make a proper showing in the way of churches. The fact is that on every side there are churches just outside the township limits, which draw much of their attendance from Clearspring, and this explains a fact which might tend against the fame of a people who are, as a whole, industrious, religious and public-spirited.

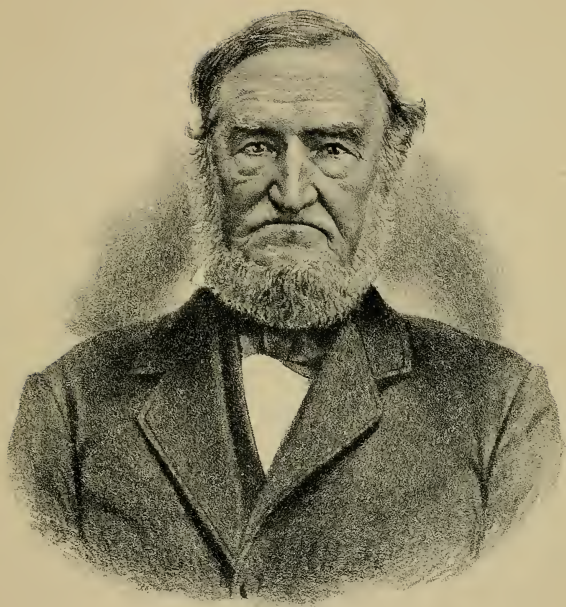
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## CHAPTER XIII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP—THE FIRST SETTLEMENT ON PRETTY AND ENGLISH PRAIRIES—THE GAGE AND LANGDON WAR—APPEARANCE OF INDUSTRIES—VILLAGERS OF VISTULA AND LEXINGTON—THE FIRST SCHOOL AND TEACHER—EDUCATIONAL GROWTH—REVIVAL OF 1840—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—THE SPIRITUALISTS.

THE lands in Southern Michigan were in market some years before those of Northern Indiana, and were, of course, purchased and occupied by sturdy pioneers who had come from the East. Many of these men soon became dissatisfied with their new homes, as the land was covered with an almost unbroken forest, which must be removed before the soil could be cultivated. This promised many years of unremitting toil, and the outlook for those who had just come from Europe, or who were unused to the ways of the woods, was cheerless and discouraging. During the year 1829 there came to near White Pigeon, Mich., the following men and their families: Amos Barr (who arrived in the spring), John Anderson, Samuel Anderson, William Miller, Benjamin Jones, John and Felix Miller (brothers), Jesse Huntsman, Ephraim Seeley, Jacob Croy, and perhaps others. Some of these families came from Ohio—a number



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from the same neighborhood—while others were directly from Europe, or from the Eastern or Middle States. They were not all in the same vicinity in Michigan, but, during the year, they all became aware of the fact that, in what is now northern La Grange County, several rich, extensive and beautiful prairies were to be found where the soil needed no preparation for grain save the action of the plow. But at that period these prairies were not yet marketable, and, in order to secure a right to the land, "claims" were located, and the settlers prepared to enjoy a squatter's life until the prairie claims could be bought. It is well authenticated that the above-named men located claims on Pretty and English Prairies during the year 1829. The first to do this cannot be known. From the fact that Amos Barr was by several months the first to reach Southern Michigan, it may be presumed that he was at least (if not the first) one of the first to establish a claim in Greenfield Township. A few of the men—as William Miller and Benjamin Jones—did not reach Southern Michigan until late in the fall of 1829, and, of course, their claims on the prairies were not made until that time. Claims in the woods were established by blazed trees; those on the prairies by stakes or by plowed furrows. So far as known, Amos Barr was the first man to erect a cabin in the township, this being done during the fall of 1829, but the building was roofless and floorless, and was probably erected to more fully establish the right to the claim, around which (the prairie portion) a furrow was plowed before cold weather set in. Often during the winter of 1829–30, these men (who resided in Southern Michigan) visited their claims to see that others had not usurped their rights. Thus the winter was passed. Quite early in the spring of 1830, William Miller and Benjamin Jones (who had spent the previous winter, either in the same cabin or in two that were close together) loaded their goods in probably the same wagon, tore the roof off the cabin in which they had lived and placed it on the wagon, and then moved with their families to near the present site of Lexington. Small tents were improvised until two rude cabins (perhaps they do not deserve so dignified a name) had been built. Miller's cabin was located southwest of the village, while Jones' was near the northern part of the same. This occurred in April or May, and these were, so far as known, the first families in the township. During the same year (1830), there settled mostly on the prairies of Greenfield, the following men and their families: Amos Barr, Thomas Burnell, John Emerson, John Olney, Mr. Sutford, Jesse Huntsman, Felix Miller, James Miller, Jesse Champ-  
lin, Samuel Anderson, Ephraim Seeley, Jacob Croy, Mr. Wolgamott and several others. During the next year or two, all the prairie land was "claimed," and by the time the county was organized, in 1832, at least twenty-five families resided in the township (in what is now Greenfield). Some of these families were those of McKal, William Brumley, Samuel Robinson, Mr. Leeper, Samuel Fish, Jacob Miller, Silas Thrailkeld, Amasa Norton, Edmund Littlefield, Milton and Oliver Smith, Thomas and Samuel Parham (1836), Samuel Bradford, Harlo and William Hern, Mr. Switzer, Mr. Gale, William Legg, Mr.



Stead, Mr. Wade, Thomas Lozenby, Jacob Vandeventer, D. Lewis (colored), John Leak, William Adair, George Donaldson, John Safely, Samuel and James Burnside, David and Otis Stevenson, Samuel Gawthrop, David Allen, John Kelley and a host of others who continued to come in very fast.

At the organization of the county in 1832, it was divided into two townships—Lima and Greenfield—the latter including all that part of the present county as lies east of the middle line of Range 10 west, together with portions of Noble and Steuben Counties. Ephraim Seeley was appointed Assessor for the then Greenfield Township, and an election was ordered to be held on the second Saturday of June, 1832, for the selection of two Justices of the Peace, Jessie Champlin receiving the appointment of Inspector of Election. The Commissioners also appointed Ebenezer Fish and William Miller, Fence Viewers; John Anderson and Samuel Burnside, Overseers of the Poor. At this first election, Mr. Seeley was elected one of the Justices, but the name of the other is forgotten, as are also those of the other officers elected at the same time.

Improvements went on very rapidly during the years 1830, 1831 and 1832. Nearly or quite all the prairie land was broken up and fenced off into farms, and homes were established in the surrounding woods. At last, when the township was surveyed and the land thrown into market, a great rush was made by an army of anxious squatters to secure the land they had partially improved, and upon which they then lived. It was during the Black Hawk war (summer of 1832) that the citizens of Greenfield and surrounding townships were thrown into a fever of fear by what is remembered as "The Gage War." Two men, named respectively Gage and Langdon, went one day to mill in the northern part of Springfield Township. Before this, considerable talk had been indulged in concerning the probability of the Indians arising in war against the settlers, as large bands were then in the county, and the border struggle farther west was not unknown to them. This talk prepared the minds of the settlers for what was to follow. Gage, Langdon, the miller and others at the mill renewed the gossip, continuing it until late at night, when the former two retired with some serious misgivings in their minds. After they had gone to bed, it was resolved by three or four at the mill to give them an "Indian scare" early the next morning. Two or three, or perhaps more, assisted by several Indians, dressed themselves in full Indian war costume, with war paint and blanket and tomahawk, etc. The next morning, while Gage and Langdon were talking in front of the mill with the miller, a large Indian suddenly showed himself from behind a tree near by, and, raising his rifle quickly, fired, and the miller fell to the earth apparently in the agonies of death, exclaiming, "My God, the Indians! I'm shot!" The Indian who had apparently shot the miller and one or two others came leaping forward, swinging their tomahawks and yelling like demons. Gage and Langdon instantly fled from the scene at the top of their speed, Gage going north in the excitement, and Langdon south. They made excellent time across the country, informing every one they saw that the Indians were coming,

that they had shot all at the mill, and were sweeping out through the surrounding country. The result may be readily imagined. The most intense excitement prevailed, and families fled in every direction. Gage reached Lexington, and the families in that neighborhood gathered at the blacksmith shop of George Donaldson, into which the women and children were thrust, while the men began to fell trees and cut logs, for the purpose of hastily building a fort (afterward called Fort Donaldson). Families living in the western part hastily resolved to fortify the island in Cedar Lake. There they fled, and began the work of constructing the fort. Many very interesting incidents occurred, but, within a day or two, the delusion was dispelled. The logs cut for "Fort Donaldson" remained at the spot for many years. More of this interesting event will be found in other chapters.

Industries sprang up at a very early day. Orrin Howard was a chair-maker in the northern part, his power being a horse-lathe. It is said that he turned out 300 chairs a year. Milton Smith was an early blacksmith, but George Donaldson was the first Vulcan in the township. The large stone lying near the shop of the latter was hauled there by Samuel Bradford, to be prepared by Donaldson for the grist-mill that was afterward erected in Springfield Township. A small "corn-cracker" was erected at Lexington in a very early day. It did not amount to much, and was soon abandoned. Milton Smith was also a tool-maker; could make axes, chisels, adzes, grubbing-hoes, etc. A post office was at Howard's house for a number of years. Warren Barney, in the northeastern part, manufactured, by means of a horse-lathe, large and small spinning-wheels, and other wooden articles. Daniel Waite made tables, stands, bedsteads, bureaus, etc. The early settlers in the northern part got their whisky at a distillery just across the line in Michigan. The road running north and south across the western end of the township was early known as "Smoky Row," from the numerous log cabins that were built thereon very early; for on winter mornings, when a fire was started in each house, the settlers on the opposite side of the prairie were furnished a fine sight—a smoky row. Pretty Prairie is said to have received its name from the following circumstance: Several men, just from Ohio, were standing at the residence of William Miller, on the south side of the prairie. Looking northward, they saw a beautiful picture. The long expanse of prairie land spread its bosom of green velvet to the autumnal sun, and stretched away until terminated by clusters of oak and maple, dyed in gorgeous colors by Nature's hand that crowned with beauty the higher lands on the north. The strangers were delighted, and one of their number asked, "What do you call this?" "O—o—h," replied Mr. Miller, "we don't call it anything." "Well," said the stranger, "it's a mighty pretty prairie. You might call it Pretty Prairie." The name circulated, became popular and is now permanent. "English Prairie" received its name from the fact that many of the first to locate there had just come from England. People, in speaking of the place, called it by that name. It is also

permanent. Many of the English retained for a number of years their foreign customs. "Old Tommy" Burnell wore knee-breeches and long stockings, as did some of the others. Mr. Burnell brought with him from his temporary home in Michigan two small sashes, in which were three or four panes of glass. These were used in his old log cabin.

Samuel Burnside, in about the year 1834, erected a saw-mill in the north-eastern corner, on Crooked Creek. This mill, with many alterations, numerous owners, and stoppages from time to time, has been in operation ever since. At times, it has done excellent and extensive work. As nearly as the writer could learn, Burnside owned the mill until about the year 1845, when it and the farm upon which it stands were sold to Peter Bisel. It is possible that Burnside sold to another, and the latter to Bisel. The facts could not be learned. In about the year 1846, Bisel erected the grist-mill on the same water-power. This mill is yet running, and has done a vast amount of grinding in its day. It is a large frame structure, has passed through many hands, and has fed thousands. Bisel, in about 1847, placed a stock of goods at the mill, and soon afterward a post office was established there. Bisel was quite a wealthy man for that day, and put a great deal of money on the mill site to improve it, and render permanent the excellent water-power there. The money in many ways was not judiciously expended; at least, Bisel became embarrassed, and, in about 1854, sold the entire property to Amos Davis; since then, others have owned it. Goods have been sold there the most of the time since. A small town grew up about the mills—a very small one.

In the year 1836, Elisha U. Shepard and Bazaleel Alvord secured the services of a surveyor and laid out a village which was named Vistula, on Section 25, on the banks of Wall Lake. The village on paper was a beautiful place, and the plat was taken East and exhibited, and several men there were induced to buy blocks and corner lots. When they came West to sell their property at a handsome profit, or to erect thereon fine buildings, their wrath became fiery and volcanic. In short, they had been deceived, as not a house was standing in the village, nor ever was. The lake was a nice place, with walls of earth and gravel formed by the agency of ice surrounding it. The village on its banks was a "paper village"—nothing more.

In July, 1836, John Kromer, surveyor, laid out twelve blocks of eight lots each, and four blocks of six lots each, on Sections 25 and 30, for Abraham K. Brower and Joseph Skerritt, who named the village Lexington. Very soon after this, Peter Bisel erected a store building there, and began selling from a stock of goods valued at \$2,000. The stock was subsequently increased until worth about \$6,000, at which time the owner enjoyed an extensive and profitable trade. Abraham Brower was at first his clerk, but later his partner. A few years after Bisel began, Chancey Adams also opened a store, but his business was not as extensive as that of the former. In 1847, there were seven or eight families residing in Lexington. Bisel was in the Crandall storeroom;



*Fleming Hopkins*  
GREENFIELD TP.





Adams was in a building opposite. Ira Crandall was the proprietor of a small hotel. A shoemaker and a blacksmith were there. In 1848, H. R. Crandall bought the Bisel store building and residence, together with three lots. He began selling from \$3,000 worth of goods, the stock being slowly increased as the years went by, and continued until his death in 1870, since which time his widow has successfully conducted the business. Bisel was probably the first Postmaster; but, in 1847, Adams was. Since 1848, the Crandalls have had the office, except for a short time, when George Donaldson handled the property of Uncle Sam. In 1848, Adams sold out to George L. Gale, who erected the Long storehouse. Gale continued about five years. Robert Dayton owned the property for a while. Other merchants have been H. J. Hall, Andrew Davidson, Shope, Scripture, Weidler, Wade and Long & Shut. Wade owns a small grocery now, and James Mix is conducting a small broom factory. "Brighton" is the name of the post office. Dr. Charles Pritchard was at the village early, as were Drs. Patterson and Reynolds. In 1849, Dr. Delos W. Rupert located there, remaining until the war broke out, when he became Surgeon of the Thirtieth Infantry Volunteers, but died at Nashville, Tenn., in 1862. It is said that John Anderson built the first frame house in the township in 1833; his frame barn was erected the following year. Mr. Wolgamot probably built the second frame dwelling. It is said that Hiram Anderson, whose birth occurred in the fall of 1830, was the first white child born in the township. Samuel Bradford, the present County Clerk, was born in Greenfield in April, 1832. He claims to be the oldest male person living whose birth occurred in La Grange County. Some dispute has arisen over this mooted question, and the old ladies should immediately proceed to settle the discussion by public announcements from official sources. The first marriage in Greenfield was that of Samuel Gawthrop to Ellen D. Wolgamot in the fall of 1830. They were married by Samuel Stewart, Esq., who lived just across the line in Michigan. Not long afterward, Mrs. Gawthrop died, her death being the first. The following persons had passed, in 1880, the age of seventy-five years: Mary Blaseus, seventy-six; Cyrus Fillmore, seventy-eight; James Pollock, seventy-nine; Jane Scripture, eighty; John Troyer, seventy-five; Caroline H. Wheeler, seventy-five; Brewster Barrows, seventy-five; Laura Fillmore, seventy-six; Ruhama Taylor, eighty-two; William Wheeler, seventy-nine. Benjamin Reed had reached the age of seventy-four years.

Late in the autumn of 1830, the squatters living near Lexington took possession of a vacant log cabin that was standing a short distance southwest of the village, fitted it up with desks and seats, and employed Miss Jane M. Clark (afterward Mrs. Judge Prentiss) to teach a three-months' term, paying her \$2 per week, and giving her the doubtfully enjoyable privilege of boarding around. This worthy lady, who is yet living, said her enrollment of scholars was about sixty. The school is remembered as an excellent one. Miss Clark also taught in the same house the succeeding summer. The cabin was thus used

until about the year 1836 or 1837, when a large frame schoolhouse was erected in the village, the greater portion of the expense being borne by members of the "Community of Saints." The building was divided into two rooms, and was to be occupied by all religious denominations. This school immediately became (with the exception of the one at Ontario) the best in the county. From 1838 to 1845, the enrollment was over 100. Two teachers were employed, or as some say three, and the school was graded. Daniel Graham, afterward President of Hillsdale College, was one of the teachers. Good wages were paid, and none but good teachers were employed. After 1845, the school began to decline in importance. The frame house was used until about 1854, when it was displaced by another frame, which was used until the present brick was erected about eleven years ago. It is said that George Green was the first teacher in the first frame schoolhouse. Other teachers in the same house were William Hopkins, Mrs. Catharine McKinney and John Wylie. Hiram Smith, of Mongo, taught in the old log house, as did a young minister named Merrell. A log schoolhouse, or rather a vacated log dwelling, near the residence of William Anderson, was devoted to the uses of education as early as 1839. It was displaced a few years later by a frame house located at Mr. Anderson's orchard. This was used until about twenty-four years ago, when the large district was divided, and two houses were built. One of these is yet standing. The other was destroyed by fire, and a better one has taken its place. In 1836, a log schoolhouse was built near the cemetery, at what was then known as Gale's Corners. This was perhaps the first real school building in the township. The house was well attended for many years, good teachers being employed. Families living on the southern half of Pretty Prairie sent their children to this house. During the winter of 1836-37, Otis Shepardson, Jr., taught a term in a vacant dwelling, located near Samuel Parham's orchard, the house having been abandoned by a Mr. Switzer. The following families sent to him: Norton, Littlefield, Smith, Miller, Howard, Waite and others. In about the year 1838, a frame schoolhouse was built at the northern extremity of Pretty Prairie, the first teacher being Willis R. Jervis. This neighborhood soon had an excellent school. After the old house had been used many years, the district was divided in spite of bitter opposition on the part of some, and two houses were built, both being used until five or six years ago, when each district was supplied with a fine brick structure. The township was at first (about the year 1833) divided into two school districts; but the dividing line is not remembered. In 1837, another district was added, and a little later still another. School was taught as early as 1840 in a vacated dwelling near the residence of Benjamin Reed, the house being used a number of years. Finally, in 1845, the "Scripture Schoolhouse" was erected. A little later another house was built farther east on the same road. The first schoolhouse in the northeastern part was built in about the year 1840. It has been succeeded by several others. The house two miles west of it was built later.

In 1840, a great revival was held at the Pretty Prairie Schoolhouse by Rev. Messrs. Posey and Lewis L. Allen, ministers of the M. E. denomination. A few meetings had been held before, but no excitement was created nor class formed. The revival began, Rev. Posey preaching in the morning and Rev. Allen in the evening. Sinners were stubborn and defiant, and, for a time, it was hard work for the ministers. At last two men living in the neighborhood, who had stubbornly resisted the overtures of mercy, were taken violently sick and both died within a few days of each other, one declaring on his death-bed that he was going to hell and the other that he expected to reach heaven, blessing his family in the moment of parting and advising them to seek salvation. The two ministers, Posey and Allen, were present to comfort the dying men with the consolations of religion. The circumstances connected with the death of the two men produced a profound sensation in the neighborhood, of which the ministers immediately took advantage. The result was the most successful revival ever held in the township. Some sixty were converted and seventy-five joined the society that was then organized. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until 1856, when the frame church was built at a cost of about \$800. Rev. Posey was the first minister in charge, Rev. Enoch Holstock the second, Gehiel Hart the third. The church was built by subscription, the location depending upon the greatest amount subscribed. Those east of the church gave the most, and selected the spot where the church now stands. The society has not since been as strong as it was at first. Only a portion of the time has Sunday school been conducted.

The Presbyterians commenced building a frame church at Gale's Corners in 1837, but did not finish until the following year. Rev. Christopher Cory, an excellent man and an earnest Christian, who made himself known for miles through the backwoods, organized the society with the following membership: Orrin Howard, Aaron Cary, Aaron Thompson, Jonathan Upson, Amasa Norton, wife and daughter, Osias Littlefield, Ansel Dickinson, Jacob Vandeventer, Samuel Brown and family, and others. Good work was done by the society, but it became so weak, in about 1853, that it finally agreed to turn the house over to the use of other Christian denominations and have it moved to Lexington. This was at last done. The Methodists obtained such a control of it, after a time, that a law-suit resulted; but they lost the judgment, and the house is devoted to the same uses as before the suit. The Spiritualists have occupied it, under protest of the more orthodox denominations.

The "Community of Saints," under the leadership of Rev. Samuel Bradford, held meetings in the schoolhouse at Lexington for a series of years. Mr. Bradford was a man of great personal magnetism, with noble ideas of life and its duties, and with an incorruptible integrity of purpose that gave a serious feature to everything he did. His meetings were always well attended. His death, in 1844, ended the life of a truly great man. His society died with him. The Congregational Brethren have a small class in the village at pres-

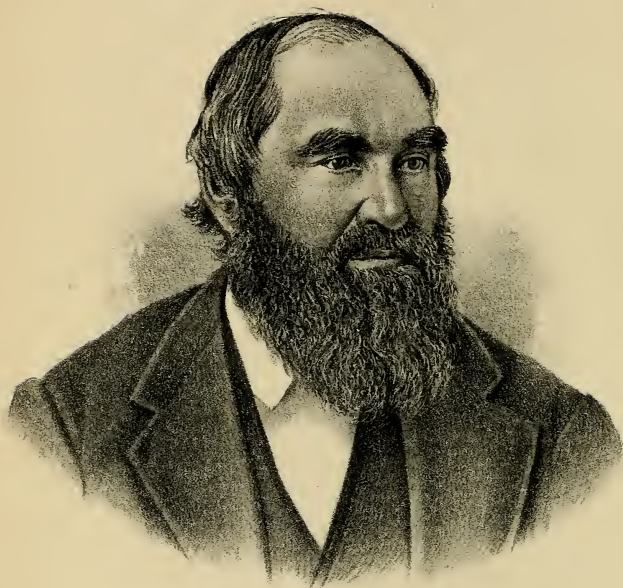
ent. Some six or eight years ago, the Amish built a small frame church in the northwestern part, at a cost of about \$900. A small society gathers there to worship.

In about 1850, Elder Jacob Berkey organized a German Baptist society in the neighborhood southwest of Lexington. Meetings were held at residences and schoolhouses until ten years ago (1872), when a large frame church was erected, at a cost of \$2,500, the building being completed a year later. The society first started with about forty members and was then scattered over a territory that has since been divided into four society districts. In 1863, the organization comprised about one hundred members. Elder Berkey remained Pastor until about 1860, when Elder George Long succeeded him, continuing nine years, at the end of which time the society, for a few years, was without a regular Elder, though Rev. Peter Long was in charge. Elder David M. Truby assumed the pastorate in 1874, remaining until 1880, when the present minister, Elder Peter Long, succeeded him. The present membership is about 144. A Sunday school was conducted three years, beginning some five years ago. Short-lived societies of other religious denominations have been organized in the township.

There are many Spiritualists in Greenfield. The subject was first developed, in about 1850, by the celebrated Fox sisters, of near Rochester, N. Y., and others, who announced to the world that the spirits of the departed could be communicated with through "mediums." The success of their operations soon became known in Greenfield, and many were convinced of the truth of their pretensions. Gossip was indulged in, until finally a medium from abroad came into the neighborhood and gave a public exhibition of the truth of his opinions. Many were converted to the new faith and, although no written creed was adopted, yet a society was partially formed, and "circles" met regularly at residences and schoolhouses. Several interesting "mediums" were soon discovered in the neighborhood. Mrs. (Barr) Hopkins proved to be a "divining medium." Others were "rapping" or "writing" or "healing mediums." The Barrs, the Hopkinses, the Gillums, the Herns and others were prominent in the new organization. They finally began to meet in the church at Lexington, which had been intended for any religious denomination; but they met considerable opposition, though they were successful in having their right to the church established. They then held rousing meetings in the church, securing persons from abroad well qualified to present their faith, practically and theoretically, to large audiences. Many converts were thus gained. It is only within the last few years that the early interest has declined.







*Ezekiel Davis*

NEWBURY TP.

## CHAPTER XIV.

BY R. H. RERICK.

NEWBURY TOWNSHIP—FIRST ELECTION AND OFFICERS—EARLY PHYSICAL FEATURES, LAKES, INDIANS, ETC.—THE FIRST SETTLER AND HIS SUCCESSORS—MILLS AND TOWNS—FOREST CUSTOMS—THE AMISH—THEIR CUSTOMS, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, ETC.—GENERAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE township received its name, not in honor of any personage, but to distinguish it from the older town of Middlebury, in Elkhart County, which it adjoins. This was the borough, and Newbury it has remained. The name was given at the first town meeting. The township was a part of Lima, and was separated and given a distinct organization in 1837. On April 3, of this year, the settlers held their first election, at the house of Truman Wilkinson. It was difficult to get together a good show of voters, and the canvassing was as thorough as at some modern elections. If there was any law then requiring a long residence in the township, it was probably accidentally forgotten that day. The workmen on the Shipshewana Mills were taken to the polls, whether or no. By this means a poll-book of thirteen voters was made. There were just about enough offices to go around, and the list contains the names of most of the adult male settlers. Daniel H. Keasy and Elijah West acted as Clerks; Amos Davis and James Cotton, Judges; and Truman Wilkinson, Inspector. When their laborious duties had been performed, it was found that the following were the first officers: Amos Davis, Justice; Willard Cotton, Constable; Elijah West, Inspector; Esick Green, Supervisor; George Lotterer and Elijah West, Overseers of Poor; Franklin Goodenough and George Hilt, Road Viewers. The vote was unanimous. The first official act of the new Justice was to solemnize a marriage between Esick Green and Miss Hackett, a member of the Wilkinson family. It was not the officer's fault, but, for some lack of affinity, the newly-married couple soon separated.

The earliest comers sought two places mainly—the beautiful country about Shipshewana Lake, in the north, and the forks of the Little Elkhart River in the southwest. The east part of the township was in great part covered by marshes, and was not so desirable. The country was densely wooded, as a general thing, but there were large tracts of openings. An idea, however, prevailed among many of the pioneers, who were largely of Southern birth, that the openings were unhealthful, and the woods were consequently in favor. There were also marsh lands along the little streams which supplied the Little Elkhart, which flows, in two branches, through the southwest corner. A diagonal line through the township, from northwest to southeast, is about the position of the ridge which divides the drainage of the Pigeon River from that of the Elkhart. Cass Lake, about twenty acres in extent, on the northern line, and Hood's, a small body in the east, are drained into the Elkhart, while

the beautiful Shipshewana, one of the largest lakes in the county, and Cotton Lake, a smaller one, have their outlet in Shipshewana Creek. Cotton, Hood and Cass Lakes commemorate the names of the earliest settlers near them, and Shipshewana, the Pottawatomie chieftain, whose is said to be buried somewhere on the banks of the lake. A lady, now deceased, claimed to know the place of his grave, but the secret has been lost with her death. The old chief died some time prior to the settlement. His tribe inhabited the township, and their deeply cut trails ran through the woods, taking the best courses, and never missing the beaver dams, in every direction, so that the settlers had to blaze their road in order not to wander off on the wrong track. The red men hunted amicably with the whites, and would come back even after their removal to exchange venison and cranberries for the pioneers' extra potatoes and flour. Game was plentiful—deer and turkeys and bears. Bees were especially numerous, and one hunter cut as many as sixteen nests in one day. The earliest settlers came to the forks of the Little Elkhart, and this was also the starting point of the second settlement by the German people, who now almost entirely occupy the township. The first comers were the Woodbridges, who "squatted" in Section 19, about 1831. This was before the land was for sale, and there is no record of their names or later history. They soon moved away, and their cabin was old and deserted when the later settlers moved in. The land was not open to entry until much later, and the first certificate issued was to Obadiah Lawrence, dated July 17, 1835.

In the north, a Mr. Andrews and Elijah West came in in 1834, and the next year built a dam and race and saw-mill on Shipshewana Creek, near the center of Section 3. Mr. Andrews died August 24, 1835, the first death among the pioneers. His son, Jarius Andrews, lived in the township until his decease in 1879. West, the partner, soon moved West. This mill was in operation several years, and the damming up of the waters was thought to be the cause of much illness in early times, on account of its overflowing the lake. The dam was finally torn down, and the mill went to pieces. A log house in a grove near by, which forms a contrast with the fine residences in the vicinity, probably contains some of the logs of these old buildings. A little later, a number of settlers entered their lands. In 1836, Amos Davis, one of the most prominent men in the early history of the county, came to the Woodbridge place. He had already entered land, in 1835, in Section 19. He built the second saw-mill in the township on the river here.

Esick Green, who remained about twenty years, and Truman Wilkinson, who lived here until his death in 1857, brothers-in-law, settled about 1836. Hiram Wilkinson settled at the same time, but soon left. Charles Barron was another pioneer. Wilkinson was the neighborhood poet and lampooner in the early days. Some of his effusions are still remembered, and we are able to give part of one, occasioned by the tragical girdling of an oak in front of John Keightley's house, against Mr. K.'s wishes. The oak sings:

“ Here once I stood a handsome oak,  
 This is the first I ever spoke.  
 My kindred oaks shall live instead,  
 While I am numbered with the dead.  
 Here once I stood, a noble tree,  
 Till Sam and Charlie girdled me.”

Another couplet was of an epitaph nature :

“ The devil, with old snaps and snarls,  
 Dragged off to h—l poor Sam and Charles.”

Franklin J. Goodenough entered land in Section 7, and built the first frame barn in the township. Almon Lawrence, who had come to Van Buren in 1830, and Alexander W. Poynter, of Delaware, Alexander Berry, of Ohio, and his sons—Samuel, Conrad and Doomide—were early settlers in the neighborhood of the site of the Dunkard Church. Other early settlers were Garrett and Griffith Shrake, Warren Stiles, James Cotton, a carpenter, who gave his name to Cotton Lake, and Samuel Hood, who is similarly honored. Joseph Keasy, later of St. Joseph County, Ind., came, in 1836, from Fulton County, Ohio. It was on his farm, at the house of Joseph Nelson, that the first church was organized in the fall of 1837, by a Methodist evangelist, who used to go about on foot among the settlers, doing good. This pioneer preacher had the simple name of Brown, but from his residence received the euphonious title of “ Bald Hill ” Brown. He went from here to a more arduous field—to Texas. Joseph Nelson was the class-leader of this little organization, which had about nine members at starting. James Latta, of the Haw Patch, and Christopher Cory, were among the early preachers. In those days, families would walk three or four miles for a sermon, and find their way home by the light of a clapboard torch.

In February, 1837, George Lotterer took possession of land, including that owned at present by Horatio Halbert, on Shipshewana Lake, where he laid out a village called Georgetown, which never grew beyond the paper. Mr. Lotterer was then the richest man in Newbury, and had just previously owned the plat of Ontario. He remained in the township until about eight years since, when he removed to Fort Scott, Kan.

John Keightly and Peter N. Keightly moved upon their land near Shipshewana Lake in the fall of 1836. The latter soon moved into Van Buren, but the former is still an honored citizen of this township. Mr. K. came from England, in 1828, to Tompkins County, N. Y., married Miss M. A. Winter in 1830, and started for Indiana in November, 1836. The journey was a sample of that which the patient pioneer went through—a day's journey eight or ten miles, deep mud in what were called the roads, no bridges but crossways of logs, and these sometimes almost washed away by floods. Soon after Mr. Keightly had built a house, it was burned, probably by an incendiary, and some \$1,500 in money, lying in the house, was never seen again by the owner. Such was life in the good old days, full of hardship and disappointment, in great contrast



with the comfort of the present. A schoolhouse, in which religious services were held, was built on the northeast corner of Mr. K.'s land, where a graveyard is situated. Methodist meetings were also held at his residence, where among other attendants were George and Melicent Winter, brothers-in-law of the Keightlys, who came in with them from Tompkins County, N. Y., in 1836. George Winter was born in Lincolnshire, England, and died in Newbury in 1868. His wife had died in 1854. His son, Wrinch Winter, who was only eight years old on moving here, now occupies a finely situated residence on the old homestead, in view of Shipshewana Lake. Among other early settlers, Peter Schermerhorn entered land in Section 5, and died north of the Yoder settlement. In 1845, Francis Lampman, of Oswego County, N. Y., settled in northwest Newbury. He remained upon the farm until 1864, when he removed to Lima, where he was still living in 1881, at the age of eighty-three. Among the later comers in the northeast is Elias Wight, who came from Ohio in 1854, and lives upon Section 3. Mr. Wight was elected County Commissioner in 1879.

The trading of the early days was done mostly at White Pigeon and Middlebury. Some hauling was done from more distant points. In 1837, Amos Davis brought through flour and goods from Michigan City to Lima with five yokes of oxen. La Grange, then, was unborn, and the country to Middlebury was almost impassable, except on foot. On the White Pigeon trail there were but two houses. In 1833, a road was run through from Lima to Goshen by John Kromer, and this was the only one until 1836, when a party went through the township eastward, running the Baubaga road to the future county seat. Amos Davis, about 1840, surveyed three roads—the Middlebury and Haw Patch, which follows the course of the main branch of the Little Elkhart, the Middlebury road to intersect the Goshen road, and the White Pigeon and Ligonier road.

The first schoolhouse was put up on the farm of Joseph Keasy, on Section 19. The house was of unsquared logs, with a low roof, and densely-shaded in a little opening in the forest. The first teacher was Miss Mary Pomeroy. The teachers were not heavily paid in the early days. The ladies would get as low as \$1.25 and up to \$2 a week in the summer schools. There was quite a discussion at first about how long school should be kept. That it should be nine hours a day was agreed, but some were of the opinion and some not, that for the munificent wages school should be taught six days in the week. The second schoolhouse was a log one, on Section 20, built in 1840, and the third on Section 9, about 1842.

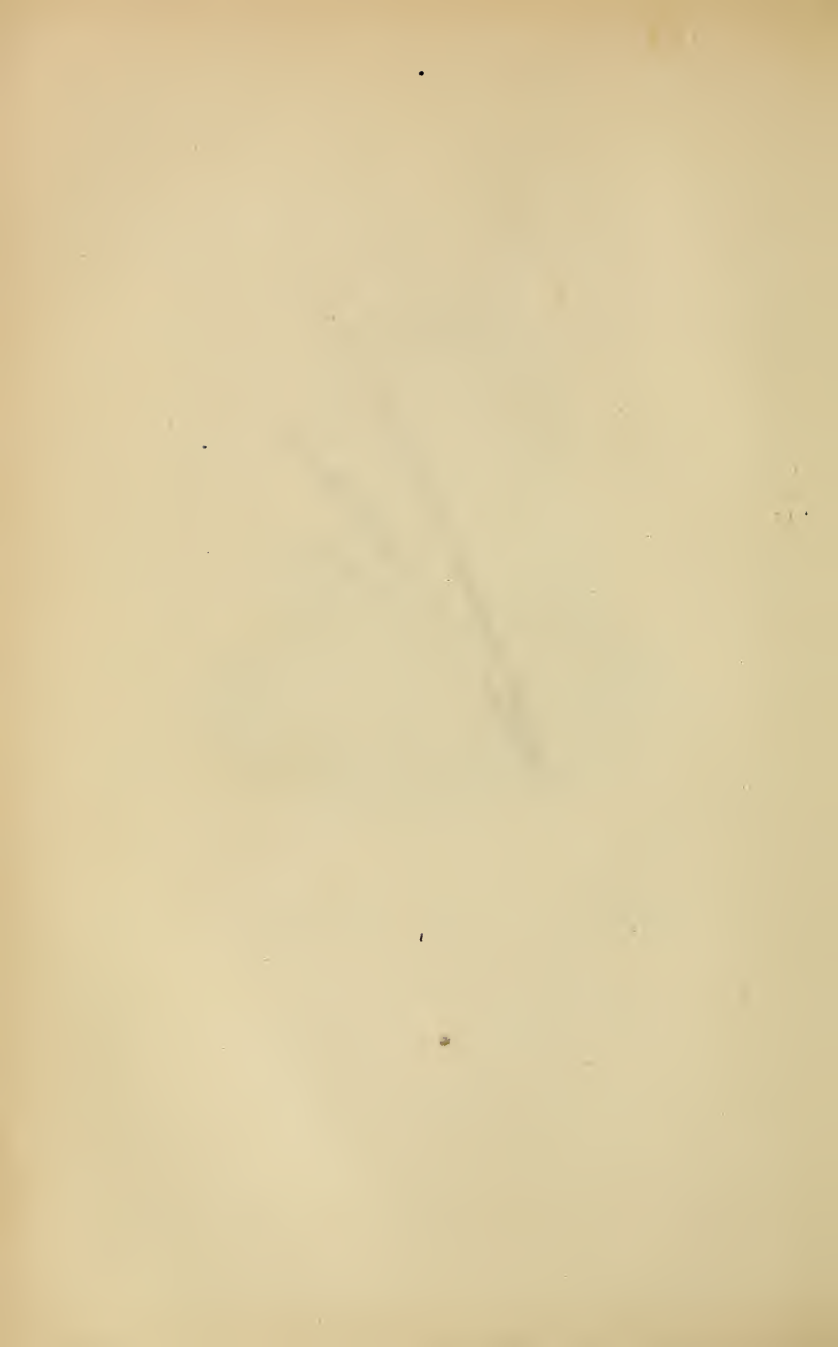
Besides the early preaching already mentioned, a Presbyterian society met at Forest Grove, southwest of Davis' mill, and the United Brethren and Free-Will Baptists had meetings occasionally in various places. All these small societies worked together for the common good. At present the Methodist meeting place is Shipshewana Schoolhouse, included in the Middlebury Circuit, now under charge of Rev. John T. Blakemore.





*Sarah A Davis*

NEWBURY TP.



In 1838, Newbury experienced its share of the ague and bilious fever. Like the rain of that spring, it fell on all alike, and like the drought of the fall it had no intermission. Drs. Latta, of Goshen, and Elliott, of Middlebury, would call about twice a week upon the unfortunate shakers. There was quite a mortality among the young on account of the fever.

The hopes of the settlers were raised to a considerable height by the talk in an early day of the Buffalo & Mississippi Railroad, and deeply sunk by its failure. The road was surveyed through the northern part of the township. The same experience was repeated by a preliminary survey of the Baltimore & Ohio road in later years.

In 1839, Amos Davis was chosen an Associate Judge for the county, and held the position until the abolition of the office, sitting on the bench with Judges Hobbs and Spaulding.

Mr. Davis was born in Loudon County, Va., in 1797. When yet a boy, he went to Ohio, where his parents settled in Fairfield County. He was a man of ability and energy. Mr. Davis represented La Grange and Elkhart Counties in the Legislature in 1862-64, and was active on the side of the war party in the struggle between Gov. Morton and the majority of the Legislature. He removed to Greenfield Mills, and died October 5, 1867, from the effects of an injury received on his seventieth birthday. His son, Hezekiah Davis, was eleven years of age when he first saw Newbury, and has ever since remained here. He has served the county as Commissioner for thirteen years, beginning in 1853. In 1848, he moved to his present commodious residence in Section 2, which is a portion of his farm. Newbury has always been remarkable for its quietness and freedom from crime. Of course, there has been a law-suit now and then, but, as a rule, she furnishes little litigation. The first law-suit in the township was before Justice Davis, and between Sylvanus Lamb and Charles Hascall over a difficulty in the division of land. This called in lawyers—Mitchell, of Constantine, and Chamberlain, of Goshen. No *causes celebres* have come from Newbury since that time. Especially since the Amish and other German sects have taken up the most of the township has everything been peaceful. There was once a case of horse-thieving which caused considerable sensation. Three horses were stolen in 1855, or thereabouts, and taken to Pennsylvania, whence the owner received them after expending much more than their value in the search.

As far as the records show, the following is a list of the Justices of Newbury: Amos Davis, 1837-42; Andrew Ashbaugh, 1842-47; Alexander W. Poynter, 1845-50; Perley R. Cady, 1852-57; John Butt, 1859-71; Benjamin F. Lieb, 1856-60; Oliver Lampman, 1859-67; Jacob Hines, 1863-69; H. J. Vandersten, 1869-73; William Wiler, 1873-75; Horatio Halbert, 1875-84; Michael Hoff, 1880-84. At the census of 1880, there were found to be the following named persons, residents of the township, who were over seventy-five years of age: Horatio Halbert, seventy-seven; George Miller, eighty-

five; Joel Yoder, eighty; Fannie Miller, eighty-three; Frances Walter, eighty-four.

In 1844, an event of great importance was the first settlement of members of the Amish Church, in the southwest portion of the township. Daniel and Joseph Miller came on horseback to Davis' place, on a prospecting tour, out two months from Somerset County, Penn. They stopped here and bought farms, Daniel Miller taking the old Woodbridge place. Soon after, Christian Bontrager and Joseph Bontrager bought farms in Sections 19 and 20. This was the beginning of an inflow of Germans from Pennsylvania, at first, and later from Holmes County, Ohio. Emanuel Miller, who bought land in Section 29, and Philip Weirick were also among the earliest settlers. John C. Yoder, familiarly called the doctor, on account of his skill in healing some of the human ills, came in November, 1844, from Somerset County, where he was born in 1821. He still resides upon his farm near the Moses Kaufman mill-race (1849), on the Little Elkhart, and is a patriarch among the original Amish. This branch of the church, which is distinguished by a strict observance of all the old customs, has a large membership among the Germans, who now occupy almost the whole of Newbury. There are three districts of the old school in the township, the southern one having, in 1881, 161 members, the western 100, and the northern, including part of Van Buren, about one hundred and twenty. Each district has its Bishop and two ministers. The Bishop alone can perform the rites of baptism and marriage. At present this position is held by Dr. Yoder and David Kaufman. The peculiar characteristic of the church is a literal observance of every injunction of the Scriptures, as they understand them. There are no meeting-houses, but they meet at the homes of the members; no written creed is used by the church; the apostolic rite of feet-washing is observed at the meetings. But the most obvious characteristic is that no ornament of any kind is tolerated on the person, nor in the way of paint or plaster in the houses, nor any brilliant coloring about the buildings. The natural grace and beauty of the person is altogether unthought of, or only considered as a snare of the evil one. As no conformity to the world is allowed, something like a German peasant costume is still used, and as buttons are under the ban, hooks and eyes supply the necessary fastenings. Lightning rods were for some time forbidden. As for literature, there is nothing in much favor but the sacred Scriptures. The Amish seem to conform their social lives especially to Paul's instructions to the Corinthians, and renounce the world, even to the extent of casting out from among themselves all who have worldly failings. In avoiding the world, politics, of course, is somewhat neglected, but more formerly than of late. German is also spoken continually in their home life, and this is another "tie," and distinction from the "world." A marked degree of morality pervades this people. The children are educated to read and write well, but higher studies are considered useless. Financially they are prudent, frugal and successful, and allow none of their mem-

bers to depend upon the county for support. Besides this home charity, foreign charities are well contributed to. In many of these particulars, the other German societies agree with the Old Amish. There are four branches of the church in this township. The other leading one is the New Amish, which is about twenty-five years old, and has about two hundred members. It has but one meeting-place, a frame church, erected in 1863, at the Forks, which cost some \$600, and seats 500 persons. In 1881, Jonas Troyer was the Bishop, with four subordinate preachers—Emanuel Hostettler, Seth Troyer, Christian S. Plank and Christian Miller. The new church believes in going into the water for baptism, while the old adheres to sprinkling on dry land. There is also no rule in regard to clothing, and more freedom in customs. The Mennonite Church resembles the Amish, being, in fact, the original from which the Amish sprang, and a union between them is not unlikely. The Mennonites have a church upon the Baubaga road, at Lake Shore, which was erected in the fall of 1874.

The German Baptist Church, or "Dunkers," has a large following in this township. The earliest efforts of the church were in 1854, when meetings were begun in the Poynter Schoolhouse. In 1857, the church was partly organized, and Samuel Doney and Samuel Lupold appointed deacons. Samuel Lupold has remained one of the ministers and elders till the present. David Evans and Benjamin Leer have also served as ministers. At the present time, David M. Truby is elder of the district, including Newbury, and Benjamin Leer minister of the Shipshewana Church. On Christmas, 1874, this society dedicated a frame church, on the land of Samuel Lupold, which is valued at \$700. Regular meetings are held here fortnightly, and a Sunday school at the Marsh Schoolhouse. The membership of the church is about ninety.

The post office of Pashan was established in 1844, and was kept at the house of Amos Davis until his removal, when it was discontinued. In 1872, it was re-established at a small settlement north of the Baubaga road, near the center of the township. This little "burg," in 1881, is in possession of one business house, a store, kept by Harmon Stutsman, who is also Deputy Postmaster; the chief in this department is Dr. Myers, the resident physician. These, with the smithy, make up the business part of the settlement. In 1881, a post office was established at the neighborhood called Lake Shore, near Hood Lake, and the official name of the post office is Shore. It, as well as Pashan and Emma, lies on the mail route between Goshen and La Grange. In 1881, the neighborhood contained about twelve families. Dr. W. H. Shrock, who has been here four years in the practice of medicine, holds the position of Postmaster. The omnipresent blacksmith shops are owned by Benedict Miller and Jacob Lupold. Amos Walters, who has been a resident for many years, owns a steam saw-mill which was built here about 1870, by Charles and Monroe Atwater, and does an extensive business in lumbering. A schoolhouse and the Mennonite Church are on the shore of the lake. In the southeast corner of



the township is the settlement and post office, now called Emma ; formerly the place was known as Eden Mills, but went down under that title. The saw-mill here is within Newbury, and is owned by Joseph Schrock. Jacob and Andrew Hostettler are the proprietors of a store, and the former attends to the United States mail.

## CHAPTER X V.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

MILFORD TOWNSHIP—LONG LIST OF PIONEERS—CONJECTURES AS TO THE FIRST SETTLER—FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION—A BACKWOODS BURIAL—HUNTING EXPERIENCES—THE REGULATORS—THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD—MUD CORNERS AND SOUTH MILFORD—THE EDUCATOR AND THE MORALIST—MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

THE greater portion of the surface of Milford Township is extremely irregular and billowy ; and to this may be traced the fact that the earliest settlers in the county passed on to land that could be subjected to cultivation much easier, and that would furnish a more bountiful crop for such labor. While it is mainly true that the greater number of early settlers in the northern tier of townships came from the older settled locality in Southern Michigan, it is also true that the greater number of those in the southern tier first came to Fort Wayne, and thence up the Fort Wayne and Lima road, along which they entered their land. During the years 1836, 1837 and 1838, a great rush was made into Milford, the greater number of the following men locating in the township at that period : J. W. Austin, David Ackerman, S. A. Bartlett, John Barry, Jacob Butts, Charles Cope, Jared Cook, Arba Crane, Edmund Clark, Perry Case, Zopher Case (lived in Johnson), William Cochran, Harrison Dues, Brinkley Davis, Nelson Earl, William Fitch, Cornelius Gardiner, Stiles Goodsell, Isaac Holly, John C. Lonsbury, Luther Nesbit, John Nevil, Stephen D. Palmer, Gary P. Newman, William Nevil, Samuel Perkins, Enoch Perkins, Jacob Perkins, Amos Reynolds, Enos Randall, Henry Randall, Erastus Sturgis, Jacob Sturgis, Edward Shehan, Lyman Sherwood, John Searls and Charles Turner. Some of these men never lived in the township, simply owning the land, and paying tax on the same, and selling out at a small profit at an early day. Several of the men came in with grown-up families of boys, who soon made homes for themselves, and who are yet living to recount their lives of privation while the township was yet fresh from the hand of nature.

The first settler in the township was probably Jacob Butts, although the year of his arrival is not known. It was likely as early as 1834, and perhaps 1833, as he was known to have been in the township during the spring of 1835. There are some doubts, however, about his being the first settler, as Richard Rice, William Fitch and one or two others were living in the township during the spring of 1835, and might have been in a year or two before. The facts in the case



*Myrath Goodell*

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cannot be learned with certainty; but it is probable that the three men mentioned (Jacob Butts, Richard Rice and William Fitch) came to the township some time during the year 1834. These conjectures will have to answer until some one is found who can satisfactorily unravel the tangle. It is said that a man named Bailey came in with Mr. Fitch, locating near him for a time; but afterward leaving for some other place. Mr. Butts was a German, and remained in the township until the gold excitement broke out in California, when he joined the tide of emigration westward. His daughter Caroline was married to George Thompson, of Springfield Township, in 1835, by Rev. T. B. Conley, the marriage, so far as known, being the first in the township. Richard Rice located on Section 3, where he remained but a short time. Fitch and Bailey established themselves in the southern part. The first white child born was a daughter of Mrs. Fitch, but the infant was feeble and soon died. This was probably the first death.

During the summer of 1837, a number of citizens of the township petitioned the County Commissioners to set apart Township 36 north, Range 11 east of the Second Principal Meridian, and constitute the same a separate township. In the petition it was suggested that the township be called Milford. In accordance with this petition, the Commissioners, in September of the same year, ordered the creation of the township Milford, and the first election to be held at the residence of Samuel Avis, who was probably appointed Inspector. Charles Turner was elected Justice of the Peace, and Col. William Cochran Road Supervisor. The names of the other officers elected are not remembered. Milford was at first a part of Greenfield Township, but, after August, 1834, and prior to its separate organization as stated above, it was attached to Springfield for election purposes. At this early day, the three officers of greatest use were Justice, Constable and Pathmaster. There were no roads save winding trails through the woods, and about the first thing the early settlers were called upon to do was to assemble and place some new highway in passable condition. Much of the early tax collected was devoted to the expense of constructing roads. This gave great dignity to the name of Supervisor. Cases of assault and battery were almost every day occurrences. It is amusing to examine the docket of some early Justice of the Peace, and notice the fines that were imposed for a violation of the rights of personal security. At almost every rolling or raising, a bout at fisticuffs took place, resulting in blue eyes and bloody noses, and the subsequent fine for assault. Everybody drank whisky, not necessarily to excess, but simply to realize the exhilarating effects. It was taken to cool in hot weather, and to warm in cold; to drown sorrow and assuage the pain of privation; to assist digestion and strengthen the weak. Mothers drank it to gain strength to endure; children were given it to make them healthy and strong; all took it because it was regarded as a panacea for all human disorders, and one of the necessities of life. As all, at times, were under its influence, those of quarrelsome disposition were often engaged in

broils and fights ; and then the servants of the law were required to do their duty. The Justice and the Constable were important personages then. And what a noise the early pettifoggers made ! How profound was their exposition of the fundamental principles of law ! And then what eloquence ! Then it was that every boy went home resolved in his heart to be a pettifogger. Nothing short of that would satiate his inordinate pride and ambition.

The early settlers were compelled to endure many hardships unknown to the generations of to-day. Stores and mills were far distant, not only in miles, but from the fact that distances then, on account of the bottomless roads, were practically double what they are at present. Many had no team, some had oxen, and a few had horses. A good grist then was a bagful, and a few acres were a large field. Families lived on pork, corn bread and potatoes. Other articles were delicacies. Some families were extremely destitute. The tax duplicates at the county seat are filled with such expressions as "Too poor to pay," or "Gone away," or "Tax paid by Mr. So-and-so." This was true even when the tax amounted to but 50 cents. It is related that when Nathan Holly's second wife died, her own son John laid her out, and made the rude coffin with his own hands. James Cochran was called upon for assistance at the burial. He asked Evan Wright to accompany him. These two boys and John Holly were the only ones present at the interment of this pioneer mother. The poor woman had at last found rest in the embrace of death, and over her lonely grave the robin and the wren chirped their requiem of triumph—a dirge of rest to her soul. She was buried in the southern part of the township.

Of course the woods, in early years, were filled with wild game. Deer in small herds were every-day sights, and those who were accustomed to the use of the rifle, and knew anything of the habits of these animals, found no difficulty in killing as many as they desired. Venison was a common article of food on the pioneer tables. Wild turkeys were very numerous, and, it is said, were often so fat that when they were shot to the ground from the tops of high trees, the skin upon their backs burst open like a ripe pod. This is vouched for by more than one old settler. Wolves were numerous and troublesome. They often found their way into sheep-folds at night and destroyed many or all of the flock. Then it was that the old settler breathed maledictions of revenge toward the marauder. On one occasion, Henry Randall fired into a pack of these ferocious animals, and at one lucky shot killed three. Bears were sometimes seen, but only rarely. About thirty-five years ago, a number of men with dogs, started a bear from some swamp in Noble County, and chased it into Milford Township. Isaac Carpenter, who was hunting in the woods, encountered the animal and shot it. It is said that Ed Dyer in one day killed five deer. Those who were familiar with the habits of these animals always endeavored to shoot the buck or leader of the herd, as in that case the others would stop, thus giving the hunter time to reload. It was often the case that, if the hunt was properly managed, the entire herd fell before the rifle of the



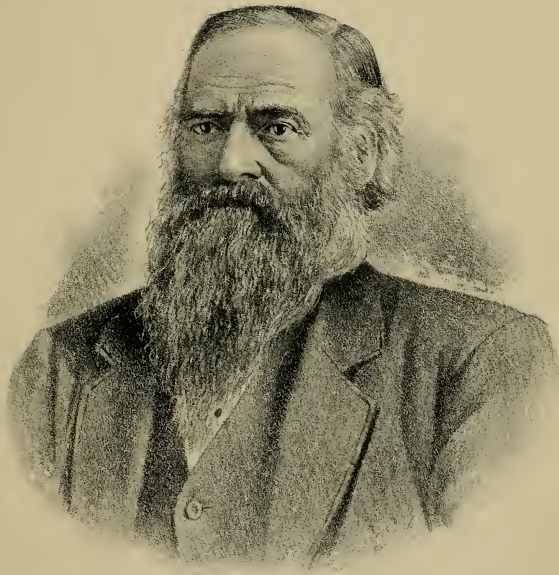
hunter. Minot Goodsell tells that, to the best of his knowledge, he on one occasion killed three deer at one shot. The circumstances were about as follows:

One morning, late in autumn, after a heavy snow of the previous night, Mr. Goodsell put his horses to the sled and started out to hunt deer, knowing that it would be an excellent time. He drove several miles in a southerly direction, and, while crossing a road, saw three deer bound across the track in front of him. He got a good shot at one, but for some reason missed it. He continued to drive on through the woods, until finally he discovered the tracks of four deer, and in a few minutes later saw them coming back, whereupon he concealed himself and shot at one of the herd, but again missed, much to his chagrin. The one shot at seemed to separate from the rest, as the other three started rapidly in the direction of Mr. Dryer's, and soon entered a dense brushy marsh. Mr. Goodsell hitched his team and crept into the marsh, watching cautiously for another shot. At last he saw one of the deer just over the ridge of a snow bank. He made proper calculations and fired through the upper edge of the drift, expecting to strike the deer in a vital spot, but again he was doomed to disappointment, as the three deer dashed out and scampered away through the snow. He followed them some distance, and noticed that one of them was wounded, as blood drops could be seen on the snow. At last he saw them some distance ahead. One was pawing up the snow, and a minute later it lay down, and the others came back and also lay down near it. Mr. Goodsell crept around so as to get a large log (which was rendered quite high by the foot and a half of snow on it) between himself and the animals, and then succeeded in creeping through the sound-deadening snow to within ten yards of the prostrate animals. After looking a moment, he crept back a few paces, and, quickly cocking his gun, rose suddenly to his feet. The animals leaped up like a flash, but the rifle of the hunter rang out on the morning air, and the nearest deer (the wounded one) fell dead in the snow, while the other two bounded off at full speed. He bled the dead animal and then started after the others, and then noticed for the first time that one of the latter was bleeding. Within a quarter of a mile it was found dying in the snow. It was bled, and the hunter started after the other, when to his astonishment it was found also to be bleeding. At last he found it badly wounded, in a little clump of bushes, and dispatched it with his knife. All three deer had undoubtedly been struck by the same bullet. The first one had five bullet holes in its hide, three of which had been made before it was last wounded; but at all events the last shot brought it down. The other two were undoubtedly mortally wounded by the last shot. The three dead animals were loaded on the sled and taken home. It is related that Henry Randall, one day, saw a large bear in an oak tree eating acorns, whereupon he advanced, fired, and brought it dead to the ground. Col. William Cochran brought with him from Marion County, Ohio, three well-trained Siberian bloodhounds. They were savage animals and had to be

watched. One day they were heard off in the woods baying at some animal they had brought to a stand, whereupon one or more of the boys went out with his gun to see what was the matter. He found that the dogs had driven a catamount into the top of a large perpendicular branch of a slanting tree, and one of the dogs had succeeded in reaching the foot of the branch, and was standing baying on the slanting trunk, while the others were on the ground twenty feet underneath. At the approach of the boy, and before he could get a shot, the catamount leaped to the ground, breaking its fall on a small ash tree beneath, and, running a short distance, ran up a very high tree and lay down lengthwise on a branch at the extreme top. As it leaped from the slanting tree, the dog on the trunk at the foot of the branch leaped after it, and was badly hurt by the fall. The boy hurried up, and, taking aim at the catamount, fired, and the animal, with a convulsive spring, fell the whole distance to the ground, probably dying before it struck. Many other incidents of a similar nature might be related if space permitted.

To Milford belongs the credit of organizing the first company of Regulators in accordance with an act of the State Legislature, approved in 1852. On the 12th of September, 1856, the following men and others assembled at the Bullock Schoolhouse to effect an organization, and devise some means to bring horse-thieves, counterfeitters and other criminals to punishment: J. L. Bullock, Alanson Hill, Orrin Fuller, Zopher Case, George W. James, A. P. Case, Jacob Hill, William Hill, Ebenezer Hill, Isaac Carpenter, Charles Cochran, Phillip Helmer, Stephen Shearman and John Shearman. Mr. Bullock was chosen President, Alanson Hill, Vice President, and Orrin Fuller, Secretary. The latter, and perhaps others, was appointed to draft a constitution, which was done, it being presented and adopted on the 20th of September, 1856. This company did very effective service in this and adjoining counties.

Milford was the home of Benjamin B. Waterhouse, a native of Connecticut, though reared in Oswego County, N. Y. He was one of the noblest and kindest-hearted men that ever lived. From his earliest years, his soul shrank in repugnance from that so-called "divine institution," known as human slavery. His conscience cried out against the wrong, and, at last, led him into prominent connection with a well-traveled line of Underground Railroad. He lost no opportunity to assist runaway slaves on their way to Canada, and his house at last became a noted harbor, and was known to colored people far down in the Southern States. The first noted station south of his house was at the Whitfords, in Allen Township, Noble County, while the first one north was at Orland, and the second at the residence of John Waterhouse, twelve miles south of Coldwater, Mich. A volume might be employed in which to tell all the incidents connected with the career of Mr. Waterhouse as an Underground Railroad agent. He had a covered buggy, or carriage, in which the slaves were placed, when not too numerous (in such case a wagon was used) and a blanket thrown over the heads of the blacks), and conveyed to Orland, and there de-



Charles Cochran

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livered to a wagon-maker named Clark, or to Mr. Barry and one or two other trusty men; hence they were taken on to the house of John Waterhouse and other places north. Some hypercritical persons have said that his carriage stunk terribly of the negroes who rode in it. It is safe to say that Mr. Waterhouse helped 100 runaway slaves to escape. His neighbors did not molest him, though some were much opposed to what he was doing. It is said that David Randall went out one morning with his hoe on his shoulder to dig potatoes. He had scarcely begun, when a gigantic negro came swiftly from the woods a short distance away, and approached him. Mr. Randall saw instantly, from the weary appearance, torn clothing, haggard face, and indispensable bundle of clothing of the colored man, that he was a fugitive slave. Thinking to try the fellow a little, Mr. Randall called out, "Look here! you are running away from your master. You turn right around and start back for the South, or I'll report you." It was no fun for the desperate colored man, for he thought Mr. Randall was in earnest. He looked fiercely at the settler for an instant, and then coolly laid down his stick and bundle, took off his ragged coat and placed it on the ground, doubled up a pair of fists that looked like sledge-hammers, and then started for the settler, exclaiming, "Massa, ye'd better got yerself ready; I'se a comin'." The settler, in alarm, instantly protested that he was only fooling; and the fugitive desisted and went slowly back and put on his coat. Mr. Randall directed him on his way, and the determined fellow was soon out of sight.

After the enactment of the fugitive slave law, in 1852, Mr. Waterhouse worked harder than ever for the slaves. Early one morning, during the autumn of 1853, Augustus Whitford, of Noble County, brought five or six fugitive colored men in a wagon to the residence of Mr. Waterhouse. As they were to be taken on to Orland by Mr. Waterhouse without delay, Mrs. Waterhouse and daughters hurriedly prepared them a substantial breakfast. This they dispatched as only travelers know how, and soon they were again on their way, reaching Orland in a few hours. At this point the whole party, including Messrs. Clark, Barry and others, of Orland, were seen by men who reported the violation of the law to Dr. Marsh, a Deputy United States Marshal residing near there. The slaves were taken on to Canada by the Abolitionists without molestation. The owners of the slaves became aware of how the latter escaped, and learned the names of Mr. Waterhouse and those at Orland who had assisted him. They therefore, in the fall of 1854, had these men arraigned before the United States Circuit Court at Indianapolis for a violation of the fugitive slave law, Mr. Cyrus Fillmore, brother of ex-President Fillmore, appearing as one of the prosecuting witnesses. Mr. Waterhouse was found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 and to be imprisoned for twenty-four hours. The imprisonment was remitted or avoided, but the fine was probably paid. This action of the court did not deter Mr. Waterhouse one iota from frequent future violations of the (to him) odious law.



About this time, strong anti-slavery meetings were held in various portions of the surrounding country. One was held at Orland, which, at that time, contained many Abolitionists. Miss Whitford, of Allen Township, Noble County, an enthusiastic Abolitionist and a lady of excellent heart and character, was present and sang, with great power and effect, the song, one verse of which is:

"The baying hounds are on my track;  
Old massa's close behind,  
And he's resolved to take me back  
Across the Dixon line."

A large meeting of the same nature was held at Brushy Chapel, Springfield Township, about the same time, Miss Whitford being present and singing the same and other appropriate songs.

Mr. Waterhouse was a sincere and ardent Methodist, and took his position regarding slavery because he thought that Divine approval would sanction such a course. May his name be written with those of "Old" John Brown and Owen Lovejoy.

During the autumn of 1836, Col. Cochran built a dam at the outlet of Long Lake, and over a short race erected the first saw-mill in the township. The mill was provided with a "flutter-wheel" and a "sash saw." It has changed owners many times and has been subjected to many alterations, but it is yet in operation. George Bassett, at an early day, made shingles by horse-power. He turned out a considerable quantity, finding a ready sale in the neighborhood. Smith & Chaffee built a steam saw-mill about thirty years ago. It was a good mill. They also manufactured shingles. In 1848, the Plank Road Company built a steam saw-mill at South Milford, which, under a change of owners, has been in operation since. It has done a vast amount of sawing. A Mr. Baxter conducted an ashery in the southern part for a series of years.

Quite a little village grew up at Mud Corners at an early day. F. B. Masey erected a store building there about the year 1845. He had probably \$3,000 worth of goods. Wright & Barry soon succeeded him. They erected an ashery, and for several years manufactured more than twenty tons of pearl-ash per annum, the greater portion of which was shipped away to market. James Knight began the erection of a brewery at the place, but abandoned the project before the building was completed. George W. Hatch built a tannery there; he bought hides, but retired from the business before any leather was finished. William Knight conducted a blacksmith shop there; Judge Seeley the same. William Dunn was Postmaster there, and it is said the office paid the official well. The place saw its brightest days about thirty years ago. The road past the corners and on down into Springfield Township was at that time known as "Brain street," from the number of Judges and other officials who lived thereon.

In 1856, John A. Bartlett and Francis Henry, owners and proprietors, laid out forty-seven lots on Section 32, and named the village thus founded

South Milford. There were four or five families living in the village at the time it was laid out. In about the year 1852, Wildman & Taylor opened a good country store. Jonathan Law was in the partnership in some capacity. Lambert & Rowe appeared with a stock of goods a few years before the last war broke out. Other merchants have been Hamlin Brothers, Dr. Gower, Austin, Jenkins, W. W. Miller, Hamilton Trindle, and the present partnership, J. N. Strayer & Co. The Bartlett Brothers owned the old store building. They erected the first hotel building. Theodore Upson is the present owner of a wagon and carriage shop, which is doing an excellent business. Orrin Fuller was in the same business about twenty years ago. Wildman & Taylor removed their store in about 1857. Fuller & Francis owned a good store at an early day. Dr. Diggins located in the village in about the year 1854, but did not remain over a year. Dr. John Dancer appeared in August, 1855, and has since remained practicing in the village and surrounding country. He is one of the substantial men of the place. Dr. White was in two years, coming in 1869. Dr. Broughton was in three years. Dr. Robinson was in a year and a half. Dr. W. A. Nusbaum appeared with packages and powders last March. The present population is about two hundred. In 1880, the following persons had passed the age of seventy-five: Clarissa Dyer, seventy-eight; John Fought, eighty-seven; Kalzamon Gunn, seventy-nine; Isaac Heywood, eighty-eight; Jacob West, eighty; Mary Fiantt, eighty-nine; Valentine Groh, seventy-nine; Betsy Gunn, seventy-nine; Peter Sabin, eighty.

Schools started up at a very early day in Milford. The first school building in the township was erected during the autumn of 1836, by several of the settlers in at that time, among whom were the Cochrans, the Goodsells, the Turners, the Butts and others. Orris Danks taught in this house during the following winter, some twelve scholars attending. Danks was a long-limbed, eccentric Yankee. He had a good education for the times, and the backwoods children regarded him as a marvel of learning and greatness. Of course the Yankee was equal to an emergency of that kind. It did him proud. This schoolhouse was located at what afterward became known as "Mud Corners," named so from the extremely muddy place at the crossing. The old house was a substantial one, and was used until not far from the year 1854, when another was erected at the same place by Capt. Barry and Judge Seeley. The walls were built of cobble stones and mortar, and the building became known as the "Mud Schoolhouse." Some say that this schoolhouse (built as it was of mud and stone) gave name to the place, but that is a mistake, as the locality was known as "Mud Corners" long before the building was erected. The "mud" house was a poor concern, as the boys soon picked it in pieces with their jack-knives. In this manner an extra door was soon made at one corner, and then the building became dangerous, and another was built. Not far from the year 1840, a log schoolhouse was built in the western part, near the Cases. In about the year 1838, a log schoolhouse was built about half a mile north of South

Milford. This was probably the second school building in the township. The Baileys, the Fitches, the Sturgises, the Bassetts and others, sent to this house. Two terms of school were taught before 1840, in a building near the saw-mill owned by Col. Cochran. Immediately afterward, a log schoolhouse was built in the Perkins neighborhood. The Cochran school building was erected about twenty-five years ago. The one near the Kinsman saw-mill was built in about 1843, and the one two miles east of it not far from the same time. In those early days, schoolhouses followed the settlers—no regard being paid to their location—just so far apart. Wherever a sufficient number of children were found, there was the spot for a log schoolhouse. The first school structure in South Milford was a frame building, now used as a dwelling by J. A. Bartlett, and was erected in 1854. Miss Hartsock was one of the first teachers. The house was built wholly at the expense of the townspeople, no assistance being received from the Township Trustees. Good schools were held in this house, which was used until five years ago, when the present brick building was erected. The township is at present provided with good schoolhouses.

A small Baptist society was early organized at the residence of Col. Cochran. Elder Bailey, of Angola, preached for the few families that gathered there. The society survived but a few years. As early as 1838, a Methodist Episcopal society was organized at Mud Corners by Rev. Thomas Conley. Among the early members were B. B. Waterhouse and family, John Searl, wife and daughter, Capt. Barry and wife, John Barry and wife, Jacob Butts and wife, the Trowbridges, Hiram Hunt and others. In a short time trouble arose in the society, and a division occurred, one faction going northwest and building the Brushy Chapel, and the other remaining at the old schoolhouse at Mud Corners. After a few years, the latter scattered or died out, but the former has endured until the present. A Church of God society was organized in the southwestern part about thirty-five years ago. It was instituted, it is said, by Elder Martin, who became the first pastor. Subsequent pastors have been Elders Hickernell, Thomas, Logue, Blickenstaff, Sands and Bumpus. In 1848, the society numbered some thirty members, and soon afterward exceeded that number, reaching about fifty in 1860. In 1864, the frame church was erected under a contract of \$1,000 with W. W. Lovett, the building committee being David Lower, Jacob Sturgis and Jacob Adams. The total cost of the building was about \$1,200. The society numbers some sixteen members at present. Sunday school was organized at an early day, Alexander Meleny being the first, or one of the first, superintendents. It was an excellent country Sunday school for many years. Quite a strong Methodist society was early organized in the Cochran neighborhood. It flourished for some eight or ten years. The Church of God society in the northeastern corner had its origin many years ago in the old schoolhouse. Here the members continued to assemble until some questions arose regarding the use of the schoolhouse, when it was thought best to build a church, which was accordingly

done not many years since. The society is not very strong numerically, though it is doing good work. Some of its best members live in Springfield Township.

## CHAPTER XVI.

BY R. H. RERICK.

CLAY TOWNSHIP—SWAMPS AND MARSHES—JOURNEY TO THE WILDERNESS—  
EARLY HOMES AND LABORS—APPALLING MORTALITY IN 1838—GROWTH  
AND IMPROVEMENT—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

CLAY TOWNSHIP, though lying near the heart of the county, was one of the latest townships organized and still remains behind other townships in wealth and population. In the earliest days of the settlement, heavy forests and marshes covered the land, with only about five sections out of the thirty-six inviting to the settler. To the north lay the broad prairies and easier cultivated lands of the upper townships, from which Clay was cut off by a long chain of marshes and rivulets and small lakes. At the present time, a large fraction of the land is marsh, and, in 1830, the water was a much more general element than now. At that time the now insignificant Buck Creek would indulge in floods during rainy seasons. The configuration of the township is uninteresting, except at the north, where the country is rolling, often approaching the dignity of hills. The only body of water in the township lies near the northern line—Buck Lake—which is yet an attractive little sheet of water, though cultivation has destroyed much of the picturesque surroundings it had when it was a favorite “watering-place” of the Pottawatomie braves and belles, when they were out on the Mongoquinong and Goshen trail. This spot is now rich in Indian relics, and a few small mounds or burial places are yet distinguishable. With its disadvantages in character of land, Clay did not rival the richer settlements in early years and did not get a start until La Grange came to be the most important town in the county. The first certificate issued for Clay land was No. 4,536 to Nathan Jenks, on June 9, 1835. One of the most interesting of the later entries is that made by the distinguished expounder of the Constitution, Daniel Webster, who, it appears, bought of the Government the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 9, and received Land Order 12,656, dated July 20, 1836. The great statesman afterward conveyed it to Senator James A. Bayard, father of the present Democratic leader. In the course of later transfers, the land passed through the hands of the old United States Bank, which was “nullified” by Andrew Jackson. There was but little speculation in Clay lands.

A saw-mill on Buck Creek, at the site of the mills now owned by E. Fleck, was one of the first buildings in the township. Before there were any other white men settled in the township, material was prepared in



1835 by a few settlers from the surrounding country for this mill. Samuel Hood was the builder, but it was not completed until after 1837. Levi Knott then ran the mill. A little settlement grew up with this industry, which formed the nucleus of the township growth. In this neighborhood there settled the Spragues, Madison and Michael, Thomas and Anson Clark, the latter the only single man, and Gilbert, a son-in-law of Thomas Clark. Gilbert soon left the country on account of irregularities which the settlers could not tolerate, even in such a distant outpost of civilization. These pioneers were all from Ohio. Some of them had had bitter experiences coming up through the Black Swamp on the Dayton road, in Ohio, and it took brave hearts to go through the hardships and trials of the journey for the sake of opening up the ague-tainted woods and marshes. In 1836, John Ryason came in, having bought lands near the present site of La Grange. After much hard work in improving the township, he moved to La Grange, and afterward died. Two other early comers were Montgomery and Boyles, who were employed at the mill in 1839. The first birth in the township is claimed to be a daughter to John and Charlotte Ryason, born March 17, 1837. But about the same time, Mrs. Montgomery presented the world with triplets, an occurrence which caused quite a sensation, and people came in numbers to see the little pioneers, not forgetting gifts for the parents, who were very poor. About 1837, Richard Salmon and his father and John Ramsey came to the country from New Jersey. Obadiah Lawrence, an early settler in Van Buren, married in that town, and came to Clay in 1836. He was a member of the first election board in 1838, when there were hardly enough voters to act as officers. One of the Thorps served on this board. There were four of this family, well known at that time—Elisha Thorp, the father; and his sons, William, John and Jacob. Lived near Lapman's Schoolhouse.

Shedrick Carney, one of the most widely known of the men who put muscle into the farms of Clay, came into line on land near La Grange February 28, 1838. He had previously been in the county. He remembers with distinctness the bitter weather in which his journey was made, and the deep snow which covered the promised land upon his arrival. Mr. Carney was one of the contractors for furnishing lumber for the first court house, at \$6.50 per thousand feet.

Samuel Carnahan, from Ohio, among the earliest, settled in the northeast in 1843, and lived here until his death in 1867. His sons, Alexander, Hiram and Samuel, are still residents of the county.

These pioneers had no easy task before them. The country they had chosen was difficult to open, and there was everything to dishearten all but the boldest. But they were men who could face such work and overcome it. Some of them could chop down a heavy oak before breakfast for an appetizer, and fell an ordinary monarch of the forest for pastime. Many came into the country through mud and pelting snow. For food they must pay 18 cents a pound for





*Matthew Strickland*

CLAY TP.



pork, an article that would severely try a modern stomach. Salt was \$9 a barrel and flour \$14, and this had to be teamed often through the Black Swamp. But the settlers stood up bravely, and were happy in the prospect of farms of two or three acres, until the ague came. The sickly season of 1838 affected Clay so much as to practically put a stop to immigration for several years. Entire families would be shaking with fever and chills, unable to render assistance to each other. The ague had its favorite home in the bogs and fens of Clay. Other cheerful companions of those days were the rattlesnakes and wolves and Indians. Of the lot, the Indians were the most harmless. They hunted deer through the township a great deal, but never molested the white men. The last of the red men turned their faces to the setting sun and departed in 1843-44. Yet, with all their hardships, the settlers were not altogether unhappy. Mark Tapley could be cheerful in the "Eden" of swamp that Dickens tells of, and our pioneers were much better located than Mark was, and just as light-hearted. There were social gatherings once in a while, as the settlement increased—gatherings of the men sometimes—and thereby hangs many a tale of lively "shindies" and high old times in some lonely cabin. As time wore on, there were meetings now and then in the old log schoolhouse, which was put up in 1837, near the present residence of John Shirley, Sr. It was only eighteen feet square, but people would go from all parts of the township and the country around about, on foot or in ox carts, and pack it full and overflowing.

Another log schoolhouse was erected on Henry Wallace's land in the south, a little later. In the spring of 1836, Eppah Robbins built the first blacksmith-shop on the banks of Buck Creek. All of these old buildings have been destroyed. Although this region was not much sought after for some time (the prairies being preferred), people continued to come in slowly. Among the new-comers of 1839-40 were M. P. Sprague, who came from New York, and, in 1845, opened a brick-yard upon his land; William Wigton, father of James C. and R. F. Wigton, of La Grange, occupied a farm in the same neighborhood. Mr. Wigton, in company with Edwin Owen, built a saw-mill on this land in 1853, and operated it for six years. In 1864, Mr. Owen removed to Van Buren Township. Another early family were the Woodwards (Mrs. Margaret Woodward and her sons, John, William and Thomas), who are yet prominent citizens of the township and vicinity.

About 1843, there were bad seasons in Ohio, and, in consequence, a considerable immigration took place, of which Clay received its share. Prominent among those who settled in the northeast of the township were Sylvester Davis, who remained but a few years; his son, Franklin Davis (who in his early days managed the Showalter Mill, at La Grange, married in 1850, and went upon the farm in Section 11 which he now occupies); Lewis Merrifield and James Packer, afterward of Bloomfield; Jesse Everett, David and Silas Latta (the latter of whom is deceased), Josiah Eaton and Oscar Spaulding.

James Boyd, of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, generously increased the population by settling north of Saylor's Schoolhouse with a family of seventeen children. Mr. Boyd is still numbered among the living pioneers, but his wife is deceased. A little later than 1840, John Merriman bought land in the neighborhood of Fleck's Mills, and, in 1844, John Robbins, who had been living in the county since February, 1836, at Pretty Prairie and Van Buren, moved into Clay, on to a farm in Section 20. Mr. Robbins was born in Pennsylvania in 1808, moved with his father in 1816 to Ohio, and came to this county with his brothers and sister at the above date. He is still a citizen of the township.

One of the most famous characters of the north of the township during the early times was Richard Thompson, or Dick, as they called him, a whole-souled and pious old man, but withal as jovial as any other son of Erin. He invested his property in Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad stock, which, unfortunately, has since then seldom attained the value of 15 cents on the dollar.

The settlement on the town-line road between Clearspring and Clay was begun in the years 1835 or 1836, when Erastus Clark, one of the earliest Justices of the township, settled on land now occupied by John Roy; Ernestus Schermerhorn came to the neighborhood about the same time as Clark did. John Roy was here in 1838, but did not at that time remain, being compelled by family misfortunes to return to his old home in Wayne County, N. Y. In 1846, he came again to Clay and has since been a resident. Mr. Roy has been honored by his township with the position of Trustee for fourteen years, during which time he has erected nearly all the schoolhouses now in use in the township. The other earliest comers were Elisha Taylor, who lived at the present residence of Milton Bingham; Hezekiah Beebee; Leiflick Sanburn, of New England; Widow Dorcas Bailey, of Ohio; and Jacob Mosher, of New York, who was in 1881 the oldest man in the township. The people were mostly from the East, and formed an intelligent and kindly neighborhood. In 1842, Mrs. Caroline G. Bingham, with her son Milton and daughter Laura, came to the home of her father, Elisha Taylor, where the mother and son still reside. Their journey was from Allegany County, N. Y., overland—there were nine in the wagon, and it was an eighteen days' journey. Mrs. Bingham was one of the earliest schoolmistresses, and can also remember, as an incident of that time, when every one turned his hand to everything in the way of work, when she could see specimens of her tailoring on nearly all of the church-goers at the log schoolhouse. Samuel Beatty, who now owns several hundred acres of land and is one of the leading solid men of the township, came in about 1844, and by skill in coopering paid for a yoke of oxen to begin the work of clearing off the nucleus of his present possessions. In 1851, Arad Lapman moved into Clay Township from Newbury, and settled where he now lives.

In 1843, there was a school begun in the Taylor Schoolhouse, just over in Clearspring, which was taught by Elizabeth Sanburn, daughter of Eliphalet Sanburn, and afterward the wife of Andrew Ellison, Esq. In 1844, a school-

house was built on Taylor's farm, in which Hannah Parker was the first teacher. A school was maintained here until 1858, when the house was destroyed. It was in this house that the body of Charles Wolford, who, in a moment of derangement, cut his throat in a wood near by, in early days, was laid out to await the Coroner. A saw-mill in this neighborhood, owned by Davis & Fought, and afterward by William Hudson, was burned during the war. Christian Plank built a saw-mill in Section 33, in 1866.

The early trading of the settlers was done at Lima, and that town and La Grange continue to be the markets of the township, there being no stores or taverns in its limits. The first road to be laid out was the Baubaga road, running directly west from La Grange through the center of the township, and about the same time the Pigeon road, following in part the old trail past Buck Lake. About 1840, the road running north and south past the Fleck Mills was opened. Between 1840 and 1850 the population increased at a good rate, and it is impracticable to give an account of the progress of the settlement. The later history of the township, further than that given in our sketches of the churches and schools, gives but a few points for notice. In 1843, there was a memorably severe winter; provisions were very scarce in the settlement and no way of getting supplies. The snow lay on the ground continuously from the middle of November until the 3d of April. A great many cattle and horses died for lack of food. This was a discouraging time, and the necessity of eating corn-bread as a regular diet created earnest longings for the wheat fields of the East.

Among the industries of the township years ago was iron mining in a small way. There are considerable deposits of bog-iron ore, or limonite, in Hobbs' Marsh, which were for a time mined and the ore taken to the old forge in Lima Township; but the business soon proved unprofitable and was discontinued some time before the war. One of the most important establishments in the county is the Fleck Mills, upon the site of the original saw-mill built in 1837. E. Fleck, in 1881 the sole owner of the mills, was born in 1834, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Upon his coming to age, he went to La Porte County, to learn the trade of carpentering, and then returned to Ohio, where he was married in 1857. In 1865, he came to the township with his father, bought the old mill property, and rebuilt the saw-mill in 1867. In 1871, the flouring-mill was completed, which grinds the grists for a great part of the population west of La Grange. The mills have never suffered from fire and no accident has occurred, save an occasional washing away of the dam.

In that long-to-be-remembered year of conflagration, 1871, there were destructive fires in the marshes of Clay. One started in the marsh southwest of Fleck's Mills, and came sweeping up in that direction with the fury of a cyclone. The whole population turned out to meet and keep down the flames, and all other work was neglected. A great many fences were destroyed and a barn belonging to Widow Latta was burned. It was so throughout the town-



ship, and if it had not been for the heroic efforts of the people, much valuable property would have gone up in smoke. A funeral was being conducted at the Saylor Schoolhouse at the time when the fire came up in that neighborhood. The sense of danger and the demand for help at the fire overcame every other feeling, and in a few moments scarcely enough were left to attend to the burial. The early settlers have had much experience in fighting fire, but none equal to that in 1871.

A startling deed of violence took place on the evening of December 18, 1861, which resulted in the arrest of Hiram Springer, Daniel Rowan, Whiting Phillips and several other young men on a charge of murder. The party of young fellows and Mr. Jacob Beam and several members of his family became engaged in an unfortunate conflict at Mr. Beam's house, in which he was struck down and his neck broken, resulting in his immediate death. The men above named were indicted for murder, but all were discharged except Springer, who was found guilty of manslaughter, but was ultimately discharged.

On the afternoon of January 20, 1876, an appalling accident occurred in the township, the saddest in the history of the county. A steam saw-mill belonging to William Price and Joseph Kennedy, and located two miles northwest of La Grange, was blown to pieces on that day, and three men instantly killed. The mill was totally demolished and scattered over an area of ten acres. The proprietors and employes were in the mill at the time of the explosion, and Price was thrown some distance, bruised and stunned. Kennedy was so badly torn and bruised that he breathed his last as soon as picked up. Sebastian Goss, the sawyer, was instantly killed and Henry Corwin, the engineer, was terribly mangled. To add to the horror, a little child of Mr. Kennedy's was so badly scalded that its life was long despaired of. The proprietors had been residents of Clay for about three years. The terrible event produced a profound sensation. It was one of those mysterious explosions for which no one can be blamed and cannot be explained.

Clay Township is now populous and becoming well developed. The marshes are being drained and cultivated, fine roads traverse the township in every direction, the fertile soil is well tilled and yields abundantly, and many fine residences attest the comfortable circumstances of the farmers who have made Clay what it is, and now have a right to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Brief sketches of the churches and schools of the township will serve to indicate its social development. The first religious meetings in the township were held by a Methodist Episcopal minister, stationed at Lima. The same denomination have at present small classes at Green's and Roy's Schoolhouses, whose pastor is Rev. B. H. Hunt. The Rev. James Latham, a very earnest and fiery circuit preacher of the Protestant Methodist Church, began to preach at Saylor's Schoolhouse about the middle of August, and as the settlers had been without religious services for some time, he met with great success, in spite of the unfavorable season. A regular old-fashioned revival was the result;

people crowded to the meetings, and a great many conversions occurred. The Bethel Church, which continues to be the leading society, was organized at this time. Before this time, there had been an organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the Sayler Schoolhouse, near the present home of Milton Bingham, which was ministered to by Revs. Miller, Fairchild and others. The Bethel society, at its formation, had thirty-five members; there are now sixty-six.

Among the early ministers were S. F. Hale, B. B. Newell, James McKinlay, H. H. Hulbert, D. B. Clark and Stephen Phillips. The Bethel Church continued its meetings in the Sayler Schoolhouse until 1880, when it was proposed to erect a church. The work was commenced at once with great spirit, the brick was drawn during a busy season from a yard several miles distant, and, in eight months, one of the neatest and most commodious churches in the county was erected, and the debt raised. The church is in dimensions 36x48, is comfortably seated, and accommodates an audience of 400. About one thousand persons attended the dedication services in January, 1881, and the sermon was delivered by President George B. Michelroy, of Adrian College. At this meeting, \$1,285 was raised. A pleasant feature of the enterprise was the absence of all discord among the members. Among those who were active in the building of the church were Josiah Eaton, Franklin Davis, Michael Gerrin, Hiram Carnahan, Samuel Carnahan, Samuel Crawl and Ephraim Latta. The Methodist Protestant Church also has societies meeting at Robbins' Schoolhouse (seventeen members), and at Plank's Schoolhouse (twenty-three members). Rev. L. F. Hutt is the present pastor (1881). Josiah Eaton has been for some time Superintendent of the Sabbath school in Bethel Church, and is Vice President of the County Sabbath School Association. A short time before the Latham revival, the Baptist Church had an organization at the Robbins Schoolhouse, but it is not now maintained. At Roy's Schoolhouse there is a Lutheran society at present. The Amish and German Baptists have a small following in the western part of the township.

The earliest schoolhouses have already been referred to. All of those first built in the various school districts have been torn down and replaced by new and commodious houses, except Poynter's Schoolhouse, which is of recent erection. The present houses are known as Shirley's, Sayler's, Ford's, Beatty's, Green's, Rowan's, Robbins', Miller's, Walter's, Everett's, Roy's and Poynter's, all of frame, and valued at \$6,500. Twelve teachers are at present employed, and receive \$1.40 per day on the average, if of the sterner sex, and \$1.13, if women, for an average term of 140 days. The average attendance for 1880-81 was 221, out of an enrollment of 384. The first division of the township into school districts was made January 5, 1844. The following is a list of Trustees for the township: First, Michael Sprague, George Hood and Frank Gould; Second, John Merriman, Elisha Thorp and Obadiah Lawrence; Third, Eliphalet Sanburn, Erastus and Samuel Clark; Fourth, William B.

Elliott, Jared O. Chapman and Reuben Hays; Fifth, Michael P. and James M. Sprague, and Samuel Carnahan.

Following is a list of the Justices of the Peace since 1842, as shown by the records: William Woodward, 1851-56; Sylvester Davis, 1850; Hugh Finlay, 1849; Levi Knott, 1847-49; J. S. Merriman, 1845-50; Kiah Gould, 1844-49; George Hood, 1842-44; James Finlay, 1855; William Lewis, 1854-58; Josiah T. Bowen, 1854-58; Thomas Snyder, 1860-72; Emanuel Fleck, 1868-76; George D. Rockwell, 1872-80; Lewis Lisher, 1876-84; John Robbins, 1879-81; Sheldon Robbins, 1880-84. By the census of 1880 the following persons, over the age of seventy-five, were shown to be residents of the township: James Boyd, seventy-nine; John Brindley, eighty-three; Jerusha Eatenger, seventy-six; George Eatenger, seventy-six; Jacob Erb, eighty-three; Frederick Labold, seventy-seven; Jacob Mosher, eighty-two; Arethusa Mosher, seventy-seven; Eleanor Norris, eighty; Hetty Sprague, seventy-six.



# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## TOWN OF LA GRANGE.

OTIS L. BALLOU, attorney at law, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., August 31, 1849; son of Pardon D. and Catharine (Bonesteel) Ballou. The family is of French origin, and formerly pronounced their name *Valloo*. Early in the history of the United States, two brothers emigrated to this country and all of that name now here are the direct descendants of these two. The name is familiar in the halls of Congress and also in literature and religion. Otis L. Ballou was brought to Ashtabula County, Ohio, when a small boy, by his parents, and there reared to manhood. He graduated from the Kingsville Academy in 1868, and in 1869 married Julia M. Curtiss. The same year, he and his wife, and his parents moved to La Grange County, where he began farming and teaching school. While at this he began the study of law, having access to the library of Andrew Ellison. He was admitted to practice in 1872, but did not commence until June, 1875, and continued alone until September, 1878, when he formed a partnership with George A. Cutting, which existed until September, 1880. Mr. Ballou is a Democrat, and is Master County Commissioner of the county. He has held local positions of trust, and is one of the present School Trustees. To Mr. and Mrs. Ballou were born two children—Pardon D. and Katie M.

JOHN BARR was born in Marion County, Ohio, April 24, 1826, one of a family of nine children—six now living—born to Amos and Overbia (Bloxson) Barr, who emigrated from Ohio to White Pigeon, Mich., with the family of John Miller, in 1829. The same year, they staked claims in Greenfield Township, this county—the land at that time not being in the market—and in 1830 moved, built cabins, and made that their final home. Amos Barr dying in May, 1838, John Barr, our subject, made his home in Greenfield Township, from the time he moved there with his parents until his removal to La Grange in 1881. The farm in Greenfield consists of 180 acres of fine land on English Prairie, and is rented out. He was married in 1851 to Miss Mary M., daughter of David and Elizabeth (Green) Elya, and who came from New York to La Grange County in 1847. To this union there have been born three children—Julia, wife of Charles H. Miller, of Greenfield Township; Flemming, who married Ella Fraleigh, and resides in Greenfield Township; and Libbie, wife of M. H. Anderson, attorney, of La Grange. Mr. Anderson's father was the first white child born in Greenfield Township. Mr. Barr is living a retired life. He is a Republican and a member of the Masonic fraternity.

MAJ. W. B. BINGHAM was born in Adams County, Penn., November 14, 1819; son of David and Sarah (Burns) Bingham—on his father's side descended from Irish ancestors and on his mother's from Scotch. Both of Maj. Bingham's grandfathers came to the United States prior to the Revolutionary war, and



both served the Colonies, as mechanics, in their struggle for independence. Maj. Bingham, in 1828, emigrated, with his parents, to Richland County, Ohio. At the age of ten, he was employed as mail carrier, on horseback, from Mansfield to the mouth of the Black River, at that time a hazardous duty. Young Bingham continued at this until about the age of fifteen, when he engaged at clerking in Mansfield and neighboring towns. Afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1847, when he enlisted for the Mexican war, under Col. Bruff, in the Fourth Ohio Regiment. He was first in Gen. Taylor's division on the Rio Grande, but was afterward transferred to Gen. Scott's command. He participated in the battle of Atlixco and several other engagements under Gen. Lane, including Puebla and Waumautala. He remained with Lane until peace was declared, and was discharged as Orderly Sergeant the fall of 1848. He returned home, and in 1849 married Mary Dille. In 1855, he moved to La Grange. His health having failed from disease contracted in his Mexican campaign, he gave up farming and engaged in mercantile pursuits. Long before the breaking-out of the rebellion, Mr. Bingham had discerned the coming struggle, and being an excellent drill-master, he had a class formed and well drilled, so that on President Lincoln's first call he had troops ready for service. After sending three companies to the front, he was elected Captain of Company H in the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and they entered service in September, 1861. At the battle of Fort Donelson, Capt. Bingham was promoted Major of the Forty-fourth for gallant conduct. He was mustered out for disability the spring of 1863, and has since been living a quiet and retired life. He and wife are the parents of five living children, viz.: Huldah, Frank, Emma, William and Edward.

SAMUEL BRADFORD, deceased, was one of the first settlers of La Grange County; born in Hillsboro County, N. H., December 20, 1800, and was a lineal descendant of George Bradford, who came over in the Mayflower. Samuel Bradford moved, with his parents, to New York State at an early day, where his father died in 1808, leaving a wife, three sons and four daughters. His school advantages consisted of three months' attendance, having been constantly employed in duties common to pioneer life. In 1820, being a minister of that faith, he was one of four to establish a branch of the first Free-Will Baptist Church in what is now Monroe County, N. Y. He married Betsey Compton the spring of 1825, in Bradford County, Penn. The next day, he left his bride and started into Ohio, where he was absent one year, looking after the interests of his church in Huron, Marion, Hardin, Logan, Champaign, Clark and Madison Counties. He then, with his wife, resided in Marion County, Ohio, five years. The spring of 1831, he came to La Grange County, pre-empting land in Greenfield Township, known as the "Stead farm," and owned by Benjamin Long. He erected a log cabin, and the succeeding fall returned to Ohio, and brought his family and settled on this place, which he sold in 1833 and moved to Springfield Township. In 1834, he erected on Turkey Creek the first saw-mill in the county, and in 1835 added a carding-mill. In 1836, he sold out and, in 1837, returned to Greenfield Township, living upon the farm of Samuel Brown, where he held schools in his house, among the first in the township. About this time, Elder Bradford withdrew from the Free-Will Baptist Church, having adopted the non-resistant and anti-slavery principles, and formed the society at Lexington known as the "Congregation of Saints." Elder Bradford was a man of strong religious convictions, and the greater part of his life was given to elevate and better mankind. He



assisted in the organization of the La Grange Industrial Association, and at the time of his death was a member of the La Grange Phalanx. He died December 3, 1845, and to his memory was erected a monument by the members of the Congregation of Saints, on which was inscribed the following:

"Brother, in thee Society no common loss sustained,  
For thou wast to humanity a warm and faithful friend.  
Thy life, thy nobler powers, with an unsparing hand to God and man thou didst devote,  
And all thou hadst and all thou was thou gavest to promote."

His wife was a native of Cooperstown, N. Y.; born December 8, 1799. They had four children—William C., Alvah E., Samuel P. and Lucinda. Mrs. Bradford bravely shared the privations of pioneer life, and after his death carried out the principles he had inculcated in the minds of their children, which left their impress upon them through life. She died August 3, 1856.

CAPT. SAMUEL P. BRADFORD, County Clerk, is the only survivor of the family of Samuel Bradford, and, with the exception of one brother, Wm. C., who is buried on the north side of Pretty Prairie, all rest in the village cemetery of Lexington. Capt. Bradford was born April 11, 1832, on English Prairie, in Greenfield Township, and is the oldest white person born in La Grange County and yet living here. He received a practical education, and when twelve years of age, his father died; after which he, in turn, farmed, taught school, worked at carpentering and clerked in a store in Fort Wayne. From this last place he returned and lived with his mother until her death, after which he farmed in Milford Township. On the 22d of September, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry as private; but, after the battle of Corinth, was appointed Regimental Quartermaster, and was with the command from Corinth to Battle Creek, Louisville, Nashville, and thence to Murfreesboro in 1863; then to McMinnville, Jasper, Bridgeport, Chickamauga and Chattanooga. January 19, 1863, he received his commission as Quartermaster of the regiment, and in the fall of 1864 was assigned to Gen. Steadman's staff as Chief Quartermaster of the District of Etowah. January 11, 1865, he was commissioned Captain of Company H of his regiment, but retained his position on Gen. Steadman's staff until October 1, 1865. His regiment, however, was mustered out September, 1865, while he was still on detached service; but he was simply relieved from duty, drawing no pay after November, 1865, and finally, in 1868, was mustered out by special order of Gen. Grant. The Captain then engaged in business in Tennessee and Illinois, and, in 1870, returned to La Grange County. In 1877, he was elected County Clerk by the Republican party, which position he still holds. At the time of the completion of the new court house, the County Commissioners directed Capt. Bradford to arrange and index the records of the Clerk's office, which were in a bad condition. This task was completed, and has been pronounced the most complete system in the State. The successful manner in which Capt. Bradford supervised the building of the new court house and arranged the details of his office has brought him into popular favor as an officer of executive ability. He was married, September 3, 1858, to Miss Sue E., only daughter of William Hern, deceased.

C. A. BRANT is a son of Jabez and Armina (Kirby) Brant, his birth occurring in what is now Ashland County, Ohio, January 31, 1829, and he is one of eleven children. His youth and early manhood were employed at different occupations, mostly farming. He received a good common school education. In 1855, he married Armina Ensign, and in March, 1856, removed

to Decatur, Iowa, where he engaged in farming; he remained there until 1862, when he returned to Michigan, and in 1863 removed to La Grange, and was employed as traveling salesman, at which he continued eleven years. In 1875, he established himself in the drug trade in La Grange. His wife died September 4, 1866, having borne a family of four children, only two—Selwyn A. and Addie M.—now living. Mr. Brant married his present wife, Louisa V. Chase, July 1, 1873, and to this union is born one son—Charles E. Mr. Brant is a Democrat, has been a member of the Town Council, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Brant is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

J. S. & A. D. BROWN are sons of Abijah Brown, who was born May 30, 1799, in South Adams, Vt. When a boy, his parents removed to Herkimer County, N. Y., where they afterward died. At the age of twenty-one, he married Maria Shoff, and in 1826 removed to Allegany County, N. Y. In 1838, Mr. Brown located in Huron County, Ohio, and in 1845 purchased land in this county, and in 1865, having disposed of his property in Ohio, he came with his family to La Grange. December 30, 1867, his wife died, and he January 8, 1872. Their remains rest in La Grange Cemetery. They were parents of seven children—Electa, Ira W., Charlotte L., Jacob S., Julia M., Adrian D. and one that died in infancy. Jacob S. was born in New York State March 22, 1829. He came to La Grange County in the fall of 1854, locating near the southern line of Bloomfield Township, and started the first steam saw-mill in Johnson Township. The following spring his brother Ira came out, and they operated the mill two years. Jacob S. then sold his interest and returned to Ohio, where for three years he was engaged in farming. Adrian D. was born in Huron County, Ohio, December 17, 1840. He came to this county in 1865. That summer Mr. Brown, Sr., and Ira W. purchased the Boyd property, and in the spring of 1867, Adrian D. and his father began the drug business, continuing until the winter of 1871, when Jacob S. succeeded his father. In the spring a portion of the Boyd House was destroyed, and the father and three sons—Jacob, Ira and Adrian—began the erection of Brown's Hotel. It was completed in the spring of 1872; it was a four-story brick, including the basement, 48x100. The building was then leased, and the lower rooms occupied by business firms. In one room J. S. and A. D. Brown opened a drug store; the bank occupied another. On the 7th of January, 1877, the building was destroyed by fire, the loss being upward of \$18,000. In 1878, the grounds were divided and Jacob S. and Adrian D. began the erection of their present buildings, A. D. taking the north lot, which is 22x120, and J. S. the three lower lots, each 22x80. In the second story of the latter's building is situated Brown's Hall, 56x60, with a seating capacity of 800, and the best in town. A. D. is carrying on a good business in the drug and grocery line. The Browns deserve much credit for the enterprise which has characterized their career in La Grange, being among the best business men in the State. Jacob S. married his first wife, Elizabeth Ingraham, May 11, 1856. They had five children, two now living—Ellen M. and Kate E. The mother died in August, 1864, and in October, 1865, Mr. Brown married his present wife, Sarah M. Chamberlain. They have had two children—Frederick J. and Caroline G. May 3, 1870, Adrian D. Brown married a sister of his brother's present wife, Miss Helena C. Chamberlain, and to them four children have been born—Guy C., Harold, Thaddeus and Chamberlain.

GEORGE W. BURBRIDGE, station agent, was born in Nottawa, St. Joseph Co., Mich., April 22, 1855, a son of Charles and Ann (Holling) Bur-

bridge, natives of England, and who came to Canada, where they were married. At an early period they settled in St. Joseph County, Mich., and there engaged in farming. Mr. Burbridge was a poor man on his arrival, but, being energetic, soon acquired valuable property. In 1863, he enlisted in Company F, Eleventh Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and in May, 1864, died from disease contracted while in the service. His widow died in 1870. George W. was raised in St. Joseph County, where he continued on the farm until the winter of 1872, when he taught school, after which he went to Oberlin, Ohio, to learn telegraphy. The fall of 1873, he went to Centerville, Mich., and was in the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad Company until the next November. Since that time he has been employed at different places in his business, among them being Fort Wayne, Winchester and Sturgis. For two months he was shipping clerk in the furniture establishment of J. G. Wait, in Sturgis. December 14, 1876, he was employed by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, as agent at this place. He is a Republican, and was married June 27, 1877, to Miss Jennie E. Kerr, of Nottawa, Mich., and to them has been born one son—Charles A.

ABNER S. CASE, Deputy County Recorder, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., January 13, 1822, one of twelve children born to Oliver and Electa (Webster) Case, who were natives respectively of New York and Connecticut. Abner Case was raised on a farm in his native county until fourteen years old, when he moved with his parents to Monroe County, Mich. In January, 1845, he married Anna Bunker, and for twelve years succeeding this, he engaged in a flouring-mill. In 1850, he came to Ontario, La Grange Co. Mr. Case, with five others, assisted in the organization of the Republican party in La Grange County, and by it was elected County Recorder, and served four years. He was then elected and re-elected County Clerk, serving eight years, with the exception of a short time when he resigned to fill the position of State Senator. He served in the regular sessions of 1869 and 1871, and a called session in April, 1869. In the spring of 1872, the Recorder of the county having died, he was appointed for the unexpired term, after which he took charge of the new flouring-mills in La Grange. His health failing, he discontinued this occupation in 1879, since when he has been living retired and assisting his son in the Recorder's office. He and wife were parents of two children—Eugene V., and Frank E., who died in infancy. Eugene V. was married, November 17, 1867, to Alice M. Ruick, of La Grange, daughter of Daniel Ruick. To them have been born three children, Anna B., deceased, Mary E. and Carl S. E. V. Case was County Clerk by appointment the fall of 1868, and the spring of 1869. From the time he was fourteen years old to 1871, he acted as Deputy County Clerk. He was mail agent on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad one and a half years, and in 1880 was elected County Recorder, and is the present incumbent.

H. M. CASEBEER, M. D., was born in Holmes County, Ohio, April 9, 1854. His father, David Casebeer, was of German descent, and a farmer by occupation. He married Rebecca Kenestrick, who has since died, and they were the parents of twelve children. H. M. Casebeer lived on a farm until fourteen years old, when he began teaching in the district schools. In this manner he paid his way, securing a good practical literary education. At the age of seventeen he began reading medicine under the instructions of his brother, Dr. J. B. Casebeer, of Auburn, and read four years. During the winter term of 1873-74, he attended his first course of lectures at Ann Arbor. The next spring he began practicing in Auburn, and continued until the winter

of 1875-76, when he returned to Ann Arbor and graduated, with the special diploma of Physical Diagnosis. He practiced in Leo, Allen Co., Ind., until October, 1878, when he removed to La Grange and formed a partnership with Dr. E. G. White. Dr. Casebeer is a Republican, and a member of the M. E. Church. He was married June 5, 1876, to Lizzie Speechly, of Ann Arbor, who died November 10, 1880.

JOHN H. CATON, blacksmith, was born in Frederick County, Md., December 16, 1839; one of ten children of James A. and Catharine (Ludwick) Caton. John H., in 1849, accompanied his parents to Preble County, Ohio, thence to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1850, where his parents died. At the age of seventeen, he began learning the blacksmith's trade. He enlisted in 1861, and was sent to Indianapolis to join the Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but found the regiment made up. He soon after went to Mishawaka, and was in the employ of the Government as a mechanic. In December, 1861, he went to Missouri, and the following April came to La Grange. In the fall of 1864, Mr. Caton received a commission as Second Lieutenant, and recruited a company, reporting to the Provost Marshal at Kendallville, and mustered into service as Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. They were then sent to Camp Carrington, at Indianapolis, Mr. Caton, *ad interim*, having been commissioned Captain, and were here mustered in as Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. They were then sent to the front, and remained until the close of the war on active duty. Returning to La Grange, he resumed his trade. He was married October 3, 1869, to Miss Annette Kingsley, and they have had five children, three of whom are living—Claude H., John P. and Kittie B. Mr. and Mrs. Caton are members of the Episcopalian Church; he is a Republican, has served several times at Town Marshal of La Grange, and belongs to the A., F. & A. M.; also is a member of the Chapter and Commandery at Kendallville, and has held all the official positions of the Blue Lodge, excepting that of Secretary.

JOHN F. CLUGSTON, merchant, was born in Franklin County, Penn., August 24, 1829, son of John and Jane (Martin) Clugston, natives of Pennsylvania, and parents of eight children, seven yet living. Mr. Clugston's father, while in Pennsylvania, was a manufacturer of wagons, and engaged in farming. After his removal to Ashland County, Ohio, in 1847, he was employed in the manufacture of grain cradles. John F. was educated in Pennsylvania, and in Ohio engaged in carpentering. March 21, 1854, he was married to Catharine Will, and the following August moved to this county, which he had visited in 1852. Mr. Clugston worked at his trade about five years, and was Postmaster for a time, his service terminating in 1860. He then formed a partnership with John Will in a general store. Ephraim Welch was a member of the firm one year, and, with that exception, the co-partnership has continued uninterruptedly and harmoniously as Will & Clugston to the present, being one of the oldest business houses in La Grange. Mr. Clugston is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Clugston died October 13, 1880, aged forty-six years six months and fifteen days. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church, as is also Mr. Clugston. They were parents of three children—Charles F., Mary J. and John W. Mr. Clugston's parents removed to La Grange in 1867, where his father is yet living, his mother dying in 1875. February 21, 1882, Mr. Clugston was married at Lansing, Mich., to Mrs. E. J. Smith, of this county.



S. D. CRANE, attorney at law, son of Arba and Sarah (Danford) Crane, natives respectively of Vermont and New York, was born in La Grange County. His father was a carder and cloth-dresser, and an early settler of La Grange, where he is now living in retirement. His mother was a Mrs. Scott when she came to this county, and after her husband's death, married Mr. Crane. She died many years ago, leaving six children, four by her first husband, and two, our subject and B. Frank, by Mr. Crane. S. D. received good school advantages, graduating at Hillsdale, Mich., in 1874. For several years he was engaged in teaching, having served as Principal of the Lima School two years, of Wolcottville three years, of the Kendallville High School one year, and of the Middlebury High School of Elkhart County one year. He served over one year as School Examiner of La Grange County, and for six years has been County Superintendent of Schools. He founded the *La Grange Register*, March 26, 1876, and was connected with it one year. He began the study of law in 1874, and in 1875 was admitted to the bar, practicing law during that year. In September, 1881, he went to Ligonier, and, in company with H. D. Reynolds, engaged in the practice of law and insurance business. He is now in the practice of his profession in La Grange. Mr. Crane is a Mason, and was married in 1870 to Miss Emogene Nickols, daughter of William Nickols, of Lima, Ind. She died in March, 1877, leaving three children—Clair V., Charles D. and Robert G. Mr. Crane was again married, in 1878, to Miss Emma L. Benham, a native of Illinois; she is a graduate of a Michigan University, and is a practicing physician of the homeopathic school.

CAPT. H. CROCKER was born in Monroe County, N. Y., March 30, 1825; a son of Joseph and Almira (Adams) Crocker. He is a grandson of Guerdon Crocker, who was a Captain in the war of Independence. Joseph Crocker was a Captain in the war of 1812, and is yet living at the advanced age of ninety-one on the farm he first settled in Huron County, Ohio, when our subject was about five years old. The representative of this sketch was there married to Marilda Shepard. They had two children—Ida and Ella. Having traded for land near this town, he immigrated hither in the spring of 1850, where his wife died two years later. He then began working at the carpenter and joiner's trade in town. The fall of 1862 he assisted in the organization of the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He immediately after aided in the organization of Company C, One Hundredth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. On their way to the front they stopped at South Milford, where an ovation was extended to them by the citizens. At this place, Mr. Crocker was elected Captain, and they entered active service in the Department of the Mississippi. Capt. Crocker, by reason of ill-health, tendered his resignation, which was accepted in June, 1863, but, owing to the interruption of the mails, did not receive its acceptance until the following fall. On his return, the Captain entered mercantile business. He was married to his present wife, Clarinda Heminger, in 1855. He is a Republican and a member of the I. O. O. F. of La Grange.

MAJ. J. L. DRAKE was born in Holmes County, Ohio, November 1, 1817; the son of David and Rachel (Sills) Drake, who were natives respectively of Maryland and Virginia, and the parents of eight children. David Drake was twice married, by his first wife having two children. He came from Maryland to Holmes County, Ohio, in 1814, and died there in 1846. His wife died in the fall of 1878. James L. Drake, when seventeen years of age learned the tailor's trade. This he discontinued at the end of three years, on



account of ill-health, and engaged in farming; also clerked for a time. In 1849, he and twelve others, including three brothers, went to California overland, being one hundred and five days on the trip. They remained fourteen months. For the first two months our subject mined with the rest, but soon established a trading place, and in three months cleared \$8,000. Among other things he clerked in a wholesale store at Sacramento, receiving \$500 and board per month. The winter of 1850 he started home *via* Panama, and on his arrival in New Orleans was taken down with the small-pox. After his recovery, he returned to his family, and purchased the old homestead in Holmes County, Ohio. Mr. Drake had been a Democrat, but after the repeal of the Missouri Compromise became a Republican. For this his neighbors made threats to lynch him. He assisted in raising the first three years' company in Ohio, Company H, Twenty-third Regiment, of which he was elected Captain. He also had two brothers and two sons in the war. One brother, Levi, Lieutenant Colonel of the Fortyninth Ohio Infantry, was killed at Stone River. The other, Commodore, was a Captain in the One Hundred and Ninety-second Regiment. One son, Levi N., was taken prisoner and starved to death in Andersonville. The other, Francis, was a non-commissioned officer in the Twenty-third Regiment, and is at present a hardware merchant of Rome City. Capt. J. L. Drake participated in all the engagements of his regiment until the battle of Antietam. Three of his regimental officers became distinguished in the history of the United States, viz.: Ex-President Hayes, Major; Stanley Mathews, Lieutenant Colonel; and William Rosecrans, Colonel. Capt. Drake was severely wounded by shell in the left arm and side, from the effects of which he was mustered out in October, 1862, and brevetted Major. He was elected Colonel of a Home Guards regiment, and was appointed Provost Marshal of the Fourteenth Congressional District, in which capacity he served until the close of the war. He was married, August 7, 1839, to Susan Hayward, of Cattaraugus County, N. Y. They have had twelve children—Francis M., David, Sarah, Ellen, Emily, Mary, Cora, James S., Newton, Fremont, Sherman and Jack. Four are dead, viz.: David, Sarah, Newton and Sherman. The mother died April 23, 1877. Mr. Drake, in October, 1879, married Mrs. Harriet A. (Triplett) Filson. He came to La Grange in September, 1866, where he has since been living retired.

JAMES S. DRAKE, of Drake & Merritt, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, February 18, 1852, the son of Maj. J. L. Drake, whose biography appears in this volume. At the age of fourteen, he came with his parents to La Grange, and attended the schools of this place. In 1870, he entered Hillsdale College, but discontinued in time to take a two years' course in the law department of the University at Ann Arbor, graduating in 1874. Mr. Drake then entered the law office of J. D. Ferrall, continuing as partner until 1877, when he opened an office alone. In 1879, he formed a partnership with his former classmate, Francis D. Merritt, as Messrs. Drake & Merritt. Since their connection with the bar of La Grange County, have had an increasing practice and now stand well up in their profession. In 1878, Mr. Drake was elected by the Republicans Prosecuting Attorney for the Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit, and re-elected in 1880. January 2, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Clugston, daughter of John Clugston, of this county.

EDWARD S. EDMUNDS, teacher, was born in Danby, Rutland Co., Vt., September 27, 1843, a son of Obidah and Miriam (Thompson) Edmunds, and the oldest of three children. When ten years old, his mother died, and nine years after the remainder of the family moved to Western New York.

The winter of 1862-63, he completed his education at Ripley Academy, and the next summer went to Oil Creek, Penn., where, on the 10th of September, 1864, he enlisted as able seaman in the naval service of the Upper Mississippi Squadron, United States steamer "Victory" No. 33. He participated in a number of engagements and remained in the service until June 15, 1865, when he was discharged at Mound City, Ill. He then returned to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and engaged in farming. In 1866, he moved to Geauga County, Ohio, where, for two years, he engaged in cheese manufacturing, teaching writing school winters. The fall of 1868, he went to Michigan, where, for three years, he remained farming and teaching. From there he came to this place, which has since been his home, with the exception of two years, when he was teaching in Adams County. While at this latter place, Mr. Edmunds began the study of the sciences, making a specialty of geology. In his researches in La Grange and other counties, Mr. Edmunds has made some valuable discoveries. In August, 1880, he was admitted into membership with the "American Association for the Advancement of Science." For two years he was Principal of the schools of Wolcottville. He is teaching at present in Allen, Hillsdale Co., Mich. He was married September 8, 1875, to Frank, only daughter of Elisha and Margaret Hicks. He is a Republican, and, in 1880, was a candidate for County Superintendent.

W. S. FAULKNER was born in Talbot County, Md., December 11, 1836. He is a son of W. P. and Nancy (Pearson) Faulkner, who were natives of Maryland, and who moved to Springfield Township, this county, in 1837, where they engaged in farming, when all was woods with plenty of deer, wolves and other wild animals, while Indians were their nearest neighbors, and here resided until their respective deaths. Mr. Faulkner died in 1879, and Mrs. Faulkner in 1849. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are living. Our subject made farming his occupation until 1878, when he moved to La Grange, where he has since resided. In 1881, he sold his farm of 210 acres, and the same year traded for town property. He is now owner and proprietor of what is known as the Bullock Foundry and Machine Shop. He was married in 1859, to Charlotte E. Sears, who was born May 23, 1837, in New York, and her parents were also old settlers of La Grange County. To this marriage have been born three children—Millard, William E. and Mary L. (deceased). Mr. Faulkner is a Republican, and he is an enterprising and influential citizen.

J. D. FERRALL, attorney at law, came to La Grange June 25, 1865, and entered upon the practice of his profession. In 1866, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney by the Republican party, performing the duties of that office until 1868. Since entering upon his professional duties here, Mr. Ferrall's business has gradually increased until now his services are sought from the neighboring counties, and the limits of the field in which he practices are scarcely circumscribed by the State lines. These facts attest his adaptability for his chosen profession, and the value placed upon his legal knowledge.

R. L. GIBSON was born in Ashland County, Ohio, October 1, 1840; son of Jacob Gibson, a native of Maryland, and Mary (Gault) Gibson, whose birthplace was Washington County, Penn. They were parents of eight children—seven now living. The father was a fuller and cloth-dresser, and later a farmer. He is yet living in Ashland County, Ohio, but his wife died in August, 1874. R. L. Gibson was the youngest one of the family, and lived thirty-four years on the old place. He received a good education, and taught in the public schools

to some extent. The spring of 1865, he came to La Grange County to visit relatives, and while here met Miss Catharine Herbert, eldest daughter of Ralph and Sarah (McKinley) Herbert, who, on the 14th of February, 1867, became his wife. They resided in Ashland County, Ohio, until the spring of 1874, when they removed to La Grange. Mr. Gibson owns sixty acres of good land in Clay Township, which he farms, and about ten acres where he now resides. He is a Republican; and he and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. They are the parents of one son—Martin Herbert Gibson.

W. C. GLASGOW, attorney at law, was born in Auburn, N. Y., April 28, 1842, and is a son of William and Eliza Glasgow, who are yet living at Hillsdale, Mich. W. C. was raised on a farm near this place, attending the district schools of his vicinity, and afterward the school at Hillsdale, from which he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He began the study of law with Hon. W. J. Baxter, of Janesville, and, the fall of 1865, entered the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. The year of his graduation (1867), he came to La Grange and began the practice of his profession. Mr. Glasgow is a close student, and commands a lucrative legal business. He held the office of Prosecuting Attorney of La Grange County, from 1871 to 1875, and, as Prosecutor, gave excellent satisfaction. He is a Republican, and is the present President of the School Board of Trustees. He was married in 1870, to Miss Elora Wade, and both he and wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Glasgow died January 14, 1882, while on her way to Florida for her health.

ROBERT HANSLIP was born in Yorkshire, England, October 25, 1831; son of John and Ann (Jackson) Hanslip, parents of eleven children, seven now living. John Hanslip was a blacksmith. He emigrated to America in 1836, and came to Mentor, Ohio, where he purchased the farm now owned by Gen. Garfield's widow. Through a mortgage he knew nothing of, he lost this property, and, in 1840, emigrated to Indiana, locating in Lima, afterward in Bloomfield Township. In 1843, he removed to Clearspring Township, where he remained farming until his death in 1863. His widow is yet living, and resides in Iowa. Robert was reared principally in La Grange County, and, when a young man, engaged in the stock business. In October, 1863, he enlisted, and served until his discharge in September, 1865. He participated in a number of engagements; came back, and engaged again in the stock business. He married Miss Susan Irwin in 1855, and, in 1858, moved to La Grange. From 1865 to 1879, he was engaged chiefly in buying and selling horses. The winter of 1881, he established his present meat market. To his union with Miss Irwin, there were born six children—Davis M., Alice E., John I. (deceased), Emma M., Robert E. and Ray L. The mother died October 4, 1880. Mr. H. is a Republican; he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as was also his wife.

HENRY M. HERBERT, Cashier of the First National Bank, is a son of Ralph P. Herbert, who was born in Fayette County, Penn., December 11, 1812, and when eight or nine years old moved with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, and from there emigrated to Lima Township, La Grange County, in 1835. R. P. Herbert married Miss Sarah McKinlay November 25, 1841, they are the parents of four children—Catharine A. (now Mrs. R. L. Gibson), John E. (died in infancy), Henry M. and Sarah E. (now Mrs. R. Ellison). The mother was born June 11, 1819, in Livingston County, N. Y., a daughter of John and Sarah (Cameron) McKinlay. The Herbert family

moved to Clay Township in 1854, and purchased the farm where they now reside, adjoining the town of La Grange. Mr. Herbert is one of the county's most substantial citizens. Henry M., the only living son, was born in Springfield Township, February 15, 1852. He was reared on the home farm and received a good education. In 1870, he entered the literary department of Hillsdale College, Michigan, and in January, 1872, began a commercial course, graduating in about three months. Being a stock-holder in the La Grange County Bank, he was elected cashier; after this bank was merged into the First National he was elected cashier of that institution, which position he now fills. Mr. Herbert is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

J. C. HEWITT, editor of the *La Grange Register*, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., August 15, 1842, one of thirteen children, of George M. and Mary Ann (Farley) Hewitt. The father followed farming until his marriage, after which he engaged as railroad engineer. For the past twenty years he has been in the lumber trade, and both he and wife are yet living in Cohocton, N. Y. J. C. Hewitt resided with his parents until seventeen years old, after which he graduated from the Rogersville Union Seminary, at South Dansville. May 24, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Thirty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, as private, and was discharged June 5, 1863. He participated in the battles of Slaughter Mountain, Rappahannock Ford, Gainesville, second Bull Run, Chantilly, Grovetown, South Mountain, Antietam, and finished his army career at Fredricksburg. He was mustered out as Captain. Mr. Hewitt returned East, and for a time taught school, after which, for two winters, he was clerk of the Judiciary Committee of the New York Legislature. He then read law and practiced his profession several years in Cohocton. In 1871, he received an appointment as Inspector of Customs in the New York Custom House, filled that position two years, returned to Cohocton and established the *Cohocton Tribune*. The fall of 1871 he sold out, and May 20, 1876, came to La Grange and purchased a half-interest in the *La Grange Register*, of S. D. Crane, and on the 1st of the October following, purchased the other half. He was married, May 1, 1866, to Miss Margelia Rathbun, and they had born one daughter—Grace.

SAMUEL G. HOFF, of the firm of Hoff & Embrey, was born January 17, 1847, in Richland County, Ohio, a son of M. and H. (Mowers) Hoff. The father was a cooper, and in 1847 came to Indiana, and in October, 1848, moved his family to La Grange County, and located at Wright's Corner, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1868, moved to Newbury Township, where he is yet living. His wife died in December, 1879. S. G. Hoff was only twenty months old when his parents came to La Grange County. He attended the Collegiate Institute at Ontario, and in the summer of 1868 graduated from Eastman's Business College, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He then assisted his father on the farm and taught school until 1872, when he was elected and re-elected County Treasurer by the Republican party. He then purchased a farm of 80 acres near La Grange, on which he resided until the spring of 1881, when he, with H. F. Clark, established a meat market in La Grange. In September, 1881, Mr. Clark sold his interest to J. W. Embrey, the business continuing prosperous. Mr. Hoff was married in August, 1874, to Ruth E. Shaffer; to them three children were born—H. Clyde, Freeman G. and James L. The oldest is dead. Mr. and Mrs. Hoff are members of the Lutheran Church.



C. B. HOLMES was born in Newark, Licking Co., Ohio, December 3, 1822, one of seven children, four now living, born to James and Elizabeth (Wells) Holmes, who are both dead. The father was a merchant of Hebron, Ohio, in which he was assisted by Charles. In 1842, the latter came to Lima, then the county seat of La Grange County, where for two years he was employed in the offices of the County Clerk and Recorder. In 1844, he made a trip home, returning with a stock of goods and establishing the first store at La Grange, then but little else than an unbroken forest, being also one of the first settlers of the town, the first Postmaster and Justice of the Peace. Mr. Holmes followed various kinds of business here until the spring of 1880, when he sold out and is now living retired. For nineteen years he was engaged in the drug trade, and for nine years Justice of the Peace. He has cleared up three or four farms, and erected a number of dwelling and business houses in La Grange. For eight years he was President of the County Agricultural Society. He is a Democrat, and for the past thirty years has been a Mason. His marriage with Miss Mary M. Rodman was solemnized in 1844, and to them were born Alice and Flora B. The mother died in 1872, and Mr. Holmes married his present wife, Mrs. Hannah M. (Case) Ryason, in 1874.

JOHN HOLSINGER, one of the old pioneers of Northern Indiana, now living in La Grange County, was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 9, 1817. He is a son of William and Susann (Raum) Holsinger, who were of German descent. John Holsinger was raised on his father's farm, and in 1841 emigrated to this county, located on the farm now owned by Levi Eshelman in Johnson Township, and cleared the greater part of it and resided there eight years. June 3, 1841, he married Eliza Sherman, whose parents were old settlers of Johnson Township. This lady died July 27, 1847, leaving three children—William, Angeline and Albert. Mr. Holsinger married his second wife, Mary Ann Stroman, December 25, 1847. To them were born Sylvester, John F., Francis F., Adrian, Dora and Ida, and two that died unnamed. The mother died July 11, 1871. September 19, 1871, he married Mrs. Susan (Denman) Nichols, who has borne two sons—Harry, deceased, and Walter H. In 1848, he sold his farm, and moved to Iowa; the same year, returned and purchased a farm in Orange Township. At the end of eight or nine years, he had cleared about 200 acres, and, selling this, moved to another farm further west in the same township, buying 715 acres. In March, 1877, he moved to La Grange, living retired. He owns 315 acres of good land in Orange Township, seventeen acres in Elkhart County, and over five acres where he now lives. When his children were ready to start in life for themselves, he gave each \$2,000, which was just \$2,000 more than he had to begin with.

R. S. HUBBARD is a native of the city of New York, his birth occurring July 14, 1827. Capt. R. S. Hubbard, his father, followed the sea for a livelihood. He married our subject's mother, Susanna Gates, and the latter part of his life removed to Philadelphia, Penn., where he afterward died. R. S. Hubbard, Jr., was raised in the City of New York, and in Orland, Steuben Co., Ind. At the age of nineteen he began clerking at Angola, but afterward removed to Hillsdale, Mich., where he remained about fifteen months. In September, 1849, he came to La Grange, and was employed as deputy in the offices of the county officials. In 1853, he formed a partnership with Adams Knott, and established in trade at Lima. The fall of 1854, he and S. K. Ruick commenced business together in La Grange, which was carried on three years. In February, 1857, he married Susan M., daughter of Sidney and Eliza A.



(Streator) Clark. This lady's father is now dead, but her mother is the present wife of Martin L. Panches. In 1857, Mr. Hubbard engaged in the drug trade at Ligonier, with Dr. Arnold, under the firm name of O. Arnold & Co. Four years from the next summer, he was in mercantile pursuits in La Grange, after which he went to New York City and connected himself with a mercantile firm until 1871, when he returned to La Grange; July 17, 1872, he established the La Grange County Bank, the first banking establishment in La Grange; May 19, 1873, he and Thomas J. Spaulding instituted the La Grange Bank, which continued until the fall of 1874, when, through the endeavors of Mr. Hubbard, a charter was obtained, and it was merged into the First National Bank. Mr. Hubbard is at present engaged in banking and mercantile pursuits in Michigan. He is a Republican in politics, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which denomination Mr. Hubbard is a local preacher. They are the parents of two children, viz.: Richard Clark and George K.

L. D. HUGHES, hardware merchant, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, on Independence Day, 1839; one of twelve children born to Esrom and Rosanna (Shreve) Hughes. The father was a pioneer of Holmes County, having come there as early as 1825. L. D. Hughes received a good practical education, and April 17, 1861, enlisted in Company H, Twenty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in June, 1864; with the exception of six days, he was always ready for duty. He participated in all the engagements with his regiment, and was wounded slightly at Giles Court House in West Virginia. On his return from the army, he commenced farming. April 19, 1866, he was married to Miss Ellen Drake, daughter of his Captain in the war, Maj. J. L. Drake. From ill health he gave up farming, and came West in 1867, locating at this point. For two years he followed clerking, and in 1869 established a hardware store. He carries a general stock, and does an average annual business of \$15,000. Mr. Hughes cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and still belongs to the Republican party. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JOHN PAUL JONES, son of Phillip and Mary (Beam) Jones, was born in Westminster, Frederick (now Carroll) Co., Md., February 19, 1822. His great-grandfather, Phillip Jones, surveyed and laid out the city of Baltimore in the year 1731. His grandfather, Thomas Jones, was among the first Judges of the Orphans' Court of Baltimore County, and his father was one of the defenders of the city during the war of 1812. John Paul Jones was raised and resided in Westminster until fourteen years of age, and received a portion of his education from the private schools. In 1836, he removed with his parents to Bangor, Me., where his father engaged in mercantile business, our subject assisting in the store and attending the public schools. His father died in 1838, and in the spring of 1840 he returned to Baltimore and engaged in clerking. In October, 1840, he came to Fort Wayne, Ind., and entered his brother's office, Dr. Phillip G. Jones, who was then Clerk of the Allen County Circuit Court. Shortly after this he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in 1842 was licensed to preach, and received into the Indiana Conference, then comprising the whole State, and appointed to the Steuben Circuit, with Rev. E. S. Blue preacher in charge. While pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of South Bend, Indiana, in 1848, he was taken ill, and retired from active ministerial duties. In 1849, he located in La Grange and engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1850, he was elected Representative

to the State Legislature by the Whig party. By that party he was nominated Clerk of the La Grange Circuit Court in 1852, and was the only one on the Whig ticket elected. He was re-elected Clerk on the Republican ticket in 1856, and in 1860 was elected Clerk of the Supreme Court of Indiana. He removed to Indianapolis and held that position four years, and in 1870 returned to La Grange. In 1872, he was elected County Recorder of La Grange County, and re-elected in 1876, his term of office expiring November 10, 1880, making for Mr. Jones a total of twenty-one years in official life. He is at present engaged in the practice of law in La Grange. He was married in 1846 to Miss Aurelia Fobes, of Lima, Ind., and to them have been born six children, five of whom are yet living.

J. H. LUTZ, of the firm of Miller & Lutz, was born near Fort Wayne, Ind., April 29, 1841; son of Abraham Lutz, who was born in Lancaster County, Penn., in 1807. Abraham Lutz removed to Washington County, Md., in 1813, and at fifteen began learning blacksmithing. In 1835, he married Ann Maria Hunt; in 1837, moved to Greene County, Ohio; in 1839, to Allen County, Ind., where he worked at his trade and farmed. After clearing up a farm, he, in 1868, sold out and moved to La Grange, where he died December 7, 1870. His widow is yet living in La Grange, and they were the parents of five children, all living. John H. Lutz is the third. He was reared in Pleasant Township, Allen County, until twenty years old, and in 1861 married Huldah Beck. He worked at wagon and carriage making, and in 1862 moved to Fort Wayne, where he took charge of the finishing department of an agricultural shop. His wife died in 1864, leaving him two children—Wesley and Henry, both deceased. In March, 1866, he married Ellen A. Varner, and in 1868 moved to La Grange, where for two years he carried on wagon-making and blacksmithing. He then formed a partnership with J. R. Devoir, in the hardware trade, which continued four years, after which he sold agricultural implements for a time. In 1875, he entered into partnership with his present partner, J. A. Miller, in the furniture trade and undertaking. Mr. Lutz is one of our independent politicians, voting in all cases for the man instead of the party. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and Encampment of La Grange, the Masonic fraternity and the K. of H. His wife is a member of the Lutheran Church, and they are the parents of two children—Mary B. and Cary.

ROBERT McCLASKEY is the next oldest in a family of seven children. At manhood he married Hannah Durnnell, and in 1844 immigrated to La Grange. La Grange at that time was pretty much all woods, and with only a few houses. He traded for a quarter-section of land in Bloomfield Township, near the village, built a cabin in town, and began clearing and farming his property. He was in very moderate circumstances, and the hard labor all devolved upon him. Of the 160 acres he now has, one hundred were cleared principally through his own exertions. His wife died in January, 1849, having borne our subject five daughters—Rachel, deceased; Juliann, Margaret J., Sarah R. and Nancy A. December 25, 1849, he married his present wife, Mrs. Hannah (Humiston) Durand, who came to La Grange County in 1834. To this union has been born two sons—Miles R. and John E. By her first husband, Amasa Humiston, Mrs. McClaskey had nine children, viz.: Edgar R., Lucilla E., Juliett, Henry, James, Jason, George, Ira and Susan Janette. Only these two are now living—Ira, who is in California, and George, who resides in La Grange County. Mr. McClaskey is an enterprising citizen, and

has always favored the advancement of all laudable public enterprises. Politically, Mr. McClaskey was formerly a Whig, tinctured a little with Free-Soilism. He is at present a stanch Republican, while his wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

JAMES H. McKIBBEN was born in Richland County, Ohio, November 5, 1833, son of James and Sarah (Smith) McKibben, who were parents of eight children and early settlers of Richland County Ohio. The father was a farmer, and in 1849 emigrated to this county, and engaged in farming. In 1863, moved to Goshen, where he died, December 10, 1876. Mrs. McKibben is yet living at that place. James H. McKibben was raised a farmer, and was married March 13, 1856, to Eliza R. Sargent, daughter of Daniel and Maria (Young) Sargent, who came to La Grange County from Cayuga County, N. Y., in 1842, and were among the early settlers of Bloomfield Township. Mr. McKibben continued farming in Bloomfield Township until August 6, 1862, when he enlisted in Company G, Eighty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, through the Atlanta campaign, and was discharged at Indianapolis, July 5, 1865. Mr. McKibben returned and engaged in farming, at which he continued until 1876, when he rented his farm and retired. He is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the M. E. Church. They are the parents of two daughters—Clara and Bertha D. Mrs. McKibben was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., June 12, 1838. Mr. McKibben owns a farm of 120 acres in Bloomfield Township, on Section 32.

FRANCIS D. MERRITT, attorney at law, was born October 17, 1849, in Cass County, Mich., the son of John S. Merritt, whose sketch appears in this work. He removed with his parents to Branch County, Mich., and from there to La Grange County, in 1860. He attended the schools of La Grange, Orland and Coldwater, and, in 1872, entered Hillsdale College. The latter part of 1873, he read law under James Galloway, Esq., of Hillsdale, after which he took a thorough course in the Law Department of the University at Ann Arbor, graduating in 1874. Mr. Merritt then went to Kansas and began practicing his profession, but in March, 1875, returned, opened an office, and resumed the practice. In 1879, he formed a partnership with James S. Drake. Mr. Merritt is a Republican, and in 1878 was elected President of the Town Board of Trustees. He was married January 3, 1877, to Miss Margie R., daughter of John and Mary (Will) Rice.

JOHN S. MERRITT was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., May 6, 1823, and when two years old emigrated with his parents to Toledo, Ohio, where he was reared and educated. Samuel Merritt, deceased, father of John S., was a native of Orange County, N. Y., his parents being among the first settlers of that county. This gentleman was three times married, his first two wives being cousins of Gov. Clinton, of New York. They each bore him three children, our subject being the youngest by his last wife, Nancy W. Saturly. Samuel Merritt came to Toledo in 1825, where he died. In 1842, John S. Merritt went to Cass County, Mich., and engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1847, he married Miss Mary Bull, and in 1852 removed to Branch County, Mich. Mrs. Merritt died there in March, 1853, leaving one son, Francis D., whose biography accompanies this work. January 1, 1857, Mr. Merritt married his present wife, A. H. Spaulding, daughter of Judge T. J. Spaulding, and in 1860 moved to this county and purchased a farm in Greenfield Township, where he continued farming until 1866, when he was elected County

Sheriff by the Republicans, and moved to La Grange. After his term of Sheriff had expired, he engaged in farming until 1874, when he took part in the organization of the First National Bank, and by the stockholders was elected President. Since that time Mr. Merritt has been engaged in banking, and after serving three and a half years as President was elected Vice President, a position he still holds. To his union with Miss Spaulding were born three children—Mary, Etta and John.

JOHN A. MILLER, furniture dealer, is a descendant of one of the very first settlers in La Grange County. He was born in Greenfield Township, September 16, 1836, and is a son of John and Naoma (Barr) Miller. In 1829, the family of Amos Barr and John Miller, whose wife was a daughter of Amos Barr, emigrated from Marion County, Ohio, to White Pigeon, Mich., where they lived until the next season, and then came to English Prairie, in Greenfield Township, this county, and laid claim to land there not then in market. In 1830, they moved to this place, and were among the county's earliest settlers. Mr. Miller died the spring of 1837. John A. Miller passed his youthful days on the old farm, doing the duties of a pioneer boy's life. In 1857, he came to La Grange and engaged in the grocery trade about five years. In 1864, he and a number of others were sent South by the Government to do mechanical work, and on this expedition he learned house joining. He followed that trade until 1874, when he, together with William H. Jackson, purchased the furniture stock of John Rice, and engaged in a general furniture trade and undertaking. In about a year, Mr. Miller retired from the firm and engaged in the same business alone. In 1875, he formed a partnership with his present partner under the firm name of Miller & Lutz. They erected their present business block in the fall of 1878. Mr. Miller was married in 1862 to Ellen M. Kinney, whose parents were among the old settlers of Lima Township. To this marriage there were born four children, viz.: Flora, Emma, Frank and Libbie. Mr. Miller is a Republican and a member of the Knights of Honor.

SOLOMON C. MILLER, was born in St. Joseph County, Ind., February 22, 1840, and is a son of David and Louisa (Connor) Miller, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ireland. David Miller was one of the earliest pioneers of St. Joseph County, Ind., settling at South Bend when there were only two business houses in the place. He was a farmer and also a minister of the Dunkard denomination. He entered land in St. Joseph County and remained there until his death, which occurred at North Liberty, November 28, 1876. Solomon C. Miller received a good education and passed his youth on the home farm. In 1861, he enrolled in Company F, Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the fall of 1862, when he was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn. After his return he clerked in a grocery and dry goods store at South Bend for about two and a half years, since which time he has principally been engaged in the restaurant business at Detroit and Allegan, Mich., and Elkhart and La Grange, Ind. Of the last-named place he has been a resident seven years. He was married, May 10, 1868, to Miss M. McCormick, who was born in Allegan, Mich., August 5, 1852. She is a daughter of John P. and Josephine McCormick, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have a family of four children, Maud E., Edna J., Claude D. and Oral L. Mr. Miller is an experienced hunter, and makes annual hunting excursions to Michigan and the West.

S. D. MOON was born in the State of New York April 19, 1834; son of Salma and Caroline (Morton) Moon, who were parents of eight children,



seven of whom are now living. The mother died in 1863, but the father is yet living and resides in Wayne County, Mich. S. D. Moon, when but an infant, came with his parents to Wayne County, Mich., where he continued to reside, farming until 1866, when he moved to Kent County, Mich. Subsequently, he moved to La Grange, and formed a partnership with his brother, Charles K., in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, and wagon and carriage wood stock. In 1870, Samuel Parker was admitted into the partnership, which then became Moon, Bro. & Co. In 1874, Charles R. Moon retired from the firm which then became Moon & Co. In 1879, Mr. Parker withdrew, leaving Mr. Moon alone. Mr. Moon, does an average annual business of from \$5,000 to \$6,000. He is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was married in 1855 to Sarah J. Dalrymple, and to them have been born two children—Adolphus D. and Eddie C., both of whom are now dead. Mrs. Moon was born July 15, 1837, in Wayne County, Mich.

JACOB NEWMAN was born in Richland County, Ohio, October 15, 1832; son of Henry and Jane (Ward) Newman, natives of Pennsylvania and England, respectively, and parents of eight children, five only of whom are living. He is a grandson of Jacob and Catharine (Freymeyer) Newman, his grandfather being the first settler in Richland County, Ohio, and the founder of the city of Mansfield. Jacob Newman, when seventeen years old, moved with his parents to Williams County, Ohio. At the age of twenty-one, he returned to Mansfield, and for a year engaged in clerking. The firm by whom he was employed and John Will purchased a stock of goods, and in 1854 sent them to La Grange in charge of Mr. Newman, who remained with them a little over two years. From 1856 to 1858, he was in partnership with Maj. Bingham in a general store, which was built by them. In 1857, Mr. Newman married Isabel Menelaus, who died in 1860, leaving one son—John H. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was elected Second Lieutenant of his company. At the battle of Shiloh, April 6, while he was in the thickest of the fight, and during one of the most hotly contested engagements of the day, the color-bearer and supporter were shot down at the same time, and two others who immediately raised the colors were also shot down and the flag riddled with balls. Lieut. Newman bore it aloft but soon fell, mortally wounded, as was then supposed, and has never fully recovered from his wounds. During the remainder of the war, he was Deputy Provost Marshal and had charge of the enlistment roll. The Republican party elected him County Treasurer in 1864, and re-elected him in 1866. In 1869, he went into business with S. K. Ruick, and in 1871 he engaged in the marble trade with L. C. Wood; in 1873, formed a partnership with H. J. Platt, which has continued successfully. The son by his first marriage died in 1862, and Mr. Newman married his present wife, Mary Menelaus, in 1863. To this union were born Mary, Jennie, Grace, Henry and Carl. Of these only Jennie and Carl are now living. Mr. Newman had two brothers who served in the Thirty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, one of whom was killed.

DR. J. P. NIMAN, one of La Grange's oldest physicians, was born December 7, 1828, in Mansfield, Ohio, the son of Henry and Harriet (Greer) Niman, who were parents of eight children. His youthful days were passed at home on the farm of his parents, and his educational advantages consisted in self-instruction at night-time. At his majority, he went to Henry County, Iowa, on a business visit. While there, he met and, in September, 1849, married Laura Dennison, after which he returned to Ohio and continued the study of



medicine in Richland and Crawford Counties. In September, 1852, he emigrated with his family to La Grange, where he began the practice of his profession. His wife died in 1857, leaving three children—Josephine, Laura and Charles H. In 1858, Dr. Niman married his second wife, Emily Oliver, and the same year removed to Missouri. In January, 1862, he entered the employ of the United States Government as physician and surgeon, but after about six months' service his wife died and he resigned. In 1862, he returned to La Grange and resumed his practice. To his marriage with his present wife, Jane Plats, there have been born three children—Alton, Jonas and George T. Dr. Niman is at present in partnership with his son, Charles H., who graduated from the medical school at Bellevue, New York City, in 1879. Dr. Niman, Sr., is a Republican, and one of the prominent citizens whose portraits appear in this work.

T. F. PERINE was born July 3, 1844, in Lawrenceburg, Ind., one of six children. His parents, P. R. and Mary E. (Tucker) Perine, moved to Indianapolis, when he was but a child, where they are yet living. T. F. Perine was reared and educated in Indianapolis. At the age of seventeen, having twice before made the attempt, he ran away, and, August 9, 1862, enlisted in Company I, Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the engagements of Rocky Face Ridge, Burnt Hickory, Resaca, Cartersville, Marietta and Kennesaw Mountain, and in numerous skirmishes. He was shot by a rebel sharpshooter, from the effects of which he lost all the muscles of his left hip and is still a sufferer from the wound. Shortly after his enlistment, he was appointed special detective at Gen. Carrington's headquarters, at Indianapolis, and for eighteen months was engaged in arresting rebel abettors and in breaking up meetings of the Knights of the Golden Circle. He had command of the troops at Indianapolis, and traveled over the State in the discharge of his duty. For three years each he resided in Chicago and Cincinnati in the real estate business. In 1874, he came to La Grange, soon afterward entering the County Recorder's office as Deputy; after which, he commenced the insurance business and the prosecution of pension claims. He was married in September, 1868, to Miss Mary E. Jones, daughter of John Paul Jones. To their marriage have been born three children—Ida May, Perrie R. and Ethel.

JOHN M. PRESTON was born in Lordstown, Trumbull County, Ohio, December 29, 1836, the son of James and Mary (Matthews) Preston, who were of Scotch and Irish descent respectively and the parents of eight children. The mother died when he was fifteen years old, and his father remarrying, they came to Bloomfield Township, this county, in 1854, where the father is yet living. On the 28th of July, 1862, John M. enlisted in Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was shortly after appointed Sergeant Major; February 18, 1863, was commissioned Second Lieutenant. For efficient services, he was promoted Captain of his company on the 1st of September, 1864. Capt. Preston participated actively in the engagements of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and through the Atlanta campaign of 1864. He was mustered out in June, 1865, and returned to La Grange, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits. March 27, 1860, he married Maria Sargent, and in 1868 removed to Missouri, but in 1873 returned to La Grange and engaged in the insurance business. Mr. Preston is a Republican, and by that party was elected Clerk of the town of La Grange in 1878 and re-elected in 1879. The fall of 1880, he was elected Treasurer of La Grange County, in which capacity he is now serving. He and wife are parents

of four children—Anna Bell, Grace M. (deceased), Maud B. and Daisy B. Mrs. Preston is a daughter of Daniel and Maria (Young) Sargent, who were old settlers of La Grange County, and is a member of the M. E. Church.

MAJ. JOHN H. RERICK, editor and proprietor of the *La Grange Standard*, was born, February 4, 1830, in Tippecanoe County, this State, the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Lamb) Rerick, natives respectively of New York and Indiana, the mother of English and the father of German descent. The latter died in 1876, in the seventy-second year of his age. John H., at the age of fifteen, began teaching school during winters. In 1851, he entered the Medical Department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, and graduated March 1, 1853. He then commenced the practice of his profession at Sumption Prairie, St. Joseph County, Ind., to which place his father's family had previously removed. December 2, 1853, he married Miss Elizabeth Green, of Sumption Prairie. The following spring he moved to Fort Wayne, where he was efficiently active during the cholera plague of the following season. January 20, 1855, his wife died, leaving an infant son, Louis, born January 6. The following spring he removed to South Bend, where the child died July 27. In the fall he went to Elkhart and was married, May 1, 1856, to Miss Mariannette Devor. In 1859, he removed to La Grange. Here, at the commencement of the war of the rebellion, the doctor became active in the enlistment of soldiers, writing the first enrollment paper, which he now has in his possession, with the signatures of those enlisting. In August, 1861, he enlisted in the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry, but was soon commissioned as Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Regiment. This command took the field in Kentucky, where the Doctor was left in charge of the sick at Calhoun, but joined his command the 1st of March, 1862, near Fort Henry, participating in the two days' battle of Pittsburg Landing, notwithstanding he was wounded the first day. He accompanied his regiment to Corinth, Booneville and to Iuka, Miss., where he was taken sick and sent home for a month. Joining his command, he participated in its movements and took part in the battle of Stone River. In February, 1863, he was again sent home hopelessly ill, but recovered sufficiently to enable him to return the 1st of April. In October, 1863, he was commissioned Surgeon of his regiment, which took part in the sanguinary battle of Chickamauga. Here the Doctor displayed energy and judicious management in removing the wounded from the field-hospital and saving them from capture by the enemy. He served at Chattanooga until the close of the war and was mustered out in September, 1865. The Doctor's war record is a bright page in his history. Entering as a private, promoted to Assistant Surgeon, then Surgeon, and serving four years with the command with which he entered the field, complimented by his commanding officers, form a brilliant career. Returning to La Grange, he resumed the practice of medicine with Dr. E. G. White. In 1867, he purchased the *Standard* and entered upon his editorial duties. His politics are thoroughly Republican, and by that party was elected, in 1868, Clerk of the Circuit Court and re-elected, serving eight years. He was one of the founders and is now President of the Island Park Assembly Association, which has its grounds at Rome City. He is a member of the I. O. O.-F. and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have three sons—Rowland H., born February 5, 1857; John D., July 1, 1860; and Carl, July 4, 1868.

EDWARD ROYER was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 3, 1836, a son of Jacob and Mary (Michael) Royer, now dead. Edward Royer was reared a farmer, receiving a common-school education. When nineteen

years old, he began learning the harness maker's trade at Uniontown. In 1859, he came to Indiana; in 1860, he entered the employ of the Government as manufacturer, at Pittsburgh. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Fifteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; was discharged July 7, 1865, at Cleveland. August 24, 1865, he was married to Miss Lucy Summers, daughter of John and Martha (Lee) Summers, of Covington, Ky. Mr. Royer at once moved to La Grange, where for two years he worked a journeyman at his trade, and in the winter of 1867 established himself in business. He and wife united with the M. E. Church in 1865, and in that year Mr. Royer assisted in the organization of the I. O. G. T. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F. of La Grange. He and wife are parents of three children—Edward H., born November 30, 1870, died February 23, 1881; Frank L., born September 8, 1874, and Mattie B., born September 10, 1878, and died September 12, 1879. The mother was born near Covington, Ky., May 5, 1841.

S. K. RUICK is a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, where he was born August 20, 1830, the son of Daniel and Mary Ruick. S. K. Ruick was reared in Hebron, Ohio, until nineteen years of age, and in 1849, he visited relatives at Lima; then returned to Ohio, settled up his affairs and came again to Lima and engaged in the stock business. Through the summer of 1853, he was in the employ of Knott & Hubbard, in a general store; he then took charge, for a year, of a store in La Grange for Mr. Knott; was then in partnership with R. S. Hubbard three years. In 1857, this firm, with Bingham & Newman, erected the block now owned by John Will, on the corner southeast of the public square. After the dissolution of the firm of Hubbard & Ruick, in 1857, Mr. Ruick opened a dry goods store, but shortly afterward sold out. The spring of 1859, he erected another store building, and again engaged in the dry goods trade. In 1861, he sold his entire business interests in La Grange to Jewett, Morrison & Hill, and went to New York City, where for two and a half years he was employed selling goods. In 1864, he and family moved to Toledo, Ohio, where Mr. Ruick became a partner in a wholesale grocery house. He continued there until 1865, when he removed back to La Grange and engaged in farming. The fall of 1869, he and Jacob Newman engaged in the dry goods trade, but Mr. Newman's health failing shortly afterward he withdrew. In 1870, Mr. Ruick erected the warehouse near the depot, and went into the produce and commission business. In 1873, he and William Hudson formed a partnership in the lumber trade, and the same year erected the La Grange Flouring Mills. In January, 1875, the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Ruick continuing the lumber business for about two years, when he formed a partnership with his son. In 1877, they erected the planing-mill, which they operated until 1879, when the firm was dissolved. Since that time Mr. Ruick has been operating in real estate. He was married in January, 1852, to Lucy A. Kinney, and they are the parents of three living children—Frank D., Flora M. and Etta E.

J. M. SHACKLETON was born August 6, 1852, in St. Catharines, Ont., of Francis and Fanny (Johnson) Shackleton, who were parents of nine children. Francis Shackleton was born in Wales, and there reared to manhood. When twenty-one years old, he emigrated to Canada, where he engaged in the milling business, and married our subject's mother. In 1867, he came to Ypsilanti, Mich., and still continued milling until May 7, 1880, when he was killed by an accident in his mill. His wife died in 1869, and he afterward

married Harriet Lester. J. M. Shackleton began milling for himself at the age of eighteen, in Northville, Mich. In December, 1872, he returned to St. Catharines and entered the grocery trade, but owing to the financial panic, failed. He then went to Eastern Michigan and recommenced his trade. In 1878, he came to La Grange, and was employed in the mill he now owns for about six months, after which he went to Independence, Mo.; but at the end of eight months returned, and for a period of about eighteen months had charge of the Rome City Flouring Mills. In 1881, he formed a partnership in La Grange, under the firm name of Shackleton & Beach, and the fall of that year purchased the La Grange Mills. Mr. Shackleton was married in 1875 to Mary Morehouse, and they are the parents of one daughter—Lela M. Mr. Shackleton is a member of the Baptist Church, and a Republican. Mrs. Shackleton is a member of the M. E. Church.

SAMUEL SHEPARDSON, County Auditor, is a son of Otis and Susann (Gibbs) Shepardson, who were natives of the "Green Mountain State," and the parents of seven children. About the year 1835, they emigrated to this county, locating in Springfield Township, then an almost unbroken wilderness, thus becoming early pioneers. Here the father died in 1844, and the mother in 1880. Samuel Shepardson was born in Springfield Township March 19, 1839, and received a good education. September 24, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as private, and was discharged as Sergeant, September 29, 1864. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, and in the Atlanta campaign. He was taken prisoner at Stone River December 31, 1862, and remained in rebel hands at Knoxville and Libby three months, after which he was paroled and exchanged. He returned home, and January 1, 1868, he and Miss Martha J. Huss were married. She is a daughter of Elijah and Phebe (Hutchins) Huss, and was born June 5, 1849. They have had two children—Kit C. and Ella P. In 1868, Mr. Shepardson began working at the carpenter's trade, and in that year was elected County Treasurer as a Republican. In 1870, he was re-elected, serving four years. In 1874, he was elected County Auditor, and having been re-elected, is now serving his second term of four years. Mr. Shepardson's career in private life, and as a soldier and a county official, stamps him as a representative citizen, and the appreciation of his sterling worth by the people of the county is shown in their continuing him in official position.

DRS. W. H. and J. L. SHORT, physicians and surgeons, sons of Thomas Short, of Eden Township. The father was born in Pennsylvania April 8, 1820. His parents, James and Frances (Gilbert) Short, were natives of Ireland, and when but a boy he came with them to Ohio, where his father died. In 1841, he came west on foot, and purchased eighty acres of land in Eden Township, and upon which he effected a permanent settlement the same year; and January 13, 1842, married Margaret Larimer, who died September 28, 1877, the mother of eleven children, nine of whom are yet living. Mr. Short married his present wife, Mrs. Mary Murray, in 1880. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Dr. William H. Short was reared a farmer. He attended the Collegiate Institute at Ontario two years, and was one year at Adrian, Mich. He read medicine under Dr. Bartlett Larimer—his mother's brother—and attended his first course of lectures at Ann Arbor the winter of 1866–67. He graduated the term of 1868–69, after which he came to La Grange, where he has since practiced his profession.



Dr. John L. Short, a native of Eden Township, finished his literary education at Ontario. He began the study of medicine, in 1867, under Dr. Larimer. The season of 1868-69, he took a course of lectures at Ann Arbor, and graduated from that college the winter of 1872-73. The next year he studied with his brother, and the winter of 1874 attended a course of lectures at the Miami Medical College and Hospital in Cincinnati. While in Ann Arbor, he received a special diploma on Physical Diagnosis. He and brother are well schooled in their profession, and command a lucrative practice.

ALBERT F. SKEER, mechanic, was born in Butler County, Penn., March 29, 1834, son of Eli and Mary A. (Dugan) Skeer (see biography of Thomas J. Skeer). Albert F., in 1850, removed to Hebron, Licking Co., Ohio, learned the cabinet-maker's trade with his brother Thomas J., and in 1852 purchased his brother's interest in the business, after which he continued it alone for six years. In 1858, he came to La Grange, where he has worked at carpentering. Mr. Skeer is a skilled workman, and has erected some of the finest buildings in this and adjoining counties. For two years he was engaged on the new court house in La Grange, during which time he lost only seven working days. He has been for many years a member of Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 76, A., F. & A. M., of which he has been W. M., and at present is its Treasurer. He served in both the J. W. and S. W. stations, and has also represented his lodge at the Grand Lodge. Mr. Skeer was married December 25, 1855, to Hannah C. Brown, a native of Licking County, Ohio, one of six children born to Peter and Hannah (Flinn) Brown, both natives of Virginia. Mr. Skeer and wife are parents of seven living children—William H., Thomas K., Adolphus G., George P., Albert F., Carrie B. and Harry. Mr. Skeer is a Democrat.

THOMAS J. SKEER was born in the "Keystone State," March 28, 1818, one of nine children born to Eli and Mary A. (Dugan) Skeer, seven of whom are living. Thomas J. Skeer received but an average education in youth, and early in life learned the carpenter's trade, which was also his father's. In 1840, he went to Hebron, Licking County, Ohio, where he engaged in carpentering, cabinet-making and undertaking. In December, 1846, he was married to Sarah Taggart, who was born in New Jersey April 10, 1819. In May, 1856, Mr. Skeer removed to La Grange. He has been employed over La Grange and neighboring counties in the erection of some of the finest buildings. For a number of years, he has been employed in Chicago during the summer months, and during the war was employed at his trade in the South by the Government. He and wife have had born to them six children—Frances, John, Thomas, Belle, James and Florence. Mr. Skeer is one of the reading citizens of La Grange, and is enterprising and thoroughgoing.

WILLIAM S. SMITH, dentist, is a native of Licking County, Ohio, where he was born September 10, 1850. He is the son of Harrison and Margaret Smith, the former of whom was born in Wheeling, W. Va., October 16, 1816, and the latter in Licking County, Ohio, May 8, 1825. The subject came with his parents to La Grange, Ind., in the fall of 1858, where he has since remained, with the exception of eighteen months, during which time he was engaged in practicing dentistry at White Pigeon, Mich., returning to La Grange on the 1st of January, 1879. Mr. Smith first began the pursuit of his present vocation in the fall of 1875, and, although, quite a young man, by careful attention to business, he has built up a large and lucrative practice. He is the only resident dentist of La Grange, and his office is located on the corner of Detroit and Spring streets.



J. FRANK SNYDER, editor *La Grange Democrat*, is a native of Richland County, Ohio, and was born December 14, 1851. He is a son of David and Leigh (Browneller) Snyder, who were what is known as Pennsylvania Dutch, but of German descent. The father died in 1872, but the mother is yet living, and resides in Kosciusko County, Ind. They were parents of nine children. J. F. Snyder came with his parents to Kosciusko County in 1852, and was there raised on a farm to manhood. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood and finished his literary education in the high school at Pierceton. From the time he was sixteen years old, he taught school winters, and worked on the farm summers, until 1873, when he entered the employ of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad in the capacities of station agent and telegraph operator. In 1876, he connected himself with the *Columbia City Post* as local editor and general assistant. After nine months, he severed his connection with that periodical, and in April, 1877, established the *Princeton Free Press*. In September, 1878, he started the *Adams County Union*, at Decatur, and in November, 1879, he moved to La Grange and established the *La Grange Democrat*. [See History of the Press of La Grange County.] Mr. Snyder was married in September, 1877, to Gertrude Hoover, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Snyder is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F. of La Grange.

EDWARD B. SPEED, M. D. (deceased), was a son of Henry Speed, and was born at Troy, N. Y., September 7, 1825. He learned the carpenter's trade when a young man, and afterward taught school to pay his way through medical college at Geneva, N. Y., from which he graduated, and then practiced in his native State eighteen months. The fall of 1856, he was united in marriage with Esther M. Cornell, and the next spring came to this town, where he soon obtained a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Speed, in 1864, was commissioned Assistant Surgeon of the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Soon after his arrival at the front, he was taken ill with a complication of disorders, which resulted in his death. He was an honored and respected citizen, a member of the M. E. Church and the I. O. O. F., and a Republican in politics. Mrs. Speed, the widow, was born January 3, 1832, and to her marriage with Dr. Speed were born two children—Alice I. and Emma E. Under Gen. Grant's administration in 1869, Mrs. Speed was appointed Postmistress of La Grange, a position which she has since retained with satisfaction, assisted by her brother, C. G. Cornell, as Deputy.

NELSON STACY, ex-Sheriff. Wareham Stacy was a native of Vermont, and a widower with six children at the time of his marriage with Mrs. Sabra Bennett, a widow, also with six children; she was a native of the State of New York, and to them was born one son, the subject of this sketch. The father was a farmer, and died November 14, 1850, followed by his widow August 28, 1865. Nelson Stacy was born November 29, 1829, in Clark County, Ohio. He was raised a farmer. In 1850, he came to this county, where two half-brothers were living, and April 15, 1852, married Laura R. Anderson, daughter of John and Mary (Gage) Anderson, who were among the early settlers of Steuben County. Mr. Stacy then farmed in Lima Township, where he first settled, until 1876, when he was elected County Sheriff as a Republican, and re-elected in 1878. Since the expiration of his second term, Mr. Stacy has been living retired in La Grange. They have eight children—Mary, John, Mahlon, Ann A., Sabra, Frank, Elias and Clara; all living except Ann Adell, who died when an infant. Mrs. Stacy was born February 1, 1835, in Chautauqua County, N. Y.

EDWIN TEMPLE, County Sheriff, was born in Orleans County, N. Y., December 23, 1840, the son of Luther and Sarah (De Forrest) Temple, natives of New York State, and the parents of four children, two of whom are living. In 1847, the family emigrated to Milford Township, where they had friends. Here Luther Temple began farming, but, in 1848, died of lung fever, followed by his widow in 1854. He was a jovial man, and commanded the respect of his acquaintances. Edwin, after the death of his mother, began life for himself. July 24, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged at Baton Rouge January 10, 1866. After his enlistment, he was transferred to the First Indiana Heavy Artillery, serving in the Department of the Gulf, and was in the engagements of Baton Rouge, Port Hudson, New Orleans, and with Gen. Butler in his movement up the Red River. After the war, he returned home and engaged in farming. In the fall of 1880, he was elected Sheriff by the Republican party, which position he now fills. He was married February 1, 1873, to Miss Mary Ream, daughter of Phillip and Elizabeth (Hoofer) Ream, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, October 17, 1847. They are the parents of one son—Phillip.

J. C. TIDRICK, grocery merchant, was born in Bloomfield Township February 15, 1841, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Rathburn) Tidrick, who were among the old settlers of Bloomfield. [For further particulars regarding his father, Jacob Tidrick, see the biographical department of Bloomfield Township.] J. C. Tidrick was reared on his father's farm until twenty-two years of age, and received a good common-school education. In 1864, he began his business career in La Grange, at the grocery trade. The winter of 1864, he sold out to King & Rice, and January 1, 1866, he again embarked in the same business in La Grange, under the firm name of Tidrick & Selby. Owing to the death of Mr. Selby, Mr. Tidrick sold the entire stock to W. T. Parry the spring of 1868, and the following August went to Kansas. In 1872, he came back, and again embarked in the grocery trade, at which he has since continued. Mr. Tidrick has been successful as a business man, and is enterprising as a citizen. He is a Republican, is married and has a family.

F. M. VEDDER, groceryman, was born in Elkhart County in March, 1843, son of Adam and Sarah Vedder, who were parents of four children. His mother died when he was about eighteen months old, and shortly afterward his father married again, and moved to Wisconsin, where he died during the war. After the death of his mother, F. M. Vedder was bound out to John Thompson, now of Eden Township, until he was eighteen years old. He was enrolled a member of Company C, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, August 27, 1861, and discharged December 12, 1863. He participated in the engagements of Perryville, Pittsburg Landing, and all the engagements of his regiment until the 31st of December, 1862, when the battle of Stone River commenced. On this day he was wounded four times severely, and left within the rebel lines, without food or shelter, until January 2, 1863, when the enemy was driven from the field. Mr. Vedder was then sent to the hospital at Nashville, when, being unfit for further service, he was discharged. He lived with Mr. Thompson, in Eden Township, for upward of two years, during which time he attended the district schools and the Collegiate Institute at Ontario. The spring of 1866 he moved to La Grange and engaged in different kinds of employment. For two years was Deputy Revenue Assessor, and the last year of this time was Deputy Revenue Collector. He was also Deputy County Treasurer under Treasurers Newman and Shepardson. He was married, November 10,

1869, to Miss Mary E. Wade, and to them have been born three children—Charles B., Frank J., deceased, and John N. In 1874, Mr. Vedder and Joseph B. Wade engaged together in the grocery trade, but in June, 1875, Mr. Vedder sold out his interest, and July 27, 1875, embarked in the same business alone. He is a Republican. His brother, George W., was in the same company and regiment with Mr. Vedder.

JOSEPH B. WADE, attorney at law, was born in Harrison County, Va., April 11, 1826, the youngest of two children born to Samuel and Mary (Bizzard) Wade, his mother dying when he was only nine months old. His father afterward married Margaret Michael, and finally died in Marion County, Ohio. The fall of 1829, Mrs. Wade and her two step-children came with Benjamin Jones to what is now Greenfield Township, among the first settlers. They located at what is now the village of Lexington, where our subject received such education as the county schools afforded. He began the study of law in 1846, and at the same time assisted on the farm. In 1852, he engaged in mercantile pursuits in La Grange, continuing three and a half years. He was then employed by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company for one year, as Director and Stock Solicitor. In November, 1857, he was admitted to the bar. He is a member of the A., F. & A. M., and has been W. M. of the Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 76, four years. Mr. Wade is also a member of La Grange Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M. He was married April 7, 1846, to Louisa J. Warner, daughter of Eliphalet and Edith (Gray) Warner, and a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio. To them have been born eight children; four are yet living—Cyrus U., Mary M., Charlie C. and Carrie E. The first-named read law under his father, was admitted to the bar, and practiced in La Grange. He was elected and served two terms in the Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit as Prosecuting Attorney. He married Miss Mary Will, and in the spring of 1880 entered the Methodist Episcopal ministry, and is now located at Roann, Ind. Charlie C. married Miss Maggie Will, purchased his brother's interest in law, and is now practicing with his father under the firm name of Wade & Wade.

HON. E. W. WEIR was born March 12, 1813, in Washington County, N. Y., of Samuel and Sarah (Woods) Weir, who were natives of that State. Samuel Weir was a soldier of the war of 1812, and his wife's father was a Revolutionary soldier. In 1836, E. W. Weir immigrated to La Grange County. The fall of 1836, he settled on part of Section 24, in Bloomfield Township. Mr. Weir disposed of this property in 1837 to his mother, but it is now in possession of Norman Weir. Mr. Weir then moved to Milford Township, where he farmed until his removal to La Grange. In 1852, he was elected County Treasurer by the Democrats, and served four years; then engaged in farming. On the repeal of the Missouri Compromise Bill, Mr. Weir became a Republican, and was elected to the State Senate, serving in the sessions of 1878 and 1879. He was identified with the organization of the First National Bank of Lima in 1865. He has been three times married, first to Miss Amy A. Hern, daughter of William Hern. This lady died in 1847, leaving three children, two of whom are now living—John and Emily. In 1849, he married his second wife, Mrs. Savilla Rice, daughter of A. E. Durand, and widow of Dewitt Rice. This lady died in 1855, leaving one daughter, Sarah, who is yet living. Mr. Weir's present wife was Mrs. Abigail W. Cowley, widow of E. D. Cowley, and daughter of Elisha White. This lady had a family by her first husband, and is in every respect a helpmeet for Mr. Weir.



E. G. WHITE, M. D., was born in Wayne County, N. Y., March 22, 1830; a son of Ira and Jane G. (Rennie) White, natives of Vermont and the city of New York respectively. Soon after the birth of our subject, his mother died, and at the age of twelve his father died. He had come to Maumee City, Ohio, with his father in 1836, where he lived until thirteen years old, when he returned to the State of New York. In 1845, he returned to Maumee City, where he became a printer. In 1847, he went to Columbus, and for nearly four years worked in the offices of the *State Journal* and *Ohio Statesman*. The summer of 1850, he visited his native State, and that winter began the study of medicine. He attended the Starling Medical College in Columbus, and received instructions from such men as Profs. Childs, Howard, Moore, Judkins, *et al.* After his graduation in February, 1854, he practiced for a time in Licking County, Ohio. In July, 1857, he came to this town. Immediately after the battle of Stone River, in 1863, Dr. White received a telegram from Gov. Morton to gather as many surgeons as possible and report for special duty at Nashville and Murfreesboro. After attending to this, he contracted as Acting Assistant Surgeon, and remained until the close of the war. For the past thirteen years, he has been Examining Surgeon of applicants for pensions, and is also the present examiner of the K. of H., and a number of insurance companies. Dr. White and Agnes R. Murch, of Licking County, Ohio, were married in October, 1856, and are the parents of two living children—Ira and George M. Dr. White is one of the Trustees of Bloomfield Township. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

JAMES H. WIGTON is the son of William Wigton, deceased, who was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., November 18, 1817, son of William and Elizabeth (Mushback) Wigton, of Scotch descent. William Wigton, Sr., was a Major in the regular army and the war of 1812. William Wigton, Jr., in about 1839, married Emily Holmes, daughter of Capt. James and Elizabeth (Wells) Holmes, and sister of C. B. Holmes. Capt. Holmes was a State Surveyor, and in 1831 or 1832 entered 7,000 acres of land in La Grange and Noble Counties. A short time before his death, he called his children around him and divided this property among them, Mrs. Wigton, for her share, getting 640 acres, Section 14, in Clay Township. Upon this woodland, in a cabin they had erected, Mr. and Mrs. Wigton settled in 1843. In March, 1849, Mr. Wigton started overland for California with a company of others, and on the journey all were killed by the Indians or died of disease excepting himself and David Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Wigton resided on the old place in Clay Township until February, 1865, when they sold it, and started East for the benefit of Mrs. Wigton's health. Arriving at Hebron, Ohio, the birthplace of Mrs. Wigton, she became worse and died there. Mr. Wigton, after this, continued on to Accomack County, Va., where he died in August, 1868. They were parents of seven children, only three—James H., Robert and Mary—now living. James H. was born in Hebron, Ohio, March 27, 1843, and came with his parents to La Grange County. He was married in 1872 to Miss Florence, daughter of Henry O. and Caroline M. (Smurr) Belding, and to this union is born one son—Martin K. Mr. Wigton owns 160 acres of land in Clay Township, and the only cooper-shop in La Grange.

FRED. B. WOOD, M. D., physician and druggist, was born in the State of New York in 1844, to Arthur and Sarah (Farnham) Wood. He was left an orphan when eight years of age, his father having died when he was but three. At the age of two years, De Kalb County, Ind., became his home. By

saving his wages he was enabled to attend Hillsdale College the years of 1857 and 1858. In June, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was the second person to enlist for three years from De Kalb County. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Perryville, Stone River, Liberty Gap and Chickamauga. At Stone River he was wounded slightly in the head, and the last day of the fight at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863, he was taken prisoner and conveyed to Richmond. He was first incarcerated in Scott's Prison, afterward in Royster, Pemberton and Belle Isle. February 22, 1864, he was taken to Andersonville, and was in the first squad of troops to enter this Golgotha. September 7, 1864, he was removed to the prison at Savannah, Ga.; October 3, 1864, he was transferred to Milan, and from there back to Savannah, where he was exchanged November 21, 1864, being exactly fourteen months in rebel prisons, where he endured more than the sufferings of death. In the spring of 1865, he attended Hillsdale College, after which he continued his medical studies at Angola. In October, 1865, he went to Bellevue and attended lectures, and the next year began practicing in Big Rapids, Mich. In 1871, he graduated from the Rush Medical College in Chicago. After attending a course of lectures at Fort Wayne, he graduated from that school in 1879. In the spring of 1881, came to this place and engaged in practicing and the drug trade. Was married, July 22, 1865, to Mary J. Sargent, who has borne him two sons, J. Fordyce and Phonso S.

### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP.

WILSON ALDRICH, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., born October 9, 1830, is the elder of two children living, in the family of Aaron and Sally (Purchase) Aldrich, both natives of Ontario County, N. Y. The subject's mother died in 1838, and his father married Nancy Pratt, a native of New York, and in 1871 went to Ludington, Mason Co., Mich., where he is yet a resident. Wilson Aldrich passed his youth on his father's farm, and received a common-school education. In December, 1851, he went to California, *via* New York and Nicaragua, and met with moderate success there. Returning to New York in 1853, he remained until June of the following year, when he came and purchased 160 acres of his present farm in this township. In the fall of 1854, he went to Hillsdale, Mich., and was there married October 9, same year, to Miss Catherine Whitbeck. After visiting several points of interest in New York, they returned in December to their home in this township. Mr. Aldrich is a Democrat and a prominent farmer. He owns 309 acres of land, and has a family of five children, viz.: Frank J., Florence E., now Mrs. J. F. Summerlin, Fannie A., Eva B. and Burton A. Mrs. Aldrich was born April 8, 1832, in Wayne County, N. Y., and was one of six children born to Thomas J. and Lois (Allen) Whitbeck, natives of New York.

IRA W. BROWN, is the son of Abijah and Maria (Shoff) Brown. His birth occurred March 25, 1824, near Oxford, N. Y., and in 1838 he went to Bellevue, Huron Co., Ohio, with his parents. From the age of seventeen to twenty-one, he worked as an apprentice in the carriage and wagon manufactory of his father, afterward assuming the management for one and one-half years, when he bought his father's interest, and continued the business alone. In about 1847, he and his father purchased a farm in Sandusky County, Ohio, where Ira W. removed



about two years later. He continued his trade, and manufactured a number of wagons that were taken overland to California during the gold excitement there. In the winter of 1854-55, Mr. Brown emigrated to this county, and after the arrival of his family in the spring, settled in this township. After his arrival here, he operated a steam saw-mill in Johnson Township, in partnership with his father, and brother Jacob. The two latter subsequently sold out to Ira W., who continued the business until 1866. In 1865, he moved onto his farm of 160 acres in this township, and has retained most of the timber on the land. In 1870, he built a saw-mill which he has since operated. Mr. Brown, in 1848, August 16, married Julia P. Lamson, whose birth occurred January 10, 1831, in Chenango County, N. Y. Her parents were Orson and Betsey (Shoff) Lamson, natives of New York. Mr. Brown is a member of A., F. & A. M. They have had six children; four are living—Llewellyn A., Clifford J., Louise B., now Mrs. Samuel Weir, and Ellsworth I. Mr. Brown is a leading farmer and lumber dealer, and has one of the finest residences in the township; his land is well cultivated and improved with good substantial buildings.

HON. JOHN Y. CLARK, deceased, was the son of Isaac and Patience (Young) Clark, both of New Jersey, where the subject was born September 26, 1806, in Sussex County, and where he was married, December 11, 1826, to Hester H. Westbrook. She also was a native of Sussex County, born in 1809, the 4th of April. In 1829, he emigrated to Steuben County, N. Y., journeying to this township in 1836, where he purchased a tract of 160 acres of timbered land. Their nearest neighbors were two miles distant. Mr. Clark, with the assistance of his sons, soon had his farm cleared and improved. He served his township as Justice of the Peace, and was elected, in 1846, to the Lower House of the Indiana State Legislature by the Whig party, of which he was a leader. Mr. Clark died at his home in this township, owning at that time 240 acres of land. He was a man that inspired the esteem and respect of all. His wife died May 7, 1873. They had ten children; those living are Phoebe, now Mrs. Van Kirk; Abraham W.; Patience, now Mrs. Thompson; Martha, now Mrs. Draggoo; Eleanor J., now Mrs. Newell; Hester H., now Mrs. Malone, and William J. Abraham W. has been a member of the Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 76, A., F. & A. M., for more than twenty years, and has represented that order at the Grand Lodge several times; he is also an R. A. and S. M. Mason. Himself and brother, William J., own and live on the old homestead, and are both among Bloomfield's leading citizens.

SPENCER I. CLEAVELAND, miller, born May 10, 1823, in Onondaga County, N. Y., is the son of Asaph and Polly (Hawks) Cleaveland, who had a family of seven children. Asaph Cleaveland was born October 26, 1785, in Connecticut, and his wife August 23, 1787, in Massachusetts. The former served in the war of 1812, and followed farming throughout life. In 1838, he came to this county, settling in Greenfield Township, and removed to Steuben County, Ind., in 1840, where he died in January, 1847. Mrs. Polly Cleaveland was a Presbyterian; died in April, 1846. Spencer Cleaveland received a fair education, and in 1840 went to Ontario County, N. Y.; was employed in farm work six years, then came to Steuben County, Ind., and bought eighty acres of land. He was married in New York August 29, 1847, to Miss Paulowna L. Wilmarth, whose birth occurred August 11, 1823, in Victor, Ontario Co., N. Y. Her parents were Otis and Sophronia (Boughton) Wilmarth, natives of New Jersey, the former born December 8, 1792, and the latter

October 11, 1795. In 1853, Mr. Cleaveland came to this county and bought a farm of 120 acres, which he sold in 1854, and returned to Steuben County, and purchased 100 more acres there. In 1857, he bought a flouring-mill near there, which he operated until November, 1858, when it was destroyed by fire. Mr. Cleaveland exchanged his farm, in 1861, for the one upon which he now lives in this township. He was a member of the Regulator organization; is a staunch Republican, and was elected Township Assessor and Real Estate Appraiser in 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Cleaveland have only one son living—Llewellyn S., who is a resident of Denver, Colo.

SAMUEL CLINE is a native of Richland County, Ohio, and next to the youngest of nine children born to William and Ellen (Gibbeney) Cline—the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of Ohio. They died in this township, where they came in 1854, and purchased 320 acres of land; his death occurred in 1871, and hers in September, 1881. December 22, 1858, Samuel Cline and Mary A. Olmstead were married, and the following two years he was engaged in farming for his father on shares. In the spring of 1861, he bought eighty acres of land in this township, where he lived four years, then bought the farm of eighty acres where he is living. Mrs. Cline is a native of this county, born February 9, 1843. Mr. Cline's birth occurred on the 4th of March, 1836. They have had five children—Calvin W., Harvey O., William, who died March 9, 1868, Perley M. and Mary E. Mr. Cline is an enterprising farmer and stock-dealer. Mrs. Cline is the daughter of Harvey and Mary A. (Gage) Olmstead.

WILLIAM A. CLINE was born in Richland County, Ohio, August 8, 1830; is the son of William and Ellen (Gibney) Cline. His father was born in 1794, in Huntingdon County, Penn.; was married in Richland County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm of 237 acres, improved the same and in June, 1854, emigrated to Indiana. In this township he bought 320 acres of land, and resided until his death, October 2, 1871. Mrs. Ellen Cline, a native of Washington County, Penn., was born July 22, 1799, and died August 26, 1881. William Cline, the subject, spent his youth at the home of his parents, and four years after attaining his majority farmed the old homestead on shares. January 14, 1856, he was united in marriage to Mary E. Spears, and the same year bought 80 acres of his present property, which now consists of 255 acres of land, under good cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Cline have four children living, Mary J., Frank B., Nellie E. and Rachael L. Mrs. Cline is the daughter of Tunice and Mary J. (Scoville) Spears, and was born in Springfield Township, this county, January 17, 1840. Her father's birth occurred in May, 1810, in Pennsylvania, and her mother's in Connecticut, in 1820. Mr. Cline is a substantial, Republican citizen.

JOSEPH W. CONNELLY was born in Ohio April 13, 1833. His father, Thomas Connelly, was born in Maryland and his mother, Sevilla Connelly, in Virginia. Since 1835, Joseph W. Connelly has lived in this county, with the exception of one year passed in Iowa. His schooling, therefore, was acquired in this county, and when twenty years old began life for himself. October 18, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Gage, a native of La Grange, Ind. Her parents, Jacob and Anna Gage, were natives respectively of Vermont and Pennsylvania; the former is a farmer and resides in Van Buren Township, this county; the latter died in this county in August, 1871. Mr. Connelly first rented a farm, then went to Iowa and purchased 53 acres of land. Returning the next year he bought his present farm

of 80 acres, and has cleared most of that which is now under cultivation. Mr. Connelly keeps the usual amount of stock on his farm and is a good citizen. He and wife belong to the M. E. Church and are parents of ten children—John B., Martha S., Joseph A., Mary R. (deceased), Thomas B., Hiram J., Sevilla A., Orpheus J., Orphy M. and Charles F.

JAMES D. CRANDELL, one of the pioneers of La Grange County, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., September 1, 1822. He is one of ten children born to Ivory and Hopey (Winslow) Crandall. The former, a native of Rhode Island, was a carpenter by trade, and a soldier in the war of 1812. The latter was born in Washington County, N. Y. In 1836, they removed from Monroe County, N. Y., to this township, where Mr. Crandall bought land and the same year laid out the town of Bloomfield, now known as Hill's Corners. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Grannis, in Steuben County, Ind., March 4, 1872. When eighteen years old, James Crandall learned the cooper's trade, and in 1841 bought 40 acres of land in this township; followed his trade one and one-half years at Union Mills, this county, and in 1843, bought 90 acres of his present farm of 156 acres, where he built a shop and has since lived, engaged at his trade and farming. October 5, 1851, he married Susan A. Faulkner, and to them five children have been born—Erin M., now Mrs. J. L. Chapman, Emeline A., Francis U., now Mrs. D. O. Chapman, William S. and Frank H. Mrs. Crandall was born in Talbot County, Md., July 6, 1831. Her parents, William P. and Nancy (Pierson) Faulkner were natives of the same State, and parents of five children. Mr. Crandall is a leading Republican citizen.

JAMES A. DUNTEN is the son of Thomas and Margaret (Mattoon) Dunten of Vermont. Thomas Dunten was a pioneer of Allen County, Ind., where he entered land in 1833, built a cabin and commenced clearing. They had a family of seven children, and he was in the war of 1812, participating in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. James Dunten was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., November 25, 1819, and was married July 12, 1846, to Miss Cynthia J. Carr, a native of Genesee County, N. Y., and daughter of Nathan and Lydia (Foster) Carr. For a number of years, he was engaged in running a hotel, the "Mansion House," on East Columbia Street, Fort Wayne, in which enterprise he first engaged when about twenty-four years old, in partnership with his brother, F. H. Dunten. After living on a farm in Perry Township, Allen County, Ind., until the spring of 1855, the subject, with his family, took an overland route for California, going thither to benefit the health of his wife. They remained in California until the winter of 1856, and while there Mr. Dunten engaged in the hotel business at Diamond Springs, also made money by speculating in some mines in Sugar Loaf Mountain. He returned to Allen County *via* Panama, New York and Fort Wayne. After buying and selling farms in Allen and Steuben Counties, Mr. Dunten located on his farm in this township in 1869. Mrs. Dunten died March 11, 1857, and left two children—Mary J., now Mrs. Beech, and Hattie C. His second wife, to whom he was married April 8, 1858, was Margaret Bell, the daughter of James and Margaret (Gray) Bell, natives of Massachusetts, and pioneers of De Kalb County, Ind. Mr. Dunten and wife have three children—Ida, Lola M. and Alice.

WILLIAM FISH, one of the oldest pioneers of La Grange County, was born in Madison County, N. Y., January 13, 1810, one of eight children born to Ebenezer and Hannah (Goodrich) Fish, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts respectively. Ebenezer Fish served in the war of 1812 and was in

the battle at Fort Erie, Canada. In 1830, he came to this county and settled on eighty acres of land on Pretty Prairie, in Greenfield Township. In 1844 or 1845, he came to the home of his daughter, Pedee Forker, where he died in December, 1863. Mrs. Hannah Fish died in January, 1861. Both were members of the Christian Church. William Fish had poor school advantages. In 1826, he went to Michigan, and in 1830 came to Greenfield Township, this county, and staked a claim for eighty acres of land, receiving a patent deed for the same signed by Gen. Jackson. In 1843, he sold this farm and forty acres he had purchased adjoining and went to Iowa, but soon returned and bought a farm in this township, which he traded, in 1851, for one in Branch County, Mich., which he sold the following year and resumed farming in this township, where he has lived since, with the exception of three years that he rented his farm and resided in La Grange. Mr. Fish was an active Regulator, and assisted in opening the wagon road from Lima to Fort Wayne by following an Indian trail. Mr. Fish's first wife died in February, 1846. She was a Miss Mary Leper, a native of Ohio and the daughter of James and Kesiah (Carter) Leper, the former born in Tennessee and the latter in Ohio. She was married to the subject November 28, 1833, and of five children born to them four are living, viz.: Hezekiah, Anna M. (now Mrs. Elliott), Isaiah and Mary J. (now Mrs. Harding). Mr. Fish was again married, in 1846, to Mrs. Margaret Wade, a native of Pennsylvania. Her parents were John and Sarah E. (Johnson) Hanes, natives of Pennsylvania and Canada respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Fish have had five children, three of whom are living—George M., Hannah M. (now Mrs. Orrin Gage) and William R.

JAMES H. GAGE is the son of Abram and Julia A. (Holley) Gage, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New York and parents of five children. Abram Gage was one of the early pioneers of Springfield Township, this county, where the subject was born February 10, 1839. He received the common school advantages, and at the age of twenty began working for \$10 per month; afterward farmed on shares until 1863, at which time he invested in fifty-six acres of unimproved land in this township. By persevering labor he has acquired a farm well cultivated, consisting of 139 acres, and has become one of the valued citizens. October 1, 1863, he was married to Martha Foster, who was born in Ashland County, Ohio, November 13, 1847. Her parents, John H. and Mary (Weible) Foster, were natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Gage have united with the Evangelical denomination. He is a Republican. They have seven children—John A., George A., Mary E., William W., Martha A., Sarah R. and Harvey S.

WILLIAM GARDNER is a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and the only child of John and Betsey (Billings) Gardner. The former was born in Pennsylvania, was a member of the Quaker Society and a fisherman by occupation, casting his nets along the Atlantic coast. He died in 1826, and his wife, who was a native of New York, died in Michigan in 1855. William Gardner was born October 27, 1825, received a common education, and at the age of seventeen learned the cooper's trade, that he has followed most of the time since. About one-half the coopering in this county was done by him. In 1846, he moved to Centerville, St. Joseph's Co., Mich., pursuing his trade there until he came to this township and located in 1856. In 1859, he removed to Ontario, where Mrs. Sarah Gardner died March 27, 1860. She was born in New York August 11, 1827, and was one of five children born to Elihu and Adeline (Utter) Cross, natives also of New York. She was



married to Mr. Gardner February 15, 1849, and bore him three children—Eugene W., Charles F. and Adeline. Mr. Gardner was married to his present wife—Mrs. Adelaide Meek—December 23, 1860. She was one of ten in the family of Simon and Mary (Gore) Cookingham, and was born January 15, 1830, in Dutchess County, N. Y. Her father was born in the same place and her mother was a native of New London, Conn. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner belong to the Congregational Church. He is a Democrat and an enterprising farmer and mechanic. Mrs. Gardner had one child by her first marriage, viz., Charles W. Meek.

CURTIS HARDING was born in Pennsylvania September 4, 1798, and, when small, moved, with his parents, to the State of New York, where he was married, in Wayne County, to Miss Amy Cowan. In 1835, they emigrated to this township, entered and settled on the farm where Mrs. Harding is now living. By the assistance of his sons, Curtis Harding cleared the land and made many improvements. He died at his home February 10, 1864. He belonged to the Regular Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Harding is a member. They had seven children born to them, four of whom are yet living. Three sons—William, Daniel and Bishop—live with their mother and manage the homestead farm, which includes 139 acres of good land. They are all unmarried and are among the oldest citizens of the township, well known and respected. William Harding is a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and Daniel Harding was born in this township on the 15th of May, 1840.

WILLIAM C. HEALEY is one of eight children, now living, born to William and Jane (Hubbard) Healey, natives of England. William Healey and family emigrated to the United States in 1852, and came to Indiana and bought land in Lima Township, which he sold in 1861 and moved to Johnson Township, this county, where he purchased a farm and yet resides. William C. Healey was born in Lima Township, this county, June 13, 1852, received a common education and remained with his parents until sixteen, when he engaged in working out by the month. After five years, he returned and spent one year at home, then bought fifty acres in Johnson Township, that he exchanged, in 1880, for his present farm. He married Cordelia Hossinger in 1874, November 17, and they have four children—Adrian C., Almon R., Cora B. and an infant. Mrs. Healey is a native of this county, born May 3, 1856, and the daughter of Anthony and Mary M. (Groh) Hossinger, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Germany and parents of seven children. Mr. and Mrs. Healey are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a Republican and one of the prosperous young farmers of Bloomfield Township.

EBENEZER HILL is a native of Rensselaer County, N. Y., as were also his parents, Aaron and Pamela (Winston) Hill. In May, 1809, Aaron Hill removed to Monroe County, N. Y.; thence in 1840 to this county. In 1867, he moved to Iowa, where Mrs. Hill died October 20, 1868, and Aaron Hill February 5, 1870. The latter was a soldier in the war of 1812. Ebenezer Hill was born February 25, 1809, and spent his youth on the home farm and boating on the New York & Erie Canal. In 1842, he went to Oakland County, Mich., where he was engaged in farming about ten years; then came to this county, purchased and lived on a farm in Johnson Township until 1876, when he located in this township. Mr. Hill served actively as a Regulator in this and Noble County. In Michigan, he was Township Treasurer two years, and has twice been elected Justice of the Peace. He was first married, January 8, 1827, to Hannah M. Barber, a native of New York. They had nine



children—Andrew J.; Phoebe E., now Mrs. Barber; Benjamin B.; Mary M., now Mrs. Hall; Melvin E.; Joseph D.; John C.; Sarah J., now Mrs. Welch, and Julia A., now Mrs. Brown. Mrs. Hill's death occurred April 6, 1875; her parents were Benjamin and Hannah (Morse) Barber, natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts. Mr. Hill's second and present wife was born in New York February 28, 1820; her maiden name was Almira Crandell, and the subject is her fourth husband. They were married in August, 1877; she was married first to Newell Hill, a native of New York, and by him has left one child, Edwin W. By her second marriage, to Stephen Harris, a native of Ohio, she had a daughter, Augusta, now Mrs. Maxwell. Her third husband was Ephraim Jenning, a native of New York.

JACOB HOAGLAND, JR., the son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Veghte) Hoagland, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., August 20, 1817. His parents had twelve children, and were both natives of Somerset County, N. J., the former born in 1773, and the latter in 1778. The subject was married February 16, 1836, to Sarah Sherman, and, in April of the same year, came West to Michigan and Indiana with his father. They bought 200 acres of land in this township, on a portion of which the subject now resides, and during the summer were engaged in clearing and bringing settlers here, the tide of immigration having set in from Detroit. In August, they went back to New York, returning with their families the same fall, coming by steamer from Buffalo to Detroit, thence overland to their home in this township, where the two families lived together. Jacob Hoagland, Sr., died in 1848, and Mrs. Hoagland in 1858; both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Jacob Hoagland, Jr., was the first mail contractor in the county, starting in 1851, the first line of stages from Sturgis, Mich., to La Grange, and also carrying mail between these two points. He afterward sold out and bought a half-interest in the Sturgis & Fort Wayne Stage Line, running as far as Kendallville, and traveling over the old Fort Wayne & Lima road. Mr. Hoagland was the first Constable elected in this township, and served several years as Vice President of the La Grange County Agricultural Society; he owns a fine farm of 160 acres, and himself and wife are parents of eight children, four living—Charles E., Plympton A., Elizabeth P. (now Mrs. Price), and Rhoda R. Mrs. Hoagland was born April 11, 1817, in Oneida County, N. Y.; her parents were Enoch and Rhoda (Douglass, Grant) Sherman, natives of Rhode Island and Scotland respectively.

HEZEKIAH HOARD is the eldest of ten in the family of Hezekiah and Lodema (Babcock) Hoard, natives of New York. The elder Hoard was a soldier in the war of 1812; he moved to Geauga County, Ohio, in 1832, thence to this county in the fall of 1835, where he died at the home of the subject in December, 1869, his wife having died three years before at the same place. The subject was born in Stephentown, N. Y., March 14, 1807; he removed to Geauga County, Ohio, where he bought a farm, sold it in 1835, and came to Lima Township, this county, where he farmed on shares until 1838, when he came to this township and invested in eighty acres of unimproved land; he yet lives on this farm, having added sixty acres more and largely improved it. Mr. Hoard was married January 1, 1832, to Rhoda Ingraham, a native of New York; she died November 9, 1838. Of two children born to them, one (Myron) is yet living. February 28, 1841, Mr. Hoard was married to Miss Ann Wilcox, who was born December 19, 1814, and is one of four children born to William and Nancy (Cain) Wilcox, natives of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Hoard are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and have had six chil-

dren, three of whom are living—Mary, now Mrs. Randolph; William and George.

ISAAC HOGMIRE is the son of Samuel and Catherine (Raum) Hogmire, natives of Washington County, Md., in which place Isaac was born on the 5th of April, 1812. He was educated at the common schools, and at the age of eighteen learned carpentering, which occupation he has since been engaged in, although not exclusively. He went to Richland County, Ohio, in 1837, and the following year, on the 12th of October, was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Ernsberger. They came to this county in 1853, where he bought and improved 80 acres of land in this township, removing in 1879 to his present improved farm of 120 acres. Mr. Hogmire continued to work at his trade after coming here, and has worked on some of the best buildings in the county. The first warehouse in the town of La Grange was built by him, and he assisted also in building the first storeroom there. Mrs. Hogmire is one of eleven children in the family of Michael and Phœbe (Poffenbarger) Ernsberger, and is of the same nativity as her husband, born April 6, 1815. They have had born to them six children; one died in infancy, and Henry in his thirty-fifth year, April 27, 1881; the others are all living—Mary A., now Mrs. Frank Rife; Martin; Sarah C., now Mrs. Carp, and Samuel.

HIRAM JACOBS, the son of Andrew and Sarah (Wing) Jacobs, was born in Ohio March 4, 1824. When thirteen years old, he came to this county, where he lived with a brother-in-law, from whom he received \$100 for his services till he became of age. He then bought forty acres of unimproved land, has since made other purchases, and now owns a fine farm of 130 acres. October 18, 1854, he was married in La Grange to Miss Martha M. Connolly, the daughter of Thomas and Sevilla (Groves) Connolly, who were natives respectively of Maryland and Virginia, and came to this county in 1835, where they afterward died. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs settled on their present farm in December, 1854; they have one child, a daughter, Grace. Mrs. Jacobs united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when a little girl, and is yet a member. In addition to agriculture, Mr. Jacobs, since 1875, has devoted considerable attention to stock-raising, and ships large quantities. He feeds annually about one hundred head of sheep, fifteen to twenty head of cattle, and thirty to forty hogs.

WILLIAM JACOBS is a Canadian by birth, and one of eight in the family of Andrew and Sarah (Wing) Jacobs, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Pittsfield, Mass. Andrew Jacobs was a pioneer of Lucas County, Ohio, settling in 1817 in what is now a part of Toledo. The Indians became very troublesome, and on this account he removed to Canada in the spring of 1819, and William was born August 5 of that year. In 1820, they returned to Lucas County, and there Mrs. Sarah Jacobs died August 5, 1834. In 1836, Mr. Jacobs came to this township, where he resided with his daughter, Mrs. Orphelia Mattoon until his death, which occurred in 1838. The subject, after he was fourteen, resided with his uncle, William Sibley, who was also a pioneer of Lucas County, Ohio, until the latter's death in 1836. In the fall of that year, Mr. Jacobs came to this county, but returned again to Toledo, where he worked by the month, until he located in this township in 1840, when he purchased forty acres of his present farm. November 23, 1840, Mr. Jacobs was married to Charlotte M. Wing, who was born in Northampton County, Penn., June 28, 1820, and is the daughter of Thomas and Elinor (Hardy) Wing, of Massachusetts, and parents of thirteen

children. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs have no children of their own, but have reared two, and partially reared two others. Mr. Jacobs, besides his farm of 140 acres, owns property in La Grange.

ISRAEL MARKS, son of John and Mary Marks, was born June 7, 1839, in Stark County, Ohio. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and they removed to Stark County, Ohio, where John Marks died. After this sad occurrence, Mrs. Mary Marks came to Indiana, in which State she subsequently died. Israel Marks was reared and educated in Ohio, principally in Wyandot County, and came to Indiana when twenty years of age. He was married in this county, August 24, 1860, to Miss Amanda E. Sigler, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Peter and Nancy Sigler. Her parents, natives of Maryland, are now residents of this county. Mr. Marks purchased sixty-five acres of his present farm in 1865; he now owns 112½ acres, and most of the improvements he has made himself. The buildings are good, and the chief products of the farm are wheat and corn. Mr. and Mrs. Marks have a family of four children—William W., Ira M., Emanuel E. and Mary E.

SAMUEL McCALLY was born August 3, 1827, in a house situated on the line dividing Clark and Madison Counties, Ohio, and is one of eleven children born to Nicholas and Nancy (Judy) McCally, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. Nicholas McCally served in the war of 1812, first in the cavalry, in Green Clay's Brigade under Gen. Hull, and was one of the army surrendered to the British. He afterward re-enlisted under Gen. Harrison, and was wounded in an engagement with the Indians. He died in Logan County, Ohio, in October, 1850. Samuel McCally received a common education, and at the age of eighteen went to work on a farm in Clark County, Ohio, where he remained three years, then for the same length of time was engaged in driving cattle to New York. In 1851, he purchased the old homestead in Logan County, Ohio, and in 1854 came to this township and bought the farm of 180 acres, where he now lives. He married Mary A. Nicholson, February 15, 1849. She was born January 3, 1828, in Clark County, Ohio, and died at her home in this township April 26, 1856. Her parents were John and Roxy (Hammond) Nicholson, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York. To this union were born four children, John N., Almond, Andrew and Elias G.; the latter was killed May 10, 1865. Mr. McCally was married to his present wife, Elizabeth J. Richards, July 3, 1856. She is the daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Davidson) Richards, and was born in Clark County, Ohio, November 23, 1827. They have five children—Charles A., Sarah H. (now Mrs. Rogers), Grace A., Manley and Roxy J. Mr. McCally is a staunch Republican, and prominent farmer of the township.

CHRISTIAN MILLER, when a boy of six, moved to Morrow County, Ohio, with his parents, Andrew and Mary M. (Zimmerman) Miller, both natives of Harford County, Md., where the subject was born March 10, 1825; his father's birth occurred August 17, 1800, and his mother's October 5, 1804. In their family were three boys and eight girls. Christian Miller, at the age of twenty-one, traveled West on a prospecting tour, returning to Ohio in the fall, where he was married in Richland County, on the 13th of April, 1848, to Miss Juliann Sowers. They went to Jefferson Township, Noble County, in 1850, where they lived four years on a farm. Mr. Miller during that time cleared sixty acres of land. He then sold out and came to this township and bought thirty-two acres that now lie in the southwestern part of La Grange, also eighty acres in Clay Township, all of which he subsequently sold. In 1858,

he purchased a stock of dry goods and groceries in La Grange, and sold the same the next year, when he engaged in the lumber business; in 1861, erected a saw-mill, operated it until 1870, when he bought a farm of 136 acres in this township, where he is residing, having increased his farm to 364 acres. For about two years he ran a saw-mill on his place, when the supply of water failed and it was abandoned. Mr. Miller, from 1854 to 1862 was an Odd Fellow, when the war broke the lodge up, and was an active Regulator. Mr. and Mrs. Miller belong to the Lutheran Church, and have a family of five children, viz.: Mary C. (now Mrs. Peters), Catherine E. (now Mrs. Deavenbaugh), Henry A., Anna and John C. Mrs. Miller is a native of Center County, Penn., born October 16, 1827, the daughter of Henry and Mary A. C. (Miller) Sowers, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and parents of nine children.

WILLIAM R. MINICK is a native of Stark County, Ohio, where his birth occurred October 24, 1837. His parents, John and Nancy (Poland) Minick, were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in 1818 and the latter in 1812; they had a family of nine children. John Minick went to Ohio in the prime of early youth, and for several years followed his trade, that of a carder and fuller, at Canton, and subsequently at Akron. He was married in Ohio, and in 1851 went to Allen County, Ind., where his death occurred in 1856. His widow was afterward married to David Perky and moved to De Kalb County, Ind., where she died in 1878. William Minick, from fourteen until twenty-two years of age, worked out by the month, and in 1859 came to this township, where he managed a farm one year on shares. November 6, 1860, he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and was married the same day to Hannah L. Cain, who was born in Johnson Township, this county, November 1, 1842, and is one of eight in the family of Simeon and Ann (Oliver) Cain, the former of whom was born in New York November 1, 1808, and the latter in Clark County, Ohio, October 6, 1813. In 1861, Mr. Minick bought a farm in Williams County, Ohio, and in 1868 traded the same for one in Defiance County, Ohio, where he resided until he located on his present farm in this township in 1874. He owns 120 acres, and in connection with farming is engaged in selling agricultural implements. He is a Republican, and a member of the Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 76, A., F. & A. M. He joined the Masonic Order at Edgerton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Minick have four children, William W., a school teacher, Anna M., Frank A. and Charles A. Three of the subject's brothers served in the late war, John L. in Company A, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry; he died at Indianapolis in 1864; George W. in Company A, Thirty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Joseph S. in Company A, Twenty-first Indiana Heavy Artillery. The two last named are residents of Muskegon, Mich.

BENJAMIN S. MITCHELL, a native of Westmoreland County, Penn., born December 22, 1811, is one of eleven in the family of Hugh and Phœbe (McClure) Mitchell. The parents were natives of Trenton, N. J., and Chester County, Penn., respectively, and Hugh Mitchell was Quartermaster in the Revolutionary war, also a commissioned officer in the New Jersey militia during the whisky rebellion there; his father, Randall Mitchell, was a wealthy merchant of Trenton. Hugh Mitchell, when a young man, went to Westmoreland County, Penn., where he clerked, taught school and was married; subsequently removing to Ashland County, Ohio, where he died at the home of his son Benjamin, October 4, 1834; his wife died on the 11th of the succeeding April. The subject, at the age of twelve, began working out by the month, and



at seventeen rented land in Ashland County, Ohio, and moved to Huron County, Ohio, where he kept hotel six and a half years, next engaging in the drover business, then in mercantile pursuits, continuing the latter six years at Fitchville, Huron Co., Ohio. In 1861, he bought his farm in this township where he is living. He belongs to, and was a charter member of Floral Lodge, No. 160, A., F. & A. M., at Fitchville, Ohio, and is also a member of Huron Chapter, No. 7, R. A. M. His wife is a member of the M. E. Church, and is the daughter of Frederick and Martha (Angel) Draggoo, who had thirteen children, and were natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mr. Draggoo was a soldier in the war of 1812; his daughter Eleanor was born May 26, 1815, in Mercer County, Penn., and was married to Benjamin Mitchell January 3, 1833. They have had six children, two of whom are living—Martha, now Mrs. Samuel E. Beans, and Dora M., now Mrs. William H. Biddle.

ISAAC B. NEWELL is a native of Easton, Washington Co., N. Y. His parents were John and Joanna (Reynolds) Newell; the former was born in Old Hadley, Conn., in 1762, and the latter in New York, Washington County, in 1772. They had twelve children, all of whom grew to maturity. Isaac Newell was born July 14, 1803, married January 4, 1829, and came to Bloomfield Township in 1840, where he has since lived on the 140-acre farm that he has cleared and improved. Shortly after coming here he had a narrow escape from the wolves, and himself and wife were once attacked by a panther and chased into their cabin. Mr. Newell was an active Regulator, and owns a horse that will be twenty-seven years old in May, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Newell have four children—Sabrina P., Harriet T., now Mrs. Thurstin; Charity V., now Mrs. Reed, and Anna M., now Mrs. Bunn. Mrs. Lucretia Newell was born in Pine Plains, Dutchess Co., N. Y., May 27, 1805, and was married to the subject in Conquest, Cayuga Co., N. Y. Her parents, Jacob and Charity (Pulver) Vandewater, were born in New York. Her ancestors were among the first Dutch settlers in that State, and she has in her possession a chest brought by them from Holland.

HARVEY OLMSTEAD was born December 7, 1811, near Lundy's Lane, Canada, and worked for some time on his father's farms in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and five years on the New York & Erie Canal. In 1833, he came to Springfield Township, this county, where he built a cabin on a tract of Government land in Brushy Prairie, and worked at splitting rails until he had saved \$50, when he entered the forty acres of land upon which he was already located. He now owns 320 acres in that township, and a farm of 100 acres in this township which he bought in 1874, and upon which he has since lived. Mr. Olmstead is one of the oldest settlers in the county, and took an active part in the Regulator movement. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Venater) Olmstead, the former born in Vermont in 1786, and the latter in 1788 in Pennsylvania, where they were married. In 1807, Jacob Olmstead went to Canada, and served in the war of 1812, first as a British soldier, but subsequently deserted and entered the United States Army. After the war, he settled with his family in New York, but subsequently resided in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Iowa, finally returning to this county, where he died in April, 1869. Mrs. Elizabeth Olmstead died in Michigan in 1835 or 1836. Mr. Harvey Olmstead has been left a widower four times. His first wife, to whom he was married April 17, 1834, was Sarah Gage, a native of New York, born February 4, 1813, and daughter of Abraham and Polly (Biengton) Gage, of Vermont. She died July 11, 1841,



and of four children born to them, one only is living—Elijah. March 2, 1842, Mr. Olmstead was married to Mrs. Mary (Gage) Anderson, a native of Rutland, Vt., born February 25, 1815, and the daughter of Isaac and Perley (Howard) Gage, of Vermont. They had four children, two of whom are living—Mary, now Mrs. Samuel Cline, and Frank B. Mrs. Mary Olmstead died August 19, 1852. His third wife was Elizabeth Burrell. They were married in 1853, and she died in 1865, leaving four children—Albert A., Clara A., now Mrs. Jennings; Elizabeth C., now Mrs. Routsong, and Jacob A. Mr. Olmstead's last marriage took place March 6, 1866, to Lydia C. McNulty, who died January 21, 1882, having borne her husband two sons—Charles H. and George.

ALBERT PRESTON was born May 25, 1840, in Trumbull County, Ohio. His father was James Preston, a native of Beaver County, Penn., where his birth occurred in 1809, December 9. His mother, Mrs. Mary A. (Matthews) Preston, was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, April 1, 1816. Albert Preston is one of twelve children; in 1853, accompanied his parents to Indiana, and worked on his father's farm in this township until 1859, when he began an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade with John Q. Reed, of La Grange. He worked at carpentering summers, and attended school winters, until August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company G, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service September 24, 1861. He was with his regiment in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Chattanooga, and was wounded at Rocky Face, Ga., May 9, 1864, after which he was detailed as Commissary Sergeant, at Gen. Grose's brigade headquarters, where he remained until he was mustered out at Indianapolis September 29, 1864. He married Miss Mary J. Moore, December 14, 1864. She was born July 15, 1842, in Trumbull County, Ohio, and is the only child of Andrew B. and Jane L. (Thomas) Moore, the former a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, and the latter of Wales. Mr. Preston has been engaged in farming and the stock business ever since the war, settling on his present farm in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Preston are Presbyterians, and have had born to them four children, three of whom are living, namely, Effie M., Francis A. and Alice L.

JAMES M. PRESTON was born in Youngstown, Ohio, February 17, 1835, and is the son of John and Ellen Preston, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ireland. Mrs. Preston died in Youngstown, Ohio, when the subject was but eight months old. John Preston came to Indiana in 1850, and is yet living in this county; he is seventy-three years old, and devotes his time exclusively to farming, having in his younger days followed mechanical pursuits. James Preston came to this State with his father; the latter ran a saw-mill about twelve years, in which James M. was employed part of his time. He was married in this county, September 15, 1857, to Lockey J. Price, a native of Preble County, Ohio, and the daughter of Francis and Sarah Price, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of New Jersey; they came to Noble County, Ind., in 1841, and six months after moved to this county, on the farm now owned and occupied by the subject, where they died. Mr. Preston, after renting land two years, settled on twenty-eight acres given him by his father, and began dealing in organs and other musical instruments, which business he has successfully continued up to the present time. He carries a full line of goods, and all orders for music are promptly filled. About 1870, he opened an office in La Grange. From 1874 to 1880, he was engaged in the sale of agricultural implements and sewing machines. Mr. Preston owns eighty acres of

land, which is farmed under his supervision. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and have had three children—Ella E., Frank and Marion, deceased.

H. M. PRICE was born in this county July 16, 1843, and is the youngest of nine children born to Francis M. and Sarah (Miller) Price, the latter of whom was born October 5, 1801, in Elizabethtown, N. J. Francis Price was a native of Montgomery County, Va., born May 8, 1797, and when four years old moved with his parents to Preble County, Ohio, where he received a fair education and when quite young served an apprenticeship of four years at the tanner's trade. When of age he started for Oregon, but, after reaching St. Louis, abandoned that project, and for six months ran a ferry boat at St. Charles. Returning to Ohio, he followed his trade until 1835, when he traveled over Indiana and Illinois, returning to Preble County the same year to resume his trade. In 1836, he entered 320 acres of land in this township, 110 of which is now owned by the subject. In 1840, he went to Noble County, and entered about 800 acres of land; located in this township in 1841, where he died January 30, 1878. Mrs. Sarah Price died July 29, 1872. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, and he was a Republican. Henry M. Price, in 1864, with his brother Thomas, went to California, *via* New York and Panama, returning in 1868 *via* Nicaragua to this township where he bought his present farm. While in California he was engaged in the stock business, and made a second trip there, but returned in 1871, and was married November 23 of that year to Elizabeth P. Hoagland, who was born June 28, 1844, in this county. She is one of eight in the family of Jacob and Sarah E. (Sherman) Hoagland, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Price have no children; she is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Edwin L. Price, a brother of the subject, went to California in 1849, where he was engaged in mining and farming for sometime; he died there December 4, 1874. Another brother—Harvey—went to that State in 1852, engaged in mining, and has not been heard from since 1871. Thomas Price is supposed to have been killed by the Indians in Idaho in 1870.

MANLEY RICHARDS, one of five children born to Joseph and Rachel (Davidson) Richards, is a native of Clark County, Ohio, where his birth occurred October 29, 1829. His father was born in Virginia, July 5, 1803, and reared in Clark County, Ohio, where his marriage occurred. He emigrated to this county in 1836, and entered 80 acres of land in this township, a part of which is now included in the farm of Manley Richards. Here he built a log house and began clearing, owning at the time of his death, in November, 1849, 120 acres of well improved land. Manley Richards acquired a common-school education while assisting on the home farm. After his father's death, himself and brother farmed the old homestead until 1856, when Manley Richards purchased his brother's interest. He has now 145 acres. April 2, 1857, he married Elizabeth Barnes, and two children born to them are living, Annetta, now Mrs. Sherman, and Albert R. The mother died at her home December 22, 1875. She was born in Ohio June 4, 1839, and was the daughter of Edmund and Susan (Beardsley) Barnes, natives of New York. Mr. Richards is a Democrat, and a thriving farmer.

FRANKLIN RIFE is the only child of Abraham and Susan (Lighter) Rife, natives of Pennsylvania; the former died in 1842, in Richland County, Ohio, where Franklin was born October 26, 1833. Mrs. Susan Rife is living, and resides with the subject. He learned the carpenters' trade in his early

manhood, and followed the same until 1872, since which time he has been engaged in farming. He bought a farm in this township in 1856, which he exchanged in 1864 for the one where he is now living. Mr. Rife came to this township in 1855, and after he was married, October 20, 1856, took a trip to Ashland County, Ohio, returning to this township in the following spring, where he owns 110 acres of desirable land. Mrs. Mary A. Rife is the daughter of Isaac and Sophia (Ernsberger) Hogmire. She was born in Ashland County, Ohio, on the 26th of March, 1839. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rife—Samantha, deceased September 26, 1863; Ida A., now Mrs. Wyland; Laura; Elmer A.; Susanna, died May 12, 1871; Maggie M. and Lilly B.

JOSEPH ROYER, son of Jacob and Mary (Michael) Royer, is a native of Summit County, Ohio, where his birth occurred November 11, 1838. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania. His father, soon after he was married, moved to Summit County, Ohio, where he bought a farm and resided until about 1858, then removed to Uniontown, Stark Co., Ohio, where his wife died in July, 1861. He died at the same place in 1879, having, however, married a second time. At the age of eighteen Joseph Royer learned carpentering; previous to this had worked on his father's farm. He followed his trade several years in Ohio, and continued it in Johnson Township, this county, after moving there in 1861. In 1865, he bought 80 acres of unimproved land and worked at clearing in addition to carpentering. In 1873, he sold out and rented a farm near Wolcottville, remaining until August, 1874, when he came to his present location, having purchased it the preceding spring. Mr. Royer was married May 12, 1864, to Elizabeth P. Eshleman, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Erford) Eshleman, natives of Pennsylvania. She was born January 2, 1845, in Summit County, Ohio, and is one of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Royer have had three children, Elmer E., Mary L. and Emma M. Mr. Royer is a Republican, and himself and family are all members of the Evangelical Church.

MRS. MARIA SARGENT was born at Lock, Cayuga Co., N. Y., October 27, 1808. Her father—James Young—was a native of Ireland and a soldier of the war of 1812. He held two prominent county offices in Cayuga County, N. Y. Her mother—Mary (Mow) Young—was of French descent. She died at Lock, N. Y., September 20, 1845, in her seventy-eighth year. She was a member of the M. E. Church. They were the parents of eleven boys and two girls. Maria, when ten years of age, went to live with Moses Dixon, at Brutus, N. Y., and remained until February 28, 1830, when she was married to David Sargent. They came to this township in 1840, he having traded his farm in New York for land here, where Mrs. Sargent now lives. This farm Mr. Sargent cleared and improved. Soon after coming here he had a barn raising and invited his neighbors to assist, as was customary in those days. This they refused to do unless supplied with liquor, which Mr. Sargent refused them, he being a strict temperance man, making a speech that had the desired effect. The barn is still standing and was the first raised in the township where liquor was not used. Mr. Sargent died at his home September 15, 1881. He was a member of the M. E. Church and was a much beloved and respected citizen. He was a native of New Hampshire, where his birth occurred January 3, 1805. Of eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sargent, five are living, viz.: Eliza R., now Mrs. McKibben; Maria M., now Mrs. John Preston; Alfred; Janet, now Mrs. Rowe; and Mary A., now Mrs. Hodgson.

ELIAS SCHROCK first came to Indiana in 1842, with his father, and worked at farming and in a saw-mill until he was twenty-two years old, when he bought 126 acres of land in Elkhart County. Previous to coming here he had worked, from the age of seven to fourteen, in a carding factory in Ohio. After selling his first purchase in Elkhart County in 1853, he bought another farm of 160 acres north of Goshen. In 1865, he sold and came to Clearspring Township, this county, bought a farm, sold it 1872 and moved to Eden Township; purchased 200 acres of land and sold it in 1873, for \$100 per acre; next locating in this township, where he has a farm of 180 acres. March 5, 1850, Mr. Schrock was married to Eliza Gerber. She was born, May 13, 1826, in Stark County, Ohio, and his birth occurred March 11, 1826, in Holmes County, Ohio. She was the eldest of thirteen children born to David and Susanna (Buchtel) Gerber, natives of Pennsylvania. They are members of the German Baptist Church, of which Mr. Schrock has been a minister about fourteen years. They have had nine children—Anna B., now Mrs. Yoder; Louis C., who died July 8, 1874; Lydia M., now Mrs. Berkey; Susanna, now Mrs. W. H. Swihart; Harriet E., now Mrs. Rudisill; David D.; Melvin C.; Emma D.; and Mary R. The parents of Elias Schrock were David and Margaret (Borntrager) Schrock, both natives of Lancaster County, Penn., the former born August 24, 1797, and the latter November 26, 1790. David Schrock, when about eighteen, moved to Holmes County, Ohio, where he was married in April, 1817. His business was carpentering and farming, and he was a member of the Amish Church until after Mrs. Schrock's death, December 22, 1850. Mr. Schrock was again married, in 1852, to Mrs. Melissa (Ball) De France, a native of the East, and on the day of their union both united with the German Baptist Church. In May, 1842, he moved to Elkhart County, Ind., farmed and operated a saw-mill until he entered the mercantile business at Goshen. He died October 31, 1873. His ancestors were Swiss and German and he was the father of eight children.

ISAAC SEARS is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., born November 7, 1828, is the son of Eleazer and Sarah Sears, natives of New York, the former of Saratoga and the latter of Onondaga County. They came to this county in 1841, and located on Brushy Prairie, where they died and were interred in Brushy Prairie Cemetery. Eleazer Sears died from an accident caused by a team running away that was hitched to a reaper, from which he received injuries and expired about seven hours afterward. Isaac Sears received an average education, and remained with his parents until he was married, February 13, 1853, in this township, to Miss Laurinda Tuttle. Her parents, Lemon and Diadamie Tuttle, were natives of Ohio and farmers by occupation; they died in this county. Subject and wife settled on a farm of 236 acres, in Springfield Township, this county, that Mr. Sears had previously purchased. He increased his land to 436 acres, and farmed and raised live stock on a large scale. May 10, 1874, his wife died and he was married in Onondaga County, N. Y., February 11, 1875, to Miss Sarah Van Alstine, the daughter of James and Abigail Van Alstine, natives of New York, where her father died and her mother is yet living, at the age of sixty-six. They removed from Springfield to this township in October, 1880, where they have a well improved farm, good buildings and fine brick residence. Mr. Sears now owns 868 acres of land, and has given eighty acres to his son. All of his property has been accumulated by his own efforts and industry, with the exception of 100 acres of land and \$400 in money, that he inherited. He is extensively



engaged in live stock dealing, and his farm annually yields large profits. For 1878, the wheat crop alone was 3,000 bushels, averaging thirty-two bushels per acre. Mr. Sears is one of the most prominent citizens, and has two sons, Charles E. and David A., both of whom are married.

ORMUND SISSON is a native of Norway, Oneida County, N. Y., where his birth occurred March 18, 1810. He is the son of Abraham and Amy (Cole) Sisson, and the youngest of three children. When Ormund was ten years old his mother died, and he was bound out to Alfred Martin, with whom he remained until he was eighteen, then went to Ontario County, N. Y., and was employed working on a farm and stage driving, afterward learning the carpenter's trade, which he has followed to some extent ever since. He received but a few months schooling, and December 25, 1832, was married to Ann Brooks, who was born in England June 13, 1817, and is one of nine children in the family of George and Elizabeth (Smith) Brooks. In October, 1841, Mr. Sisson bought eighty acres of land in Steuben County, Ind. In 1852, he returned to Ohio and engaged in the grocery business at Montpelier. He continued this enterprise about a year, then settled on a farm in Williams County, Ohio; disposing of his property in 1854, he emigrated to Indiana, bought his farm of 120 acres, and has ever since resided in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Sisson have had nine children born to them—Elizabeth (now Mrs. Metzger), William A., Edward O., George K., Laura P. (now Mrs. Spears), Amy A. (now Mrs. Munger), John H., Albert H. and Edgar F. Edward O. served in the recent war, was a member of Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. George K. served in the same company and regiment. He died in hospital, January 20, 1863, at Nashville, Tenn.

SAMUEL SOMES came to this township in 1855, and in 1859 bought eighty acres of unimproved land which is now a cleared and improved farm, comprising one hundred and twenty acres. The four years preceding this he worked out by the month, receiving from \$12 to \$15 wages. He was married, January 1, 1861, to Sarah A. Mills, a native of Cayuga, N. Y., where she was born April 3, 1838. She is one of three children in the family of Jacob and Margaret (Passage) Mills. Mr. and Mrs. Somes have a family of three children—Eugene S., Ettie J. and Nathaniel W. Mr. Somes has been a member of the I. O. O. F. for about eighteen years, and has passed all the chairs. He is the son of Samuel and Mary (Barnes) Somes, of New York, and is next to the youngest of eight children, all of whom are living, subject being born March 10, 1834. Mr. Somes served actively in the Regulator movement, and is a substantial farmer and citizen.

ANDREW J. TAGGART is the son of James and Sarah (McCasson) Taggart, of Salem County, N. J., who moved in 1823 or 1824 to Muskingum County, Ohio, where Andrew J., one of nine children, was born May 18, 1829. James Taggart died in Licking County, Ohio, in 1837, after residing there two years. Mrs. Sarah Taggart subsequently went to Fairfield County, Ohio, where her death occurred May 29, 1869. They were both descendants of Quaker families, and Mr. Taggart followed tailoring in the early part of his life, but latterly became a farmer. In 1853, Andrew J. Taggart started from Hebron, Licking Co., Ohio, overland to California, in company with four others. While in Salt Lake Valley, the Mormons threatened to prosecute them for burning timber on Government land, the Mormons claiming it as their own. In California Mr. Taggart kept a trading-post near the summit of the Sierra Range, about two months, during which time he met with an adventure with a



grizzly bear. For three years he was engaged in mining, then returned to Licking County, Ohio, arriving December 31, 1856. He came to this township in 1857, and was married, February 4, 1858, to Helen M. Gould. She was born September 5, 1839, in Marion County, Ohio, and her parents, natives respectively of Vermont and Ohio, were Hiram and Abigail (Brundage) Gould. Mr. and Mrs. Taggart had five children, three now living—Jennie A., Hiram J. and Frank. Mrs. Taggart died April 7, 1873, and Mr. Taggart was married to Nancy J. Schermerhorn June 21, 1877. She was born in this county March 16, 1855. Her parents were Michael and Mary (Poynter) Schermerhorn. Maud A. is the only child of the subject and wife. Mr. Taggart is a member of the I. O. O. F., which order he joined in California.

JAMES THOMPSON was born in Marion County, Ohio, December 11, 1835, and is the eldest child of Joel and Lucinda (Odle) Thompson. The latter was born July 21, 1810, in Maryland. Her father, William Odle, served in the war of 1812, and was stationed several months at Fort Wayne. Joel Thompson, a native of Pennsylvania, born February 26, 1813, was orphaned at an early age, but cared for until the age of thirteen by an uncle, John Thompson, by whom he was taken to Marion County, Ohio, and afterward lived with James Dota until he became of age. He was married, February 9, 1835, and settled on eighty acres of land given him by Mr. Dota in Marion County. In 1842, he sold out and came to this county; bought eighty acres of land on Brushy Prairie, built a house and began clearing. He again sold in 1854, and came to this township; bought a farm of eighty acres; sold in 1862, and removed to La Grange, where he died December 28, 1868. Mrs. Lucinda Thompson died at the home of the subject in this township May 2, 1875. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. James Thompson was commonly educated and reared on his father's farm. November 2, 1859, he was married to Miss Patience Clark, who was born in Fulton County, N. Y., August 5, 1835, the daughter of John Y. and Hester (Westbrook) Clark. They have two children—Clara B. and Lenora. For six years Mr. Thompson farmed on shares for his father, then removed to Johnson Township, this county. In 1871, he bought the farm of eighty acres in this township where he continues to reside.

EDWARD W. VALENTINE is the son of John and Sarah (Talbot) Valentine, natives of Maryland. In early manhood, John Valentine went to Fairfield County, Ohio, where he owned a farm and was married. About 1828, he moved to Seneca County, Ohio, entered 160 acres, and lived there until his death, which occurred in October, 1863. He served in the war of 1812. Mrs. Sarah Valentine died in November, 1867. They were both members of the M. E. Church, and had a family of ten children. Edward W. was born in Seneca County, Ohio, March 5, 1832, and, until he became of age, worked on the home farm; after which, he farmed for his father eleven years on shares. In 1864, he removed to and located permanently in this township, where he owns a well-improved farm of 120 acres. September 6, 1855, he was married to Lydia A. Coon, who was born in Canada February 10, 1839, and is one of seven in the family of J. W. and Eliza C. (Shipman) Coon, natives of Canada. Mr. Valentine is a reliable and enterprising Republican citizen. They have had a family of five children—Salina B. (now Mrs. Rose), Viola V., Revilow L. (who died at his father's home, February 4, 1882, in his twenty-second year), Nettie M. and Lilly Bertha.

DAVID VAN KIRK is a native of Westmoreland County, Penn., where he was born August 20, 1827. His parents, Thomas and Eleanor (Johnson) Van

Kirk, were born in the same county—September 16, 1791, and October 17, 1800, being the respective dates of their births; ten of eleven children born to them are yet living. Thomas Van Kirk was in the war of 1812, moved to Richland County, Ohio, in 1830, and two years afterward entered eighty acres of land in Seneca County, that he subsequently traded for 160 acres of improved land in Huron County, Ohio. He sold this farm in 1845, and came to this township, built a saw and carding mill, which he was engaged in operating up to the time of his death, which occurred September 1, 1861. David Van Kirk worked in his father's mill from 1846 to 1850, and after his marriage, November 2, 1851, farmed on shares several years, buying, in 1855, the farm upon which he now dwells. It comprises 108 acres, and the log cabin is yet standing where they first lived. Mr. Van Kirk, since 1848, has been a member of the Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 76, A., F. & A. M., and has represented the same in the Grand Lodge; he also belongs to the La Grange Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., of which he was High Priest four years. Mrs. Van Kirk was formerly Lucretia Newell, and was born in Wayne County, N. Y., January 27, 1828. She is one of eleven children born to Thomas B. and Lois (Thurston) Newell. The parents were natives of New York, and early pioneers of La Grange County; his birth occurred April 15, 1801, and hers December 3, 1802. Mr. and Mrs. Van Kirk have three children—Lucretia I. (now Mrs. McNutt), Lissa A. (now Mrs. McKibbin), and David A. The subject's mother yet survives, and is a resident of Iowa.

BENJAMIN W. VESEY is one of six children in the family of William and Adaline (Copeland) Vesey, natives of Orange County, Vt., where also the subject was born February 8, 1829. William Vesey, in 1835, emigrated to Lake County, Ohio, thence to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1838. Here he bought 120 acres of land that he subsequently sold, removing to a farm near Goshen. He was a Democrat, and, in 1862, was elected Sheriff of Elkhart County; served in the late war as a private some time, but afterward was detailed in the Commissary Department until he was discharged. October 3, 1872, he died at his home, and being a member of the A., F. & A. M., was buried with Masonic honors. Benjamin Vesey received a fair education, and one year attended the University at Greencastle, Ind. In 1849, he went overland with an ox team to California, where he was engaged in mining and teaming until 1851, when he returned to Indiana, and bought a farm in Lima Township, this county; sold in 1855, and bought one in Springfield Township in 1857, removing in 1864 to La Grange, and settling on his present farm of 365 acres in 1865. In 1853, February 8, he married Sarah P. Waterhouse, the daughter of Joseph and Esther (Penley) Waterhouse, natives of Maine, and parents of nine children. Sarah P. was born in Androscoggin County, Me., February 26, 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Vesey have a family of five children, viz., George E., William J., Allen J., Charles E. and John H. Mr. Vesey is a Republican, and a leading farmer.

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### LIMA TOWNSHIP.

CHARLES L. ATWATER was born in Luzerne County, Penn., April 11, 1843, son of Thomas S. and Hannah (Enoes) Atwater, natives of the Empire State. They were married in Pennsylvania, and removed to this township in 1855. In their family were four sons—Myron, Charles L., John E. and Mon-

roe. The father was a blacksmith, but in this State followed farming. He was a Democrat, a strong Union man and a Christian. He amassed a comfortable fortune, and died in 1870, and his wife in 1875. Charles L. was reared upon a farm and received a fair education. At majority he began farming for himself. After three years he erected a saw-mill in Van Buren Township, and after two years moved it to Newbury Township, where he successfully operated it some four years longer. He then sold out, came to Lima, and engaged in the furniture trade. He was burned out in 1878, and the same year erected two two-story brick business rooms in Lima, one of which he now occupies as a furniture sales room. He keeps a good line of goods, and is steadily increasing his business. He owns 160 acres of land in Van Buren Township, and a nice residence in Lima. He was married to Miss Sarah Boor, September 8, 1870; a native of Illinois, and born July 4, 1850. Three children have been born to them—Artimus S., Gussie and Jennie M.

HENRY H. BASSLER, son of John and Barbara (Hostettler) Bassler, natives of Lancaster County, Penn., and descendants of Swiss ancestors. Henry H. was born in Lancaster County, Penn., August 18, 1824, but his parents dying when he was a boy he resided with relatives until manhood, working at farming. He received but a common-school education, and November 11, 1845, was married to Elizabeth Rohrer, born in Washington County, Md., July 11, 1824. Soon after Mr. Bassler moved to Erie County, Penn., where he resided until the spring of 1860, and then removed to La Grange County, locating in Greenfield, where he lived until 1868, and then moved to Lima. Mr. Bassler has always followed farming, with the exception of seven years, when he was engaged in grain trade. He owns 108 acres of good land, besides valuable town property in Lima. He has, by his own endeavors, worked his way from a poor boy to a substantial citizen. In politics he is a Republican, and has held various township positions. He and wife are the parents of three children—Jacob R., Aaron C. and Susan H. Only the last named is now living. She is the wife of John Lazenby, and resides in Lima Township.

PETER BEISEL, son of Peter and Mary (Carver) Beisel, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were raised and married. The father was a hatter, and soon after his marriage engaged in mercantile pursuits in Gettysburg, Penn., but at the end of a few years removed to Baltimore, where he met with business reverses, and in 1830 came to White Pigeon, Mich., and the succeeding year moved his family there, where they ever afterward made their home. Mr. Beisel had accumulated considerable property at the time of his death, in 1839. He and wife had four sons and one daughter. The subject of this biography was born in Adams County, Penn., February 26, 1814. He lived at home until about twenty-two years old. In 1837, he came to Lexington, in Greenfield Township, and engaged in mercantile business with A. K. Brower. In 1848, he sold out and then erected a grist-mill. In 1853, he sold this and purchased, where he now lives, 420 acres of fine farming and grazing land. Mr. Beisel is a Republican, was formerly a Whig, served in the Black Hawk war, and was the first Postmaster at Lexington. He was married, August 18, 1839, to Margaret Ellison, born in Ireland August 10, 1816. To them were born ten children—Mary S., Margaret A., Julia L., Rebecca, Andrew M., Thomas J., living; and Sarah J., Elizabeth F., Francis J. and George W., deceased. Mrs. Beisel died February 24, 1871.

SAMUEL BURNELL is one of the oldest resident citizens in the county, born in Yorkshire, England, December 24, 1809. His parents, Will-

iam and Hannah (Haller) Burnell, were natives of Yorkshire, and had a family of twelve children. In 1829, our subject emigrated to the United States, and for about a year worked by the month for John Coats, a farmer near White Pigeon, Mich. In 1830, Thomas Burnell, a brother of Samuel, came to the United States, and soon after the two brothers went to Greenfield Township, where Samuel pre-empted 160 acres of land on English Prairie. About this time, the parents emigrated to this country and located at White Pigeon, where, in 1837, the father died, aged seventy-three years, and his wife three years later, aged sixty-five. Samuel worked on a farm and at the carpenter's trade some years after coming to this county, investing his savings in land. He lived upon his farm in Greenfield Township some twenty-five years, with the exception of the years 1836 and 1837, which he spent as contractor and builder in Milwaukee, Wis. In 1862, he rented his farm and moved to Lima. April 4, 1839, he married Miss Mary A. Mason, born in New York State, November 29, 1817. They have three children—Ellen, John and Jennie. Mr. Burnell helped to organize and was a director of the Indiana State Bank, of Lima, and is a large stockholder in the present Lima Bank. He is a Republican, a member of the Episcopal Church, and a most worthy citizen.

DANIEL W. COLE was born in Wayne County, N. Y., August 22, 1822, a son of Peter J. and Amy (Corwin) Cole, natives of the Empire State, where they were married, and in 1830 moved to near Detroit, Mich., which became their old home. The father was a farmer, and a hard-working, sober and well-respected citizen. Daniel W. is one of five children. When but a small boy his mother died, and at the age of nineteen he left home and began life's battle on his own responsibility. In 1840, he came to Lima, purchased a threshing machine, and for twenty seasons followed threshing. After some time, by close economy, he was enabled to purchase a small piece of land. He has increased his acres, and now owns 400 well-improved in Lima Township, and 110 acres in St. Joseph County, Mich. He was married to Melonia Stevens, November 26, 1846, a native of Orleans County, N. Y., born March 2, 1826. They had five children—Byron J., Amelia E., Lydia, Celia and Cora. Mr. Cole is a member the Baptist Church, and a Republican. When he came to Lima his wealth consisted in 25 cents, a good constitution, and a determination to be somebody. His present circumstances illustrate his success in life.

REV. CHRISTOPHER CORY is one of the oldest settlers and best known citizens in the county. He was born January 13, 1800, at Westfield, N. J., and is one of eight children born to Benjamin and Susanna (Denman) Cory, also natives of New Jersey. The father was for many years an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. Christopher Cory was reared upon a farm, and up to twenty-one years of age, had received but a good common-school education. He then entered an academy preparatory to the study of theology. He was licensed to preach when twenty-six years of age, and one year later was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church. Soon after, he was assigned a charge in a mining district of Pennsylvania, where he labored some time, and then went to Orange County, N. Y. In 1832, he was sent by the Home Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church as an evangelist to labor among the Indians and early settlers of Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. He began at Lima, Ind., and at the end of the fourth year was able to report to the society the organization of eight churches. He continued to work until 1848, when from a throat difficulty he was compelled to quit active service. In



1827, he married Miss Mary H. Baker, born in Westfield, N. J., May 2, 1801. To this union were born four children—William B., James R., Mary P. and Henry M. Mrs. Cory died April 13, 1877; she was a most worthy Christian lady. Mr. Cory lives with a son upon the old homestead, and has the respect of all who know him.

JOHN CRAIG (deceased), one of the old pioneers of La Grange County, Ind., was born in Pennsylvania December 23, 1784, and was there reared to manhood. He married Miss Jane Derr, who was born in the same State in 1796, and to them were born the following children: James, Esther, Joseph, Serena, John, Robert and Mary. In 1835, they left their native State and started West to obtain a new home. They stopped one year in Crawford County, Ohio; then came to La Grange County, and located on the farm now owned by Augustus Hamilton in Lima Township. The country at that time was an almost unbroken forest with wild animals in abundance. Mr. Craig was a poor man when he arrived here, but went to work with success. He had the confidence and respect of his friends and neighbors. He died December 1, 1875, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. His widow yet survives him and resides in Lima Township at the age of eighty-six years. The following are sketches of four of the sons:

JAMES CRAIG was born in Columbia County, Penn., April 1, 1820. He was reared on a farm and assisted his parents in their labors. He always lived with his parents, and in this way the father and sons worked together, but now the sons each own separate farms. James owns 160 acres of good land. He is a Republican, a member of the Baptist Church, and an enterprising citizen.

JOSEPH CRAIG was born September 23, 1823, in Columbia County, Penn., and, in 1836, came with his parents to this county where he has since resided. He received a common-school education, and February 1, 1855, married Miss Louisa R. Stevens, born in Orleans County, N. Y., February 28, 1833. To this union were born two children—Edith L. and James E. The mother died May 1, 1881. She was a good wife, a kind and loving mother and a Christian. Her death was mourned by a large circle of friends. Joseph Craig is a Republican. He owns 100 acres of well-improved land, and is a successful farmer of Lima Township.

JOHN F. D. CRAIG was born in Columbia County, Penn., April 17, 1830, and was reared upon a farm, and received his education in the log schoolhouse. He was united in marriage with Miss Augusta L. Bishop January 20, 1857, who was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., March 29, 1832. To them have been born four children, viz., Edward D., Gertrude A. and Edith M., living; and Frances E., deceased. Mr. Craig owns 236 acres of well-improved land. He raises good stock of all kinds, and is a practical and successful farmer in Lima Township. He is a Republican, and he and wife are hospitable, public-spirited people.

ROBERT CRAIG was born in Columbia County, Penn., and reared in Lima Township. He married Miss Jennette Keith December 12, 1865, who was born in Lima Township March 3, 1843, a daughter of Sidney and Sophia (Wilder) Keith, who were among the first settlers of the county. Robert Craig followed farming, and was much respected. He died September 27, 1877. To him and wife were born two children, viz., Alton K. and Jennie J. Mrs. Craig resides upon the old homestead, and is a lady of social and moral worth. The Craig family stand well in the county, and are appreciated for their unassuming ways, goodness of heart, and strict integrity.



**JOHN CRAIG.** This gentleman was born in Columbia County, Penn., February 1, 1826. He is the son of Joseph and Sarah Craig, both natives of the Keystone State. John was reared upon a farm, receiving a common-school education, and December 26, 1865, was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Johnston. She was born in the same county as her husband, June 5, 1829. To them have been born two children, viz.: Sarah E. and Joseph S. In 1857, came to this county, which he has since made his home. He began life as a poor boy and is a self-made man. He is a Democrat, but liberal in his views. He owns 160 acres of good land and is a respected and useful citizen.

**WILLIAM CRAIG** was born in Columbia County, Penn., November 5, 1827, a son of Joseph and Sarah Craig. His father was born in Northumberland County, Penn., in 1800, and his mother in Luzerne County, Penn., in 1797. They were reared and married in their native State, and to them were born three sons and three daughters. Joseph Craig was a farmer and an honorable man; he died in 1845, but his widow is yet living. William Craig received only a common-school education. On the death of his father he took charge of the home farm, and has since cared for his aged mother, who lives with him as does also a sister. In 1854, he first came to Lima, Ind., but after two years returned, and in 1857 brought his mother here, where he purchased 240 acres of land. This property has since been divided among the heirs, our subject now owning 120 acres; this he has nicely improved. Mr. Craig is a practical and successful farmer and stock-raiser. He has always been a Democrat and still works in the ranks of that party.

**GEORGE H. DAYTON, M. D.**, is one of the oldest and most successful practitioners of medicine in Northern Indiana; was born in Newark, N. J., January 15, 1824, the only child born to George C. and Phœbe W. (Little) Dayton, both natives of that State. This family of Daytons are descended from one Ralph Dayton, who came from Bedfordshire, England, in 1673, and located on Long Island. His descendants have been called upon to fill positions of honor and trust in different States and under the Federal Government, and the name is one of the most widely known in the country. George C. Dayton held an Ensign's Commission in the State Militia of New Jersey, and was for many years engaged in the mercantile business in the city of New York. It was from the schools there that our subject graduated at the early age of fifteen years. He then entered the Literary Department of the University of that city, where he remained some three years, when he began the study of medicine with Dr. Valentine Mott, and in 1845 graduated in medicine. In 1846, he came to Ontario, this county, and practiced until 1879, when he moved to Lima. September 20, 1864, he married Miss Louisa Thompson, born in Morris County, N. J., November 24, 1834. To them two children have been born, viz.: George and Mary. Dr. Dayton is a Republican and a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He is a member of the different medical associations of Indiana and Michigan, and of the National Medical Association. He is a close student of pathology, as he finds it in nature, and has been a leader in the use of new and rational remedies.

**WILLIAM H. DEPUY** was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., July 19, 1813; his parents were Moses M. and Elizabeth (Hedges) DePuy, natives of Long Island, N. Y., where they were married and shortly after moved to Sullivan County, and thence to Livingston County, N. Y., in 1813, and in 1836 they moved to Marshall County, Mich. After a time they removed to Wiscon-

sin, and then returned to Michigan, where they afterward died. Mr. DePuy was a tanner and currier, also a shoemaker. He and wife were parents of thirteen children. William H., at sixteen, served at the brick and stone-mason and plasterer's trade. In 1834, he came to Sturgis, Mich., and purchased a farm. He taught school in the village of Sturgis the winter of 1834-35. In 1844, he came to Lima. In 1851, he went overland to California, where he mined and worked at his trade until 1853, when he came back and engaged in mercantile pursuits in Lima. Since 1861, Mr. DePuy has been engaged in various callings. He is a Republican, and has been Postmaster of Lima seven years, and Justice of the Peace of Lima Township twelve years. Mr. DePuy was married September 3, 1845, to Harriet A. Ranson, born in Connecticut in September, 1816, and died May 21, 1869. Their children were Harriet, Charles, Helen, Lyman, Harrison, James, Mary and Ellen. March 5, 1872, Mr. DePuy married his present wife, Mrs. Lydia Favourite, born in Elkhart County, Ind., March 15, 1842. Mr. DePuy is a Mason, and his son Charles served four years in quelling the rebellion.

NEWTON ENOE is a native of Hartford County, Conn., born September 11, 1799, one of four children to Oliver and Electa (Colton) Enoe, natives respectively of Connecticut and Massachusetts. The mother dying when Newton was an infant he was raised by his grandmother until old enough to work for himself. He learned the tanners and currier's trade, and worked at that a number of years. In 1823, he married Electa Walker, a native of Vermont, and in 1835 emigrated to Elkhart County, Ind., where his wife died soon afterward, leaving two sons—Newton G. and Orange W. In 1845, Mr. Enoe removed to La Grange County. His present wife was Miss Elizabeth Blair, born in Ross County, Ohio, November 11, 1809, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Houlton) Blair, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Defiance County, Ohio, in 1824, and in 1828 removed to La Grange County, locating about a mile west of the present site of Lima. They had four children—Francis A., A. H., Benjamin H. and Elizabeth, only the last named, Mrs. Enoe, living. In 1832, Mr. Blair died of cholera. Newton Enoe was formerly a Whig, and became a Republican on the organization of that party. Mrs. Enoe is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has bravely shared all adversities and labors with her husband in building the home with which they are blessed.

TIMOTHY FIELD was born June 8, 1811, in Windham County, Vt., son of Timothy and Welthy (Bishop) Field, natives of Madison, Conn. The father was a graduate of Yale College, and a Congregational minister. In about 1800, he went to Canandaigua, N. Y., and built the first church in that place. He remained in this field of labor some seven years, when he moved to Windham County, Vt., where he ever after resided. He was twice married. By the first wife there were five children, and by the second, three. Our subject at fourteen years of age entered Canandaigua Academy, where he remained two years, and then accepted a position as clerk in his brother's store. He remained in Ontario County, N. Y., engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1838, when he came to this county, purchased a tract of land which he cleared and nicely improved. Since 1872, he has been engaged in merchandising. He was married to Miss Hannah Mosher in 1840. She was born in Romulus, N. Y., May 9, 1809, and died December 13, 1871. Mr. Field married Miss Ellen L. Foote October 31, 1874. She was born in Mount Morris, N. Y., March 3, 1849. They had two children, viz., Timothy B. and Gertrude E. Mr. Field was twice

elected to the Legislature of the State. Was Enrolling and Draft Commissioner for La Grange County during the late war, and has held the office of County Commissioner three years, besides other offices. He is the Postmaster at Ontario, and a member of the Congregational Church, and in politics a Republican.

ABBOTT FLEMING was born in Sussex County, N. J., November 25, 1813. This family of Flemings are descended from one Malcolm Fleming, who died in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1736. He had three sons—Thomas, William and Andrew, who, in 1751, came to America and settled in Hunterdon County, N. J. Thomas had three children—Thomas, James and Margaret. William had one son—Andrew; and he, five children—William, Eleanor, Martha, Malcolm and Margaret. William, the eldest, is the father of our subject. He was a native of New Jersey, also his wife, Elizabeth Cook. The father passed almost his lifetime near Alexandria, N. J., where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was for many years a Trustee and Elder of the Presbyterian Church. He died in 1833. To him and wife were born the following: Eleanor, Jacob C., Thomas, Andrew, William, Joanna, Tylee and Abbott. Our subject was brought up on a farm. When about seventeen years of age, he began working at the stone-mason and plasterer's trades, and after his apprenticeship, engaged in business for himself. In 1837, he came to this county and settled on the farm he now owns in Lima Township. May 6, 1837, he married Miss Margaret Semple, born near Glasgow, Scotland, November 16, 1815. To them was born a son—William. They also adopted a daughter—Eliza J., wife of David Leighton. William, their son, has been twice married. His first wife was Mary J. Howard, who was the mother of his only child—Oren A. His second wife was Mary A. Craig. Abbott Fleming is a stanch Republican, and an Elder in the Lima Baptist Church.

ASA E. GANIARD was born in Ontario County, N. Y., August 31, 1833, the son of Silas and Lucinda (Wilder) Ganiard, natives of Bristol, Ontario Co., N. Y. They were married in their native State and removed to Hillsdale County, Mich., in early times, which became their permanent home. They had five children, whom they reared in a creditable manner, giving them such advantages as their means afforded. Asa E. remained on the home farm until twenty-three years of age. He was married to Miss Jane Keith July 3, 1856. This lady was born in Lima Township April 9, 1838, the daughter of Sidney and Sophia (Wilder) Keith, natives of New York State and among the first settlers of La Grange County. Mr. Keith was well and favorably known, and among the first County Commissioners. By our subject's marriage to Miss Keith, there has been born to them four children, viz.: William B., James W., Asa E. and Sidney K. In 1859, Mr. Ganiard came to this township and engaged in farming and stock-raising. In 1864, he went overland to the Pacific Slope, making his home in California and Oregon five years, during which time he was at work in quartz mills. Since his return he has followed farming. He owns 120 acres of well improved land in Lima Township. He is a stanch Republican and possesses good social qualities.

WILLIAM HILL was born in Derbyshire, England, September 1, 1821, son of Thomas and Mary (Peat) Hill, natives of England. The father was a carpenter, and in 1831 emigrated, with his family, to Pennsylvania. In 1835, he moved to Michigan, and in about three years removed to Cook County, Ill., and then returned to Michigan, near Sturgis, where he engaged in farming. William Hill, at twenty-one years of age, learned the molder's trade, and after working four years in Sturgis came to Lima, then went to Coldwater.

In 1848, he returned to Lima, and two years later purchased the Lima Foundry, which he operated, in connection with A. L. Taylor, until the spring of 1861. Mr. Hill then sold his interest and engaged in the hardware and dry goods trade. After the winter of 1863, he dealt in real estate about two years, and then again engaged in hardware trade—during this time carrying on his farming. He continued the hardware trade alone and in partnership with Joseph Bunnell until 1878, when he sold out and has since been farming and operating in real estate. Mr. Hill is in good circumstances. He owns 450 acres of land in La Grange County, 250 in Michigan, besides some in Kansas and valuable town property in Lima. He is a Republican. June 20, 1847, he married Miss Lucinda Sparks, born in Genesee County, N. Y., June 29, 1830. To them have been born three children—Ellen, February 13, 1853; James W., January 13, 1857; and Mary I., August 5, 1858.

**GEORGE and LEVI HORNING.** George Horning was born in Cumberland County, Penn., July 24, 1811, and Levi in the same county, January 29, 1823, sons of George and Susanna (Myers) Horning, natives of Lancaster County, Penn., who were married in their native county, and soon after moved to Cumberland County, and in 1849 came to Lima Township, where they afterward resided. They had a family of two sons and two daughters, and were industrious and intelligent people. George and Levi, after their parents' death, took charge of the home place, which became theirs. The two brothers farmed in common, sharing equally. George has always remained single, and in early life learned and worked at the blacksmith's trade. Levi was married to Miss Rachel Zeigler, July 4, 1856. She was born in Cumberland County, Penn., April 11, 1826. From this union there are six children, viz.: Manuel, Ezra, Cornelius, Mary, Frederick and Albert. Levi Horning departed this life January 18, 1874. He was a kind husband and father, and was universally respected. George resides upon the old homestead with his brother's widow. The Hornings are among the most worthy people of the county.

**JOHN B. HOWE,** born of English parents in the city of Boston, March 3, 1813, was destined by force of character, and by natural ability, to achieve his present honored position. His father, the Rev. James B. Howe, an eloquent minister of the Episcopal Church, and his beloved mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Badlam (the name having been changed from Bedlow, in recording an early deed), were Puritans, who gave fair education to their family of eight children. The father was a graduate of Harvard College, and an earnest advocate of education and morals. Stephen Badlam was Brigadier General of militia, who joined the Colonial army in 1775, and the following year, as Major of artillery, took possession, July 4, of the point which, from this circumstance, was named Mount Independence. After the war, he located at Dorchester, where he became Magistrate, and Deacon of the Church. At the age of sixteen, John B. Howe entered Trinity College, from which institution he graduated at the age of nineteen. This was in 1832, and in autumn of the same year he went to Detroit, thence to Marshall, Mich., and in 1833 he moved to Lima. He had read law in Michigan, was subsequently admitted to the bar, and for a number of years practiced with success. Of late years he has been engaged in banking. He is the author of several volumes on Political Economy and Finance, his logic and research securing the commendations of able critics. He was a member of the State Legislature of 1840, representing the counties of Steuben, De Kalb, Noble and La Grange; and, in 1850, was a member of the Indiana State Constitutional Convention, at which time, he, as



a Whig, advocated measures regarding the slave, identical with those afterward adhered to by the minority of Justices in the Dred Scott decision. In 1846, Mr. Howe was married to Miss Frances Gidden, a native of the Granite State, who was born in 1825. Mr. Howe has a beautiful home, and enjoys that satisfaction resulting from a life of charity and humanity.

MRS. SARAH A. HUDSON was born December 10, 1823, in Port Gibson, Ontario County, N. Y., daughter of Stephen and Normanda (Finney) Alling. The father was a native of New York and the mother of Connecticut. They were married in the Empire State and were the parents of two children. Mrs. Hudson received a common-school education, and remained at home until her marriage with Mr. Isaac G. Hudson, which occurred, October 8, 1850. He was born in Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., March 31, 1819, and soon after his marriage moved to Wayne County, N. Y., remaining there until 1854, when he moved to this county, and purchased the farm now Mrs. Hudson's home. In less than a year after their arrival in this county Mr. Hudson died. He was a man of extended information, and a graduate of the Wesleyan Seminary, of Lima, N. Y. His death was a great loss. In his family were the following children: Sarah J., Pliny E. and Isaac G. Mrs. Hudson's old homestead comprises 200 acres of well improved land. Pliny E. has the management of it, and is a practical and successful farmer. He is a Republican, enterprising and public spirited.

ELIAS KEPLINGER was born November 9, 1815, in Washington County, Md., one of a family of nine sons and three daughters born to Joseph and Catharine (Snyder) Keplinger, natives of Maryland. The parents moved to Virginia, near Harper's Ferry, soon after their marriage, and from there, in 1832, to Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Here the father died at the age of eighty-four years. His widow survives him, and is eighty-six. Elias Keplinger was brought up to farm labor. He married Miss Emily Hoverstock, in 1842. She was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, January 25, 1825. They had seven children, four of whom are yet living, viz.: Catharine, Mary E., Charles H. and Etta M. Mrs. Keplinger died February 22, 1865. Mr. Keplinger married Miss Lydia A. Medaugh, a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, for his second wife. She died, December 5, 1878. December 11, 1879, he was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Fridlie, born in the canton of Berne, Switzerland, May 13, 1844. Mr. Keplinger came to this county in 1864, and purchased his present farm. He began life as a poor boy, and is a self-made man. He is a Republican, a member of the M. E. Church, and a successful farmer and stock grower.

OMAR A. KIMBALL, was born in Orland, Steuben Co., Ind., November 9, 1837. He is the son of Augustus Kimball, a native of the Empire State, who came with his parents to Calhoun County, Mich., in 1833. After two years the family removed to Orland, where the grandfather of our subject erected one of the first grist-mills in Northeastern Indiana. Here Augustus Kimball married Miss Eliza Eaton, and to them were born three children. He has been engaged in farming and milling at Orland for some time. Omar A. Kimball received a common-school education, and when fourteen years old was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, serving a term of five years at \$3 per month. After he had learned his trade, he worked in Orland some time, and then went to Sturgis, Mich., and worked over three years. In 1857, he came to Lima, but soon after went West, stopping two years in Kansas. He then returned to Lima, and worked at his trade until 1862, when he enlisted in



Company C, One Hundredth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He became regimental blacksmith, and served until the close of the war. Since his return from the army, he has worked at his trade in Lima. He was married, January 18, 1861, to Mrs. Emily L. Morse, born in Williamson, N. Y., May 27, 1829, to Zimri and Vashti (Overton) Atwater, who removed from New York State to Lima Township, in 1835. They were the parents of nine children. There was one child born to Mrs. Kimball by her first marriage, viz.: Loren. From her union with Mr. Kimball there were two, viz.: Lillie and Charley. Mr. Kimball owns a large two-story brick building where he carries on his trade. He owns a nice home property, and is doing a good business. He is a Republican.

J. CALVIN KINNEY, is a native of Burlington, Vt., and is of Scotch descent. The family came to the United States during the seventeenth century. The grandfather of our subject assisted the Colonies in their struggle for independence, and two of his sons served in the war of 1812—one as a Captain. John C. Kinney was a machinist, and when a young man worked at his trade in New York, where he married Miss Amy Rowley, and soon afterward moved to Burlington, Vt. After some years, he removed to Huron County, Ohio, and in 1832 started on horseback through Indiana. He returned to Ohio the same year, and in 1833 moved his family to Lima, and ever afterward made La Grange County his home. For some years he carried the mail on horseback from Toledo through to Fort Defiance, White Pigeon and other places, and, while engaged at this, died. J. Calvin Kinney was born January 3, 1828. When seventeen years old, he learned the shoemaker's trade. After working at this eight years, and farming three years, he came to Lima. In 1855, removed with his family to Minnesota, but returned in three years. Mr. Kinney assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Lima, and engaged in banking, brokerage, collecting and dealing in real estate, and has arisen to a position of wealth and comfort. He was married, February 22, 1848, to Miss Teresa Griffeth, who was born in Wayne County, N. Y., July 27, 1829. To this union were born seven daughters—Alice T., Amy E., Arroma L., Amelia M., Annettie D., Ada C. and Annie L.

JOHN R. KIRBY was born in Leicestershire, Eng., March 2, 1802, one of eleven children born to John and Charlotte (Reddals) Kirby, who emigrated to this country in 1831 and settled in Lake County, Ohio. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. John R., when young, began working at hosiery making. He came to this country with his parents and engaged in farming near Painesville, Ohio. He was married in England, in 1829, to Miss Hannah Kirby. They had two children—Albert, who died at seven years of age, and Amy L., who died May 18, 1861. She married John Taylor, of Lima. They had one child. Mrs. Hannah Kirby died in 1847. On the 5th of October, 1859, he married Mrs. Abigail W. (Charter) Durand, born in Burton, Ohio, May 13, 1815. They had three sons, viz.: Burritt E., Charles P. and James A. The latter is the only one living. He was born in 1853, and married Miss Emma White in 1879. She was born in Lancaster, Penn., in 1858. All the Durand boys received a liberal education, Burritt E. graduating from the Iron City College, at Pittsburgh, Penn., July 14, 1865. James A. is engaged in the drug trade at Lima. Mr. John R. Kirby came to Lima in 1859, and after about three years engaged in the drug trade. In 1878, ill health compelled him to retire. He and his wife are members of the M. E. Church.

ALONZO D. MOHLER, A. M. and A. B., is a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, born January 26, 1848. His ancestors were from Germany, who came to this country in the eighteenth century. His father, Amos Mohler, was a native of the Keystone State and his mother (Maria Rasor) of Ohio. They were married in the Buckeye State and had ten children, of whom Alonzo D. was the eldest. The father, in early life, learned the carpenter trade and after his marriage took up contracting and building. He worked at his trade in Dayton, Ohio, a number of years, and then engaged in mercantile pursuits in Shelby County, Ohio. In 1865, he moved to Huntington, Ind., where he now resides. He is a man of intelligence and greatly aided in the remodeling of the old school law of Ohio. Alonzo D. Mohler learned the carpenter trade with his father; after which he served an apprenticeship at cabinet-making. Up to the time he was twenty years of age he had received common education. After some private instruction, he entered Asbury University, at Greencastle, Ind., and in 1873 received the degree of Bachelor of Arts and in 1876 that of Master of Arts. Soon after graduating, he took charge of the Muncie High School, and after one year came to La Grange to take charge of its public schools, which he has raised to their present high standard. He left the La Grange school and was given charge of the Lima school, with four assistant teachers. He was united in marriage with Miss Albina Davies January 1, 1874; born in Huntington County, Ind., July 27, 1850. To them have been born two daughters, viz.: Inez and Ruth. Mr. Mohler is a Republican and a member of the M. E. Church.

CHARLES G. NICHOLS, son of Drusus and Rebecca B. (Graves) Nichols, who were born, raised and married in Sherman, Litchfield County, Conn. In 1834, Mr. Nichols came to La Grange County, and purchased the mill at Mongo (or Union Mills). He operated this some two years, during which time he purchased a tract of land, and then returned to Connecticut for his family. Mr. Nichols was a thorough business man, and was largely engaged in farming, milling and mercantile pursuits, at one time owning a commission warehouse in Fort Wayne. He assisted in building the old plank road in La Grange County, and was on hand where enterprise was required. Charles G. was born September 13, 1835, in Litchfield County, Conn., and is the only survivor of three children. At the age of nine years he returned from Indiana to his native State, where he remained until eighteen, receiving a good common-school education. He was married, June 21, 1859, to Miss Ellen Burnell, who was born on English Prairie, La Grange County, May 8, 1840, and to them have been born the following family: Drusus B., Mary, Charles S., Samuel B., Morse F. and Gunther. Mr. Nichols lived in Greenfield Township until within the past year, when he removed to Lima to educate his children. He is a Republican, and has held the position of County Real Estate Appraiser. He owns 450 acres of good land.

SAMUEL S. PARKER was born in the city of Philadelphia, in 1817, son of Samuel Parker, a native of the Bay State, who, during the war of 1812, went to Philadelphia to work at carpentering, and there married Miss Sarah Long, a native of Nova Scotia. He worked at his trade in Petersburg, Va., and at other points, till 1818, when he moved to Columbia City, Penn., and subsequently to Genesee County, N. Y. In 1833, he came to Lima Township, with four double teams and a one horse buggy, probably the first brought to Lima Township. He bought a large tract of land and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was a man of much more than ordinary ability, generous

to a fault, and scrupulously honest. He died in 1857, and his wife in 1870. They had the following children: Lucy A., Samuel S., Lucy A., Ursula R., Orlanda, Romilda, George H. and Columbus C., four of whom are yet living. Samuel S. married Miss Orilla French, in 1854. She was born in Lake County, Ohio, in 1833. They had ten children, viz.: George H., Orlanda, Theodore, Romilda, Rosamond, Mary and Fanny, living; George, Timoleon and Homer, deceased. Mr. Parker owns 600 acres of land, and has a beautiful home just across the State line, in Fawn River Township, St. Joseph County, Mich. As a Republican, he has held the office of Justice of the Peace in the township in which he lives.

JOEL SANDERSON was born in the town of Brookfield, Orange Co., Vt., December 26, 1816, son of James and Rebecca (Hovey) Sanderson. The father was the first white male child born in Woodstock, Vt. The mother was a native of Canterbury, Conn. They were married at Lyme, N. H., and took up their residence at Woodstock, Vt. In 1828, they removed to Huron County, Ohio. Here, September 2 of the same year, the father died. There were ten children—Joel being the youngest. He, soon after his father's death, began working out, receiving but small pay. During the winter months, he would work for his board and attend school. In this way, he received his education. His marriage with Miss Mary A. Legg occurred August 7, 1842. She was born in Chisleborough, England, August 11, 1816. They had eight children, viz.: George W., James, Wilbur F., Sarah A., Rebecca, Eva, Ase-nath E. and Charlotte. Mr. Sanderson came to this county in 1844, and purchased a farm in Greenfield Township, where he lived until 1869, when he purchased his present place, consisting of 280 acres, well improved. He is a Republican, and has held various official positions. He was at one time Major of the Second Ohio Militia.

GEORGE D. SEARING is the son of I. W. and Ruth B. (Upson) Searing. The father was born in Essex County, N. J., December 10, 1802, and the mother in Morris County June 26, 1808. They were married November 19, 1828, and had the following children, viz.: Caroline, Noah, Angeline, Henrietta, George D. and Susan. Mr. Searing's mother died when he was a child, and he lived with friends until about twelve years of age, when he entered a chair factory, where he remained seven years. He then worked as a "jour" two years, after which he engaged in business for himself, in his native county, remaining there until 1837, when he came to this county, and purchased 100 acres of land on Pretty Prairie, and engaged in farming. In 1870, he came to Lima and embarked in the furniture trade, in which he has since continued. Mr. Searing is a hard-working, industrious citizen. George D. was born in Greenfield Township, this county, March 31, 1847. He received a common-school education, and married Miss Sarah Byron, January 20, 1876. She was born in Darke County, Ohio, September 21, 1842. From this union there are two children—Annie and George. George D. is connected with his father in the furniture trade and undertaking. He is Justice of the Peace for Lima Township, and is a stanch Republican.

JOHN SMITH. This gentleman was born in Clark County, Ohio, October 24, 1823; son of David and Elizabeth (Hurd) Smith, who came with their family to this township in 1833. [See biography of William Smith.] Our subject was reared on a farm, receiving such education as the schools of that early day afforded. He was united in marriage to Miss Sarah R. Parker March 19, 1855. This lady was born in Genesee County, N. Y., January

12, 1827. From this union there was one child, viz.: Sarah A. Mrs. Smith died March 26, 1860. January 23, 1862, Mr. Smith married Miss Serena Craig, who was born November 19, 1827, in Columbia County, Penn. From their union there were two children, viz.: Mary J. and Charles C. Mr. Smith first voted with the Whig and then with the Republican party. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and a practical and successful farmer. He has done much to improve the stock in the county, and now has on his place as finely bred horses, cattle and sheep as are to be found in this locality.

WILLIAM SMITH was born in Clark County, Ohio, January 10, 1822, one of ten children, to David and Elizabeth (Hurd) Smith, natives respectively of Virginia and Maryland, and married in Ohio. The Smiths are of Irish descent. David Smith served in the war of 1812, under Gen. Harrison. The Hurds are of German extraction, and came to Clark County, Ohio, as did also the Smiths, during the war of 1812. David Smith and family emigrated to La Grange County in 1833, locating on the farm now owned by John and Hugh Smith, in Lima Township, purchasing 360 acres, on which he resided until his death. Mr. Smith became a faithful worker with the Abolition party, and was among the first County Commissioners. He advocated and practiced temperance and frugality. His death was a serious loss to the community. William Smith received a liberal education, and for twenty years taught school winters and worked at farming summers. He taught the first term in the new school-house in Lima; represented La Grange County in the State Legislature, in 1855 and 1867; he cast the deciding vote in rechartering the "State Bank of Indiana," and in his second term assisted in electing O. P. Morton to the U. S. Senate. For some time he has been in the lumber trade and agricultural implement business. He is a Republican, a Mason, and belongs to the Presbyterian Church. He was married in 1847 to Esther Craig, born in Northumberland County, Penn., in 1822, and died in 1866, leaving three children—Senator B., Mary E. A., and John C. In 1870, Mr. Smith married Kate Wood, who was born in La Grange County, Ind., in 1844. To them were born two children—William D. and Ione C.

OSCAR J. SPAULDING was born in Windsor County, Vt., April 20, 1824, son of Thomas and Sabra (Proctor) Spaulding. The father was born in Massachusetts, in 1801, and his wife in New Hampshire, in 1800. They had five children. Mr. Spaulding followed peddling in Vermont until 1827, when he moved to Wayne County, N. Y., and engaged in the manufacture and sale of patent medicines. In 1835, he came to this county, remaining some time. He returned to Wayne County, and the following year came back to this county and purchased quite a tract of land. In 1837, he moved his family here, and engaged in farming and speculating. He was one of the directors of the first bank at Lima, and was, in an early day, Associate Judge of La Grange County. The children were Oscar J., Wesley J. (now a Professor in an Iowa college), Maritta C., Antoinette H. and Lois A. Oscar J. was married to Miss Mary A. Tyler, September 27, 1844, and followed farming until the breaking-out of the rebellion. Under the first call in 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company K, Seventy-eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, and went into active service in Virginia. After about six months, he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant, and was successively promoted through all the grades until he held a Colonel's commission. He was in thirty-six engagements and was twice wounded, remaining until the end of the war. He has a brilliant war record of which he may justly feel proud. After his discharge he engaged in farm-



ing and stock-raising. He owns 335 acres of land, well improved. Mrs. Spaulding was born in Trenton, Mich., July 24, 1826, daughter of Isaac and Eleanor (Knapp) Tyler, who were early settlers of St. Joseph County, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding have had the following children: Mona E., Jonathan L., De Alton F. and Florence A.

ROBERT D. THOMPSON was born November 19, 1828, in Morris County, N. J., one of five children born to Aaron and Mary (Dayton) Thompson, natives of New Jersey. The Thompson family settled in New Jersey before the Revolutionary war, and during that long and bitter struggle they were active in serving the best interests of the Colonies. Aaron Thompson was a farmer, and in 1835 emigrated to La Grange County with his parents, locating in Greenfield Township, where he resided until 1857, when he removed to Lima, which, ever afterward, was his home. He was a man who commanded the respect and confidence of his neighbors. Robert D. Thompson was fairly educated, and February 18, 1858, was married to Miss Mary Cooper, born in Morris County, N. J., September 2, 1837; to them have been born five children—Hal S., Stephen C., Mary D., Elizabeth B. and Robert H. Mr. Thompson resided on the farm until the spring of 1865, when he moved to Lima and engaged in the grain and produce trade. He is a Republican and has held various township offices. He is prospering and stands well as a business man and citizen.

JONATHAN B. UPSON was born in Morris County, N. J., March 13, 1810, one of seven children. His father, Jesse Upson, was a native of Litchfield County, Conn., and descended from an old New England family. He studied medicine, became a physician; served in the war of 1812, and for a number of terms served his constituents in the State Legislature of New Jersey. He held the position of Associate Judge of the Circuit Court in the district where he resided; married Mary Dayton, a native of New Jersey, and emigrated to La Grange County in 1838, where he afterward died. He was twice married, his first wife, Ruth Bronson, a native of Connecticut, bearing him three children. Jonathan B. is a son of the second marriage; he was reared on a farm and received a fair education. In 1835, he came to Indiana, purchased land, returned home, and March 13, 1838, married Phoebe Dayton, who was born in New Jersey, April 5, 1818. After marriage he returned with his wife and his parents, locating in Greenfield Township; after a number of years he moved to Lima. Mr. Upson began life poor, but, with his wife's assistance, has made a comfortable fortune. Considerable of his real estate he has disposed of, retaining only fifty acres, and is living a quiet and retired life.

WILLIAM H. WALKER was born in Hocking County, Ohio, August 2, 1827, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Harman) Walker, natives of Yorkshire, England. They were married in Ohio, and removed from there to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1835. After four years, they came to Eden Township, this county, which became their permanent home. The father worked at blacksmithing before coming to this State. They had a family of nine children. William H., after his father's death, took charge of the farm until 1862, when he came to this township. He was married to Miss Sarah S. Coldren June 1, 1851; she was born in Lima Township May 4, 1832, daughter of Nenniah and Sibel (Newton) Coldren. Mr. Coldren was a native of Pennsylvania, reared in Delaware County, Ohio, and came to this county in 1828. He was married at White Pigeon, Mich., in 1830, and lived in Lima Township until 1833, when



he moved to Eden Township. He was the first Sheriff of this county and was County Commissioner six years. Mr. and Mrs. Walker had seven children—Augusta S., Gertrude L., Charles J., William C. and Edward—living; Florence and Willie—deceased. Augusta S. is married and resides at Goshen, Ind. Mr. Walker owns 210 acres of good land, and is a Republican.

MRS. SARAH B. WEST was born in Connecticut Farms, N. J., March 6, 1819. She is the daughter of Stephen and Henrietta (Beach) Thompson, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. In 1836, they came to this county and located at Lima, where they ever after resided. Mr. Thompson was a Presbyterian minister, and a man of education and refinement. He did much for the cause of Christianity, and was in high repute with all who knew him. He reared a family of five daughters, three of whom are yet living. Mrs. West remained at home until her marriage with Mr. Samuel West, March 10, 1839. This gentleman was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in 1802, and came to this county in 1836. He was a farmer and stock-raiser, and was much respected. He died December 26, 1850. In his family were six children, viz.: Anna, Emma, Stephen T., Sarah, David and Charles. Mrs. West is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a lady who has a large circle of friends.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMS is a native of Lebanon, Conn.; a son of Solomon and Martha (Baker) Williams, both of English descent. He was born in 1815, and received a fair education. At the age of seventeen, he went to White Pigeon, Mich., where for four years he was engaged in mercantile pursuits. He then came to Lima, where for many years he conducted one of the largest general stores ever in the town. Soon after his appearance there, he purchased 160 acres of land, a portion of which is now Williams' Addition to Lima. From 1848 to 1855 he owned a branch store at McDonough, Ill., but the bulk of his mercantile and general operations was at Lima. Mr. Williams possesses both genius and talent of a high order, and has shown remarkable financial ability. He now owns large banking interests at some five or six towns in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. In 1843, he was married to Miss Jane Hume, a native of Delaware County, N. Y., born in 1822. Five children have blessed this union, as follows: Rebecca, now the wife of Rev. Vannuys, of Goshen, Ind.; Mary, wife of S. T. Cooper; Ella, wife of Ira W. Nash, of Goshen; Catharine and Jane. Mr. Williams was at the treaty of Fort Dearborn (Chicago), in 1833, a delegate to the River and Harbor Convention at Chicago in 1847, served in the Lower House of the State Legislature in 1857, and has also served as delegate to two Republican National Conventions. He contributed largely toward the building of the Grand Rapids Railroad, assisted in organizing the first bank in the county, founded and conducted a female seminary at Lima, and has dealt largely in real estate. He has a happy home and a large circle of friends.

LEVI WOLF, SR., is of the family of Henry and Charlotte (Rude) Wolf, who were born, reared and married, and who died in Lancaster County, Penn. They were the parents of five sons and three daughters, also born there. Levi was reared a farmer, receiving only such education as the common schools of that day afforded, his birth occurring January 5, 1809. On the 25th of November, 1841, he was united in marriage with Miss Fanny Zuck, who was born in Erie County, Penn., November 19, 1824. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf lived in Erie County, Penn., until 1860, when they removed to Lima Township, La Grange County, Ind., where they have ever since resided, farming. They

have been hard-working people, and are among the substantial and well-to-do farmers of Lima Township. Mr. Wolf is a Democrat. He owns 250 acres of land in Lima and Van Buren Townships, besides valuable town property in Lima. He and wife are parents of seven children, all living, namely: Sarah, David, Sophia, Levi, Eliza A., Henrietta and George W.

HARVEY W. WOOD was born in Hartford, Vt., February 15, 1803; one of a family of nine children, born to James and Mary (Webster) Wood, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Connecticut. They were married at Hartford, Vt., and followed farming. Harvey W. was reared upon the farm and received a good common-school education. When about eighteen years of age he went to Western New York, and taught school until 1835, when he came to Lima. He first engaged in the mercantile business, but after a few years began keeping hotel. He was married to Miss Mary A. Warner, a native of Connecticut, in 1836. This lady died in 1837. His marriage with Miss Lucy A. Parker occurred February 4, 1838. She was born in Genesee County, N. Y., April 18, 1819. From this union there were seven children, four of whom died in infancy. The names of those living are—Antoinette, Ione and Catharine. Mr. Wood, previous to the Kansas-Nebraska trouble, voted with the Democratic party; since, he has been a Republican. He was Postmaster of Lima during Polk's administration, and has held other positions of honor and trust.

WILLIAM WOODWARD was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, September 15, 1823. His parents, John and Barbara (Bean) Woodward, were born, reared and married in Mifflin County, Penn. They removed to Trumbull County about the year 1822, thence, in 1837, to Section 8, in Clay Township. John W. was a soldier of the war of 1812, and a hard-working man; he followed farming. He had eight children; seven reached their majority. William Woodward was reared on a farm, and received but a limited education. His father died when he was about fifteen years of age, and soon after this he began working at saw-milling and carpentering; a portion of his wages was applied toward supporting the family. When he was twenty-one, he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Clay Township. He was united in marriage with Miss Phebe Merriman April 9, 1848. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, June 16, 1832, and died August 30, 1853. After his wife's death, he erected and operated a saw-mill. He was married to Mrs. Sophronia (Parrish) Scofield, October 25, 1855. She was born in Monroe County, N. Y., April 13, 1833. By his first marriage there were two children, viz.: Harriet L. and Mary E. By the second, six children, three of whom are yet living, viz.: Jerusha B., Eunice E. and Arthur J. The ones deceased were—Wallace W., Fayette D. and Emile F. In 1860, Mr. Woodward came to Lima Township, where he owns 200 acres of well improved land. He also owns fifty-three acres in Clay Township, and 160 in Ottawa County, Kan. He is a practical farmer and stock-raiser, a Democrat, and a member of the Protestant Methodist Church.

**JOHNSON TOWNSHIP.**

**WILLIAM BAKER** is a native of Hackonby, Lincolnshire, England, where he was born in September, 1830. He was one of a family of eight children born to Thomas and Mary (Franks) Baker. Six of these children are yet living. The father was a laborer, and with his large family suffered much from the English land laws. William Baker, in March, 1851, boarded the "Ticonderoga," and sailed for New York, where he arrived in twenty-eight days. He worked a short time in Seneca County, N. Y., to get money to continue his journey, and at last reached Milford Township, where his brother was living. He hired out at ditching and other jobs at different places, until 1861 (March), when he married Miss Mary, daughter of Thomas (Crandall) Rude, and in May of the same year purchased a portion of his present farm for \$2,000, paying \$1,500 down; but did not take possession of his new home until September. He now owns 150 acres of fine land. Himself and wife are parents of seven children—Mary, William, Edward, Daniel, Thomas, Hattie and Eugene. Both parents are members of the Evangelical Church. Mrs. Baker is a native of Tioga County, N. Y., her birth occurring in August, 1834. When she was six weeks old, her parents moved to St. Joseph County, Ind., and soon afterward to DeKalb County, Ind., where they were among the earliest settlers. Mrs. Baker is a worthy woman. Mr. Baker is a Republican, and an excellent citizen.

**PETER BEACH**, the grandfather of John Beach, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. He married Miss Hamner, and located on the Genesee Flats, N. Y., to farm. Their eldest child was Nicholas J., the father of John. He was a saddler and a shoemaker. After his marriage with Miss E. J. Fluker, in 1839, he became a farmer. The next year he moved to Wisconsin; but, becoming dissatisfied, he returned East as far as Huron County, Ohio, where he resided until 1848, when ill-health and the family physician admonished him to seek a different climate, whereupon he went to La Grange County, buying forty acres of the land now owned by his son John, paying for the same with his wagon, one horse and the harness. He returned to Ohio and bought of a neighbor there fifty acres adjoining his land in La Grange County, and in 1851 came with his family to his new home. Mr. Beach was an honest, hard-working man, a Democrat and a Second-day Adventist. He died in 1866 and his wife in 1877. Eight of their ten children are yet living. John Beach, the eldest son and third child, was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., February 19, 1841. His education was limited. In October, 1864, he married Elizabeth H. Shipley, who was born in Ashland County, Ohio, in April, 1845. Their four children are Ward, Della, Jay and Otto. Mr. Beach is an enterprising and successful farmer. He is an Independent, always voting for the man and not the party. He owns a fine farm of 109 acres.

**ABRAHAM BENDER** is one of a family of eleven children; was born in Franklin County, Penn., September 22, 1833, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Etter) Bender, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German origin. When twenty-one years of age, he commenced life on his own responsibility, working out for 50 cents per day. He was married in Pennsylvania, in 1854, to Catharine E. Deahl, and in 1859 he moved to Richland County, Ohio, where he

had eighty acres of land, and began farming. He came to Johnson Township in 1866 and purchased his present farm, at that time only having about thirty acres cleared. The principal improvements now on the place were put there by Mr. Bender. He is one of the progressive men of Johnson Township and is an earnest advocate in the support of educational and industrial enterprises. He is a Democrat, and has held the office of Township Trustee in Johnson Township two years. Mr. and Mrs. Bender are the parents of eight children, as follows: William H., born November 12, 1855, now a merchant of Sturgis, Mich.; George G., born January, 1858, in partnership with William; James A., born May 27, 1860, deceased; Eliza J., born June 24, 1861, deceased; Mary E., born August 12, 1862, deceased; Franklin McC., born July 6, 1864; Anna M., born November 4, 1867; and Charlotte M., born June 19, 1871, deceased. The mother died August 12, 1881. Through all the years of her married life with Mr. Bender she took her share of the burden and was a helpmeet in everything. Mr. Bender owns 116 acres of land on Section 22, where he yet resides.

**DANIEL W. BOWER.** Phillip Bower, father of the subject of this sketch, is a native of Stark County, Ohio, his birth occurring April 11, 1814, and he is a son of John and Elizabeth (Raber) Bower. His parents were farmers, and he was reared on a farm, but early learned the carpenters' trade, which has occupied his attention considerably through life. November 15, 1836, he married Mary Yeager, and to them were born eleven children, nine yet living. In May, 1865, the mother died, and in March, 1876, Mr. Bower married his present wife, Mrs. Rebecca (Faulkner), widow of Richard Austin, who bore him four children; three youngest are now living. Mr. Bower and family emigrated to Johnson Township in October, 1842, and were among the early pioneers of this locality. Daniel W. Bower was born April 11, 1842, in Stark County, Ohio, and came with his parents to La Grange County, and this has since been his home. He received but a common education, and September 24, 1861, he was enrolled a member of Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. At the battle of Fort Donelson he was wounded severely, through both thighs, by a musket-ball, from the effects of which he was sent to the hospital at Cincinnati, where he remained until sufficiently recovered, and then came home. He was discharged, July 23, 1862, and February 18, 1864, married Miss Harriet A., daughter of Andrew J. and Isabell S. J. (Kapel) Atwood, old settlers of La Grange County. Mr. Bower subsequently enrolled as member of Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as Sergeant, and was finally discharged August 30, 1865, and in October of that year moved to his present place. He and wife are parents of one daughter, Flora May. Mr. Bower owns 120 acres of excellent land, and is a Republican. Mrs. Bower was born in Livingston County, N. Y., September 6, 1842.

**DR. F. H. BROUGHTON**, physician, son of William and Rebecca (Cooper) Broughton. Subject of this sketch was born in Noble County, Ind., April 20, 1849, and was raised on his father's farm. In February, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after bravely participating in the engagements of Peach Tree Creek, Buzzard's Roost, Atlanta, and a number of other skirmishes, was discharged in August, of 1865. After the close of the war, Dr. Broughton came home, and for one year engaged in farming. He then attended the schools of Kendallville and Auburn, and in 1868 began the study of medicine under Drs. Teal and Gil-



bert, of Kendallville. While pursuing his studies under these gentlemen he took the preliminary course of lectures at Detroit, succeeding which he took two full courses of lectures at that institution. The winter of 1873-74, he attended the Medical Department of the State University, at Indianapolis, from which he graduated with honors. After his graduation Dr. Broughton practiced his profession in Allen County a short time, after which he formed a partnership with Dr. Dancer, at South Milford. In February, 1878, he removed to Wolcottville, where he has since resided. Dr. Broughton is one of the best read physicians in the county, and one of the most successful practitioners. He has a good practice and the esteem of his neighbors. He was married December 24, 1876, to Abigail Call, daughter of Joseph Call, of Milford Township. When he entered the army, at fourteen years old, he only had 5 cents.

ZOPHER CASE was born November 2, 1816, in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and is a son of Zopher and Annie (Randle) Case. He is a grandson of Capt. Charles Case, a native of Connecticut, and a member of the company that formed Washington's Body Guard in the Revolutionary war. Capt. Case left his native State in 1798, and came to Warren, Ohio. Zopher Case, Sr., was born in Connecticut, and during the war of 1812, enlisted and served with distinction as Major in Col. Haye's regiment. He died in Ohio, and the spring of 1833 the widow and family emigrated to Sturgis, Mich. The spring of 1836, the subject of this sketch and four others came to the neighborhood where Mr. Case now lives, and entered land. Mr. Case erected a cabin just across the line in Milford Township, and then returned to Michigan for his mother and the rest of the family. The same year they located on their land. Mr. Case's is among the best farms in Johnson Township. Mrs. Case, his mother, died in April, 1870. Subject is of a limited education. He married Nancy Highbargin, in 1838, and to them were born five sons and five daughters—Leander, Leroy, Clinton, Orin, George, Lenora, Alice, Mary, Clara, and one that died in infancy. The mother died in 1866, and in 1868 Mr. Case married Annie Smith, who has borne him four children—Riley, Guy, Zopher and Gaylord. Mr. Case is representative of the self-made men. He began with nothing, at the age of twelve, working for \$3.00 per month. By labor and economy, he has acquired one of the largest and finest stock farms in the county, and at present owns 800 acres, having given the remainder to his children. He is an enterprising citizen, a Democrat, and a member of the Masonic fraternity of Wolcottville.

J. A. CUTLER was born in Worcester County, Mass., August 14, 1831. J. H. Cutler was his father. His mother's maiden name was Reed. His father was a carpenter and joiner and one of the early settlers of Steuben County, Ind., where he is yet living a retired life. When the subject of this biography was seven years old, his mother died, and up to the age of seventeen he lived with his father. He received a common-school education. The fall of 1831, his father and family emigrated to Steuben County, Ind., where they were among the first settlers. Mr. Cutler worked at chair-making a number of years, but carpentering was his chief employment. J. A. Cutler learned the carpenter's trade in Ohio in 1848; after which he went West and engaged in boat building. In 1851, he returned to Indiana. He was at a boat explosion near Peoria. He located in Orange Township, Noble County, and worked at his trade a number of years. He lived in Rome City seven years and, in connection with his trade there, worked at the mill business. He has since



lived in the neighborhood of Wolcottville. He, at one time, was engaged in wagon and carriage making. The spring of 1880, he was engaged by the Monumental Bronze Company as their agent in La Grange and Noble Counties. Mr. Cutler was married, in 1852, to Mary J. Lee, and to them have been born six children, three only of whom are living, and they are the only living male descendants of the old family of Cutlers. Mr. Cutler is a Republican, a member of the I. O. O. F. and for the past fifteen years has been a worker of the M. E. Church, of which he and wife are members.

B. J. DICKINSON, the subject of this sketch, was born in Livingston County, N. Y., March 13, 1819. His father, Ichabod Dickinson, was a native of New York and his mother, Mercy Tripp, was a native of Rhode Island. They were the parents of five sons and five daughters, only one son, our subject, and one daughter, Eliza, of whom are yet living. The father was a farmer and he and wife were honest and respected. B. J. Dickinson was reared a farmer and received but a limited education. Having a brother who came to Johnson Township, La Grange County, Ind., in 1836, he determined to go there and make a home. After his arrival he engaged in farming, which he has since followed. In about 1842, he married his brother's widow, Mrs. Louisa (Perkins) Dickinson and to them were born five children—William F., Henry, George, Emma and Artemas F. Of these, all are living and all are married excepting Artemas. Mrs. Dickinson had one daughter by her first marriage, Georgie Anna, who is yet living. Mr. Dickinson is a farmer by occupation, owns eighty acres of well improved land, is a Republican and an enterprising citizen, favoring the advancement of all laudable public enterprises. Mrs. Dickinson was born in Livingston County, N. Y., September 10, 1818. She married her first husband, George Dickinson, September 11, 1836.

F. W. DRAGGOO was born March 22, 1809, in Mercer County, Penn. His father, Frederick Draggoo, was a native of Virginia and of French descent. His mother, Martha (Angel) Draggoo, was of Irish-English descent and a native of Pennsylvania. The father was a soldier of the war of 1812 and a farmer. He and wife were the parents of thirteen children, of whom our subject is the oldest living. F. W. Draggoo received but a limited education, was reared a farmer and when seven years of age came with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, who were among the early settlers of that country. His parents died here. December 2, 1830, F. W. Draggoo and Ann Mitchell were married. At one time, he had considerable property, but was of a generous disposition and was induced to go security in money matters, which resulted in his failure. In 1846, he emigrated to his present place in Johnson Township, then all woods, and again commenced to make a home in a new country. He and wife endured many hardships. Mr. Draggoo came to the county a poor man and now he is comparatively wealthy. He now owns 123 acres of well improved land. He and wife are the parents of eight children—William M., John A., Randle M., George W., Ellen, Frederick, Rosena B. and Sarah A. Six died of consumption, John and Randle surviving. The former married Maria Weatherwax and the latter Melissa Free. Both are living in Johnson Township and both have families. The Draggos are among Johnson's best citizens.

JOSEPH A. DRAKE was born in Wood County, Ohio, September 4, 1845, and reared on a farm. His father, Joseph Drake, was a native of Pennsylvania, as was also his mother, Mary (Sweny) Drake. They moved to Wood County at a very early period, and Mr. Drake was one of those who assisted in the construction of the old Ohio Canal. He was a class-leader in the

Methodist Church over twenty-nine years. His wife died in 1847, and he in 1862. May 2, 1864, our subject enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in August the same year. He went to Indianapolis in November, 1864, in the employ of the Government, and remained there about two years; from there he went to Fostoria, Ohio, and commenced retailing medicine for Dr. Chance. Having received considerable experience in this business, he commenced studying, and by diligent study he was enabled to invent several first-class remedies; some of his leading remedies are, "The World's Benefactor," the "Blood and Liver Tonic," "Drake's Ague Drops," etc. The real value of these medicines is undoubted. Mr. Drake was married August 22, 1867, to Miss Severnia E. Turner, who was born in Ohio April 15, 1848. This lady moved to Seneca County, Ohio, with her parents, when four years old, and from there to Hancock County. At the time of her marriage with Mr. Drake, she was one of the leading milliners of Fostoria. By their union have been born two daughters—Mary A. and Emma E. Mr. Drake is a Republican and a member of the Knights of Honor of La Grange. Both are members of the Methodist Church of Valentine, near which village they reside on their farm.

M. W. DUNTEN, Superintendent of the County Poor Farm, was born March 6, 1842, in Allen County, Ind., son of F. H. and Sophia (Crook) Dunten, who were from Jefferson County, N. Y. The Duntens are of English descent and trace their genealogy back to two brothers who came to America at an early period; one was a sea captain, the other settled in Boston and engaged in mercantile pursuits. As a class, they are farmers, but a few have deviated from this course. The father of our subject came to Allen County, Ind., in 1831, and ten years afterward returned to New York and married our subject's mother; he then came back to Allen County, where he farmed and kept hotel in Fort Wayne a number of years. In 1845, he came to Ontario, this county, where he was for some time in the hotel business; before the war he sold his hotel and farmed near La Grange until 1868, when he moved to Johnson Township. Morris W. Dunten was reared a farmer and received a good common-school education. In 1862, he enlisted in Company G, Eighty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until he was taken sick and was honorably discharged, June 21, 1863, then came home and began teaching school. On the 15th of July, 1871, he was married to Miss Sarah A. Ayars, and to them has been born one daughter—Linnie G. Mrs. Dunten was born in Sanilac County, Mich., in 1851. Mr. Dunten was appointed Superintendent of the County Poor Farm in March, 1874, and has since continued in that capacity, giving excellent satisfaction. Mr. Dunten is an Independent, voting in all cases for the man and not the party. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of La Grange, and an intelligent, enterprising citizen.

JOSEPH ESHELMAN, deceased, was born June 10, 1809, near Harrisburg, Penn.; he was a son of Henry and Jane (Brady) Eshelman, who were natives of Germany and Scotland; they came to the United States when young and were here married. The husband was born in 1789, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and a farmer; he died in 1854. The wife was born in 1785 and died in 1829. Joseph Eshelman, deceased, was a farmer, and had but an ordinary education. In Pennsylvania, in March, 1832, he married Mary Erford, who was born March 6, 1815. After their marriage, they lived in Stark County, Ohio, and Summit County, Ohio, for a time, and are now at Johnson Township, La Grange County. Mr. Eshelman came to the county in

1849, and purchased eighty acres of land where his son Levi now lives. He died December 11, 1879; was a member of the Evangelical Church. His widow still survives him and resides in Johnson Township. They were the parents of thirteen children, only eight of whom are now living. Levi Eshelman was the eldest, born in Stark County, Ohio, August 22, 1838; he received but a limited education, and came with his parents to Indiana, in 1850. He assisted in clearing his father's place, and was married in 1861 to Nancy A. Newnam, daughter of Asbury Newnam. For seven years after his marriage Levi farmed in Orange Township, Noble County. In March, 1870, he came to his present place. He is a Republican, owns 200 acres of good land, and he and wife are the parents of six children, and members of the Evangelical Church. Their children's names are John J., George F., Leroy L., Mary E., Henry E. and Harvey G.

WILLIAM GEISER was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 25, 1825, and is the youngest of eleven children born to William and Ann Mariah (Rush) Geiser. Mr. and Mrs. Geiser also determined to cross the Atlantic. Accordingly, in 1838, they emigrated to Richland County, Ohio, where Mr. Geiser began working at his trade—shoemaking. In 1844, Mrs. Geiser died, and on the 30th of October, 1850, our subject was united in marriage with Sophia Smith. He resided in Ohio a number of years succeeding his marriage, working at shoemaking. Mr. Geiser and family, together with his father, emigrated to Johnson Township, October, 1854, where he has since resided. He purchased eighty acres of land on Section 22, and moving his family into a cabin, began working at his trade, and clearing and improving his land. He and wife are the parents of eleven children—Louisa, Mary S., Henry F., Lelie, Charles W., Etta, John M., Iva, Ellen, and Frank and George deceased. The two oldest daughters are married. Mr. Geiser started out in life a poor boy, but by hard work and economy has been reasonably successful in the acquirement of this world's goods. He has never been identified with any political party. He has held the position of Trustee of Johnson Township twelve years. Mr. Geiser is an active worker in the advancement of education, and an enterprising man. His father died in 1864.

NATHAN K. GREEN is a native of Addison County, Vt., was born in February, 1820; his parents being Truman and Polly (Kinsley) Green. He is one of a family of twelve children, but four of whom are now living. The Greens are of Celtic, and the Kinsleys of Scottish descent. The father served two years as a substitute in the war of 1812. He emigrated to Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1821, and to Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1834. In about 1842, he moved to Ottawa County, Ohio, and in 1856 to St. Joseph County, Mich., near Burr Oak. Some eight or nine years later he came to La Grange County. At the end of three years, he returned to Ottawa County, Ohio, where his wife died. In 1877, he came back to Johnson Township, but went to Ohio soon after, and the following year came to Johnson Township, and resided until his death, in September, 1879. When Nathan K. Green was fifteen years old, he hired to a farmer in Huron County, Ohio, and afterward to one in Erie County, same State. In March, 1841, he married Miss Mary Thomas. This lady bore her husband six children—William, John, George, Mary, Champ and Sarah—William and Mary being dead. Mrs. Green died in February, 1870. The family moved to La Grange County, in 1843, settling first in Lima Township, but in June, 1847, removing to Johnson Township. Here he has since resided, having built a comfortable home. He got his start working by the

day. He now owns ninety acres of good land. His second and present wife is Maria, daughter of Daniel Martin, and widow of John Stoner, who at his death, left two children—Arthur and Andrew E. They were married in June, 1871, and by this union have one son—Nathan Clair. Mrs. Green was born in New Jersey February, 1836, and is a Free-Will Baptist. Mr. Green is a Republican, and has held various official positions in the township.

WILLIAM HEALEY is a native of the Albion Isle, his birth occurring in Bulby, Lincolnshire, in March, 1828. His parents were Joseph and Elizabeth (Holton) Healey, to whom was born a family of eleven children, five of whom are yet living. Joseph Healey was a poor but industrious man, and owing to the peculiar laws of England could not give his children even a common-school education. William grew to manhood, and in July, 1849, married Jane, daughter of William and Elizabeth Hubbard. One daughter was born to them in England. They boarded the sailing ship "Continent," and at the end of six weeks were landed in New York. They reached Lima, La Grange Co., in July, 1851, almost destitute of everything to make life comfortable. They entered a small cabin north of the village, using two saw-horses with boards for a bed, a meat bench for a table, and boxes, trunks, stools, etc., for chairs. They labored hard, saved and suffered, living in Lima Township some eight years—a portion of the time on a farm. By 1860, they had saved enough to buy a forty-acre farm, and have since added eighty more. They have nine children—Ann, William, Elizabeth, Jane, Joseph, Edward (deceased), George, John and Clayton, four of whom are married, one living in La Grange County, two in Noble County, and one in Minnesota. Mr. Healey is a member of the Lutheran Church, is a Republican, and a good citizen.

D. LIVERGOOD is a son of Jacob Livergood, who was born in Philadelphia, Penn., October 31, 1791. Jacob Livergood was a house-joiner and carpenter, but made farming his principal occupation. He married Rachel Buffington, 1818, in Chester County, Penn., and they moved to Tucarawas County, Ohio, in 1821, then to De Kalb County, Ind., in 1847, and lived there until their death. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father died March 25, 1855. The mother was born in Chester County, Penn., July 23, 1796, and died November 7, 1856. They were the parents of seven children, four of whom are living. Jacob L. served in the war of 1812. Davis Livergood was born in Perry Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, June 12, 1828. At the age of seventeen, he went to Guernsey County, Ohio, where he learned the tanner's trade. In 1849, he came to Auburn, De Kalb County, Ind., and in spring of 1850 established himself at his trade. In 1851, he came to La Grange, and engaged at tanning, in connection with a harness and shoe shop, until 1857, when he sold all his interest and removed to Johnson Township. He first purchased sixty-five acres of land, on which Jacob Mills now resides. He sold that in 1865, and in 1866 moved to his present place, which now comprises 160 acres of well-improved land. Mr. Livergood was married February 19, 1852, to Editha Stevens, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Wilson, and widow of John Stevens. By this marriage were born four children—Mary N., deceased; Lycurgus, a hardware merchant of La Grange; Alice E. and Maggie E. Mrs. Livergood, by her first husband, had two children—Thomas and Minerva. The former served his country in suppressing the rebellion, and died at Cairo, Ill., from disease contracted while in the service. The daughter is the wife of T. H. Sefton, a partner of Lycurgus Livergood, at La Grange. The mother was born in 1824, in Wayne County,



Ohio. Mr. Livergood is a Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F. of La Grange, also a member of La Grange Encampment.

JOHN MCKIBBEN, deceased, was born in Richland County, Ohio, April 6, 1827. His parents, James and Sarah (Smith) McKibben, were of Irish descent, and farmers. John McKibben was reared in Richland County, Ohio, receiving a good common-school education. November 12, 1850, he married Miss Nancy D., daughter of George and Mary Ann (Hayes) Shipley, and in April of the following year he and wife, with his father and family, emigrated to Johnson Township, La Grange County, Ind., where they had purchased land the year previous, of which twenty acres were partially cleared, and had a rude log cabin on it. Mr. McKibben moved his family into the cabin, and then commenced reclaiming his property from a forest state. He was a hard working man, and died February 10, 1878. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a respected resident. He left a farm of 340 acres of Johnson Township's best land, on which his widow yet lives, aged fifty-one. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. McKibben are James S.; George R.; William B.; Frank A., deceased; Thomas, deceased; Sarah M., deceased; Harvey, deceased; Adeli, deceased; Mary B. and Anna. George R. married Lottie E. Vesey, and resides on a part of the old place. William B. married Miss C. B. Putney, and lives in Johnson Township. James McKibben was born in Johnson Township March 29, 1852. He was married May 2, 1876, to Lissa A. Van Kirk, who was born in Bloomfield Township April 3, 1856. They have two children—Orley Ray and Ledger Dey.

JACOB MILLS was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., March 19, 1822. He was one of nine children born to Jacob and Catharine (Cornwell) Mills, the father being of English and Scotch and the mother of Welsh and Germanic descent. Jacob Mills, Sr., was three times married; his second wife being Margaret Passage, and his last wife, who is yet living, being Samantha Sprague. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, was a farmer, and died in the year 1849. Jacob Mills, subject of this sketch, lived on a farm until fifteen years old, when he began learning the carpenter's trade. Having relatives who had come to La Grange County in 1844, he emigrated to the same place in 1846, and located on the site of his present home. His family, at that time, consisted of his wife, Jane E. Somers, to whom he was married February 2, 1843, and one child. He purchased 80 acres of land, then entirely devoid of clearing, and built a log cabin, and then began to build up the home and property he now owns. Mr. Mills has been a very hard-working man, and with his wife's help has risen to a position of comfort in old age. They own 200 acres of good land, and are the parents of five children—Charles H., James W., Mary J., one that died in infancy, and Ida A. Charles and Ida are married, and reside in La Grange County. Mary is dead, James W. is single, and is a traveling salesman, with headquarters in Chicago. Mr. Mills was a Democrat up to James Buchanan's administration, but since then has been a Republican. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace four years in Johnson Township.

C. R. MOON, a prominent merchant of Wolcottville, was born June 28, 1836, one of eight children of Salma and Caroline (Morton) Moon, who were natives of the State of New York. The father was a carriage-maker, and moved with his family to Wayne County, Mich., where he is yet living on the land he entered. His wife died in 1863. Charles R. Moon lived on a farm, until sixteen years old, in Wayne County. In 1852, he began working for himself at the carpenter's trade in Kalamazoo and Coldwater. In 1857, he

came to La Grange, where he worked at his trade a number of months. He then went to Ypsilanti, Mich., where he took a thorough course in music under Profs. Foote, Pixly and Pease, during which time he taught school to pay his expenses. At the end of three years, he graduated and returned to La Grange and engaged in selling organs, teaching music and holding musical conventions. Owing to throat troubles, he has not made it a permanent business, but to some extent has followed it. In 1861, he entered into a partnership at La Grange in the manufacture of carriages, but discontinued that the spring of 1862, when he came to Wolcottville, where he had charge of a branch carriage-shop until he disposed of it. For three years he then traveled in the interests of C. R. Moon & Co., but his family still lived at Wolcottville. In 1877, he returned to Wolcottville, and established a trade in the furniture business. He was married in 1861, to Margaret J. McClaskey, and they are parents of three children—R. Ellsworth, C. Alton and Mabel K. Mr. Moon is a Republican, and has held the township office of Justice of Peace. He has had charge three years, and ably edits the Wolcottville department in the *La Grange Standard*. Mr. Moon has been Sunday school Superintendent of M. E. Church, at La Grange and Wolcottville, for twenty years, and he and wife are adherents of that church. Mr. Moon is the author of some celebrated music, among which are "Leave me and Save the Glorious Flag," "Somebody's Darling is Slumbering Here," etc.; the latter piece being known all over the United States as a fine production. Beside the above, Mr. Moon liberally contributed to the *Musical Review*, of Detroit, and other musical periodicals.

**JEREMIAH OUTCALT**, farmer. The Outcalts are of Germanic descent, and came to America three generations prior to the birth of the subject of this biography. Jeremiah Outcalt was reared as a farmer, receiving but a meager education, and residing with his parents until the age of thirty years. He first visited La Grange County in 1839, where, at that date, his brother moved, and, admiring the country, he, in 1846, came with his family to Ontario, where he remained, working at coopering during the succeeding winter. His land in Johnson Township had been purchased previously, and upon this he moved in the spring of 1847. Here he and his family have since lived. From hard labor and good management, the undrained and unhealthful land has been converted into good farming land. One hundred and ninety-seven acres of well-cultivated land, with substantial and comfortable buildings, are among the rewards of this patient labor. Mr. Outcalt was born in Portage County, Ohio, October, 1812, his parents being Schobey and Clara (Sabins) Outcalt, to whom were born ten children. The father had served as a teamster in the war of 1812, and was throughout life a respected citizen. Both parents died in Illinois, whither they had moved in 1848. Jeremiah Outcalt's marriage with Elizabeth Ingraham was solemnized in 1840. To them have been born four children—Charles (deceased) and Adelaide, twins; Maryette and Hortense, the latter also deceased. Mrs. Outcalt's maiden name was Irwin. She married Lewis Ingraham, by whom she had two children—Elizabeth and Sarah J.—both dead. Maryette Outcalt and Nathan Wiggins were married in April, 1869. Mr. Wiggins was accidentally killed in March, 1875. Mr. Outcalt is an enterprising and respected citizen, and has been a good Republican since the organization of the party.

**WALTER H. RODGERS** Wolcottville, is a member of the firm of Moon & Rodgers, who do a general business of wagon and carriage manufacturing and repairing. The junior member of this firm, Walter H. Rodgers,

was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., December 27, 1848, and is one of a family of four children. Three only of these are living, one giving his life in defense of his country in the late war. His parents were Edgar and Lydia A. (Remick) Rodgers. Mr. Rodgers was a jeweler at Brooklyn, N. Y. He died in 1861, but his widow and two children are yet residents of Brooklyn. Walter H. Rodgers lived in that city until fourteen years of age, when he came to Indiana, and worked on a farm near Lima until 1865, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment, Company F, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. After a visit East, he returned to Lima, and learned the blacksmith trade, and then went to La Grange, where for about six years he was employed by Moon & Co. He then took charge of that firm's shops at Wolcottville, but shortly afterward engaged in business in Cleveland, Ohio, Waterloo, and then back to Wolcottville, where he has since resided. In September, 1877, he formed a partnership with S. D. Moon, of La Grange, in the manufacture and repair of wagons and carriages at Wolcottville, Mr. Rodgers having charge of the entire business. They commenced on a small basis, but by honesty and industry have increased their efforts, until they now do a comfortable business of from \$8,000 to \$10,000 per annum. Mr. Rodgers was married in the spring of 1868 to Amelia Moon, of La Grange, and they have two children—Guy and Earl. Mr. Rodgers is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is a Republican. Mrs. Rodgers is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

A. J. ROYER is a son of Jacob and Mary (Mitchell) Royer, and was born in Beaver Township, Union Co., Penn., February 5, 1824. With his parents, he moved to Stark County, Ohio, in 1825, and was there reared on a farm to manhood. His father was a farmer. Mrs. Royer died in about 1865, and Mr. Royer in 1878. At the age of nineteen, A. J. Royer commenced learning the carpenter's trade. December 3, 1849, he was married to Miss Martha Stall, and to them were born three children—only one son, Norman H., yet living. This son married Josie Cospser, and resides in Johnston Township. After his marriage, Mr. Royer continued at his trade in Seneca County, Ohio, where he and his wife had moved, but after two years, returned to their former home. The summer of 1852, Mr. Royer came West. Not having sufficient means to purchase the location he desired, he returned to Ohio; but again returned to this township in 1853, and purchased 60 acres of his present farm. The fall of 1854, he moved his family out to the then new county, and immediately began clearing his farm and working at his trade. His wife, unable to withstand the hardships, died February 22, 1856. Mr. Royer's second and present wife is Catharine (Wert) Royer, to whom he was married January 29, 1857. Mrs. Royer was born in Vernon Township, Crawford Co., Ohio, May 5, 1834, and is a daughter of William and Jane (Patten) Wert. To Mr. and Mrs. Royer were born ten children—Albert J., deceased, Mary M., Charles S., William A., one that died in infancy without a name, Ida M., Eliza J., Laura B., Ira B., deceased, and Luella. Mr. Royer came to La Grange County a poor man, but by economy and industry has acquired 165 acres of good land. He is a Republican, and he and wife are leading members of the Evangelical Church.

A. A. SNYDER, merchant, the present Postmaster of Wolcottville, was born in Adams County, Penn., January 6, 1825. He is one of ten children, who through their parents, John and Mary (Kuhnes) Snyder, were descended from an old and honored German family that came to America



many generations back. John Snyder was a carpenter by trade, but through life was employed much at cabinet-making, etc. In 1835, he and family moved into Wayne County, Ohio, where Mr. Snyder worked at farming in connection with his trade. Mrs. Snyder died in Ashland County, Ohio, in 1845, and the fall of 1847, the father with the rest of the family, removed to Wolcottville, Ind., where he had friends. Early in life, Mr. Snyder was in good circumstances, financially, but through the unfaithfulness of seeming friends, he was reduced to straitened circumstances. On his arrival, he began working at his trade. In 1851, he removed to La Grange, where he died in 1868. He was an honest, unassuming man, respected by all who knew him. A. A. Snyder received but the common education. When twenty years old, commenced learning the shoemaker's trade in Ohio. After coming to Indiana, he worked at this business in Northport over a year, after which he entered partnership at Wolcottville in the manufacture of boots and shoes. The partnership continued two years, and then Mr. Snyder continued it alone, making in all about twenty years at that business in Wolcottville. He was commissioned Postmaster in 1861, by a Republican administration, and with exception of three months, during Johnson's administration, has retained that position. In 1868, he opened a grocery store, which has since been continued with the addition of drugs. Mr. Snyder is doing a good business. He married Phebe A. Littlefield March 8, 1849, and they are the parents of four children—John A., deceased; Mary S., wife of J. C. Scheffler; Susan E., deceased, and Albert E. Mrs. Snyder was born in Canada, May 17, 1828. Mr. Snyder is a leading Republican, and a respected citizen.

THOMAS G. STARKEY, retired, was born in Mifflin (since Juniata) County, Penn., January 22, 1819, the youngest of nine children, born to Benjamin and Sarah (Frantz) Starkey. His father was a blacksmith by trade, at which he worked after his removal to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1836. Thomas G. Starkey received an ordinary education. On the 5th of December, 1840, he married Miss Sarah, daughter of William and Susan (Raum) Holsinger and sister of John Holsinger. Mr. Starkey farmed in Ohio until January, 1843, when he came West and looked up a place for a home. He returned to his family in Ohio, where he farmed until he removed here in 1847. He settled on a part of the farm now owned by the heirs of Joseph Eshelman, in Johnson Township, where he remained, clearing and farming, until 1859, when he traded for property in Milford Township. He farmed here until his removal to Wolcottville, in March, 1880, where he has since been living retired. He is a Democrat, and in Johnson and Milford Townships has held the position of Justice of the Peace twenty-five years. During this time, he has solemnized over one hundred marriages. He and wife are parents of fourteen children—William, Jennie, Sue, Benjamin, Dell, Daniel, Addie, Ida F., Ada, Lettie, Bessie, Alice, Rhoda and Johnny. All are living, except the eldest, who enlisted in his country's cause in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but was afterward transferred to the Fourth Indiana Cavalry. He was wounded while on a scouting expedition, from the effects of which he afterward died. Mrs. Starkey was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 25, 1822. Mr. Starkey is one of the substantial men of Wolcottville and owns two farms in Milford Township, one of 105 acres and the other of 108 acres.

JOSEPH TAYLOR was born in Morton, Lincolnshire, England, March 2, 1822, a son of Stephen and Maria (Franks) Taylor, who emigrated to America, with a family of nine children, in May, 1848. They shipped on board the "For-



est King" and, after a voyage of over six weeks, arrived in New York. Having, as they supposed, relatives living in Lima, La Grange Co., they concluded, with the aid of friends, to make that their home. While on their way, on Lake Erie, they ascertained that their friends were either dead or gone to Oregon; but, not having the means to go farther, they settled near Lima in July, 1848. The father of our subject, being a blacksmith, followed that occupation and brewing beer until his death, which occurred in July, 1863. His wife died the next September. Joseph Taylor, at the age of sixteen, was a good blacksmith, and that has been his occupation, to a greater or less extent, through life. He was married, in November, 1850, to Prudence Field, born in Thurlby, Lincolnshire, Eng., March 26, 1824. This lady is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Barber) Field and came to America the same year of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have never had any children born to them, but have raised one boy—Thomas J. Field—from the time he was two and a half years old. Mr. Taylor came to Wright's Corners from Lima, in May, 1849, and commenced blacksmithing in a rented shop. He and wife have been industrious and, by hard labor, have made what they now own. They have over 138 acres of good land and other valuable property. Both were brought up in the Episcopal faith, but since coming to America have never joined any religious society. Mr. Taylor is a Republican and he and wife are most respected citizens.

PHILO TAYLOR was born in Connecticut in 1796. His wife, Orabell (Harmon) Kent, a widow lady with one daughter, was born in Vermont in 1795. They were married November 22, 1818, in Lawrence County, Ohio. The father of Philo Taylor was a native of England, and came to the United States about the time of the Revolutionary war. Philo Taylor was a carpenter by trade, and when a young man went to Lawrence County, Ohio, where for six years he was engaged as a millwright. He then moved to Portage County, and resided there ten years. He next emigrated to Indiana, locating as Wolcottville, on the La Grange County side, where he purchased 320 acres of land, which he improved. He was one of the early settlers, and one of the most influential in building up the town. He received many positions of honor, among them that of County Commissioner, to which he was elected several times, and at one time was a candidate for Associate Judge. He was a Whig, and afterward a Republican. He was also a member of the Baptist Church. He died February 16, 1876, and his wife June 13, 1856. They were the parents of six children—Sylvester, V. R., O. B., Louisa M., William S. and Henry L. Sylvester and William are dead; Louisa M., is the wife of L. L. Wildman, whose biography appears in this work. The family of Taylors are of a sterling type, and have made their mark wherever duty has called them. Hon. V. R. Taylor resides in Wolcottville, on the Noble County side, while his two brothers reside in Wolcottville, just across the line in La Grange County.

HON. V. R. TAYLOR was born November 28, 1821, in Lawrence County, Ohio. He was reared a farmer, and came with his parents to Wolcottville in 1837. He received a good education, which was finished at the La Grange Collegiate Institute at Ontario. For a period of six years he taught in the public schools of La Grange and Noble Counties, and November 28, 1850, he married Miss Ann Rowe, who bore the following children: Philo J., William L. and George H. The mother's death occurred May 10, 1873, and January 28, 1875, he married Elizabeth A. Betts, his present wife. Mr. Taylor is an

active worker in the interests of the Republican party, by which he was elected to the State Legislature in the fall of 1880. Although young in legislative affairs, he has shown a degree of judgment in his work at Indianapolis that ranks him among the leading men of the House. He is a farmer, owns 100 acres of land, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HON. O. B. TAYLOR was born in Portage County, Ohio, June 10, 1827. When his parents emigrated to Indiana he was ten years old, and after coming to the State he received the greater part of his education, finishing at the same place as did his elder brother. At the age of seventeen, he commenced his career as a district school pedagogue, but continued it only for three years, when he entered George Wolcott's store in Wolcottville. He continued with Mr. Wolcott until the spring of 1852, when he commenced business at South Milford, under the firm name of O. B. Taylor & Co. On the 27th of January, 1859, he married Catharine J. Henry, daughter of Hon. Francis Henry (deceased), of La Grange County, and the next October moved to Wolcottville, where he engaged, under the firm name of Wildman & Taylor, in a like trade to that at South Milford. In 1867, the partnership changed to O. B. & H. L. Taylor, which continued some years. The senior partner then sold out to O. L. Woodruff, but after a time purchased H. L. Taylor's interest, the firm name continuing as O. L. Woodruff & Co. Mr. Taylor was elected to the Lower House of the State Legislature by the Republican party in 1878, and was re-elected with an increased majority. He was a hard-working member, and was instrumental in the adoption of the Ditch or Drainage Law. He was chairman of important committees, and served with distinction and satisfaction to his constituents. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and parents of three children—Frank P., Marshall N. (deceased) and Albert H. They also have an adopted daughter—Lana B. Besides valuable town property, Mr. Taylor owns 270 acres of good land near Wolcottville.

HENRY L. TAYLOR was born in Portage County, Ohio, December 1, 1835. He received a common-school education, and at the age of twenty-one began life's battle on his own responsibility. Up to 1869, he engaged in farming; and then, in partnership with O. L. Woodruff, entered into mercantile pursuits at Wolcottville, continuing for six years. He then sold his interest to O. B. Taylor, and since, has been engaged in buying and shipping grain. He also has a farm of 400 acres. He was married April 19, 1860, to Jane Nicholson, who died September 7, 1861. His present wife is Eliza J. Stevenson, daughter of Martin L. and Laura A. (Tozer) Stevenson, born April 3, 1843. They are parents of three children—Charles H., Archie S. and Ruth. Mr. Taylor is a Republican, and at one time was the nominee of that party for office of County Commissioner. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

JAMES TUCK, of the firm of Dickenson & Tuck, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, December 20, 1842, and is one of three children whose names are James, John and Elizabeth; the last named is single and is a landscape and portrait painter, of Chicago. John served his country in the late war and died from gunshot wounds at the hospital in Mobile, Ala. James Tuck was but two years old when his parents removed to La Grange County Ind. September 24, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and received his final discharge at Nashville, Tenn., on the 14th of September, 1865. For over two years he was in active service at the front,

and was a participant in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, etc. He was commissioned Commissary Sergeant, May 1, 1861, a position he held until the close of the war. Succeeding his discharge he came home and commenced clerking in a dry goods store at La Grange, at which he continued until 1867, when he came to Wolcottville, and, in partnership with L. B. Dickenson, engaged in the drug trade, meeting with good success; they have since added groceries and are doing a lively business. Mr. Tuck has been twice married; first to Mary J. Law, who died shortly after their marriage, and in 1868 to his present wife, Miss Nancy T. Nichols, daughter of Nelson and Keziah Nichols. His last wife has borne him two daughters—Mary and Grace. Mr. Tuck is a Freemason, a Republican, and he and wife are members of the Baptist Church. He is a son of Shuble and Mary (McGrew) Tuck, who were natives of New York. Shuble Tuck was a farmer, and from his native State moved to Sandusky County, Ohio, where he afterward married. He emigrated with his family to La Grange County, Ind., in 1844, and purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Tuck died in 1857 and Mr. Tuck in 1859. They were early settlers of the county and endured many hardships of pioneer life.

C. W. VAUGHAN, deceased, was born in Vermont May 16, 1821, son of William and Elizabeth (Weller) Vaughan. He was given a good practical education. At the age of eighteen, he went to Troy, N. Y., where he engaged in the molding business, thence to Akron, Ohio, where he was bookkeeper in a woolen factory. In about 1844, he came to Northport, Noble Co., and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He married Melinda M. Wright on the 22d of October, 1847, a daughter of Levi Wright. From Northport, Mr. Vaughan came to Wright's Corners, in 1846, and entered partnership with L. L. Wildman, in a general store; from this point he moved to Ontario, and from there to Fulton, Ill. In 1867, he removed to Chicago, where he engaged in live stock trade a number of years. He died November 14, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan were parents of three children—Ida, Gertrude and Lillie; only one is now living. Ida married Robert Dykes and bore him one daughter, Grace M.; the mother is now dead. Gertrude married Herbert Vaughan, and they were the parents of one child that died in infancy; the mother is also dead. The family home has been in Chicago for a number of years, but the widow and daughter own 526 acres of land in La Grange County, Ind., where they at present reside. They are accomplished people and are in the best circles of society.

MICHAEL WESTLER, lumber dealer. The Westler family came from Maryland to Ohio at an early day, where the subject of this sketch was born, in Green Township, Summit County, July 30, 1827. John and Elizabeth (Blatner) Westler were his parents, and their occupation was farming. Michael Westler lived with his parents on the farm until fourteen years old, when his father died. From that time until 1847, he worked at farming, went to school, and in the fall of that year commenced the study of dentistry. In October, 1848, he went West and bought a farm of 104 acres, on Section 29, Johnson Township, La Grange County, paying for it \$2.50 per acre. He boarded at a neighbor's and began improving his place. He was often called upon to work at dentistry. When he first bought the land there was no clearing on it. After building him a log cabin, he, on the 5th of April, 1853, married Sarah Ann Stroman, and to them were born—Francis M., Ida M., Charles J., deceased, Elmer E. and Etta R. R. Mr. Westler has been married three times. By

his second wife there was born one son—William M., who died when about seven months old. He married his present wife (Naomi Wilcox) November 3, 1875. She bore him one daughter—Ottley E. In February, 1865, Mr. Westler enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged August 31, 1865. In about 1869, he sold a part of his farm, moved to Wolcottville, and engaged in milling. For a time he had an interest in a saw-mill, but at present is engaged in the lumber trade and the agricultural implement business. He is a Republican, and has held various township offices. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Wolcottville, and of the La Grange Encampment. He has represented the lodge at the Grand Lodge, and has held all the offices of both lodges, except that of Secretary. Mr. Westler is an honest gentleman in every respect. During the war he was a decided loyalist, and during the trouble with black-legs from 1856 to 1858, he was one of the first to become identified with the Regulators.

L. L. WILDMAN, son of Levi and Sally (Stowe) Wildman, was born January 25, 1821, in Litchfield County, Conn., and is of Scotch descent. Levi Wildman was a cooper by trade, but farmed to a considerable extent. The subject lived in his native State until thirteen years of age, when he came with his parents to Ohio. The father left the family here in 1837, and went to Indiana, with a view of finding a suitable location. He purchased 80 acres of land a mile north of Wolcottville, and that winter worked for George Wolcott. In the spring of 1838, he went to Ohio, and the next fall returned, bringing his family. Building a small log cabin on his place, he moved his family into it and began to improve his property. Mr. Wildman lived here a number of years, undergoing the trials of pioneer life, and, at an advanced age, died on the 20th of July, 1865. His widow died January 25, 1870. L. L. Wildman's education was finished at the La Grange Collegiate Institute, at Ontario. He taught school a number of terms, and, in 1846, entered into partnership with C. W. Vaughan, in mercantile business at Wright's Corners. Since that time Mr. Wildman has been identified in a number of business enterprises at Kendallville, Rome City, South Milford, Wright's Corners and Wolcottville. He at present is engaged in the banking business at the latter place. He had been a director of the First National Bank of La Grange, but resigned. He is still a stockholder of that bank, and owns about 350 acres of land in La Grange and Noble Counties, and 160 acres in Kansas. He is a Republican, formerly a Whig. He was elected to the State Legislature from La Grange County in about 1858, carrying almost every vote in Johnson Township. He was married, December 31, 1851, to Louisa M. Taylor, daughter of Philo Taylor, and they have had four children—Angeline G., born April 26, 1853; Eva, born December 29, 1854, died November 18, 1863; William W., born December 31, 1856, died June 30, 1880, and Herbert, born April 5, 1860. The first-named is the wife of F. Eugene Dickinson, and the last, Herbert, married — Parks, and is a successful merchant of Wolcottville. Mrs. Wildman was born June 13, 1829, and both Mr. and Mrs. Wildman are members of the Baptist Church.

CHARLES WILSON was born in Livingston County, N. Y., April 10, 1827. His parents were John and Mary A. (Roberts) Wilson, who had a family of twelve children. The father was a farmer and of Scottish descent, and he and wife died in the State of New York. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Charles Wilson resided on a farm



until fourteen years of age, and received a common-school education. In 1841, he commenced learning the blacksmith trade, which was his main employment for a number of years. He came, with his employer, to Indiana in 1843, locating at Wright's Corners, where Mr. Wilson worked at his trade about a year; he then returned to his native State and engaged in the same business about two years, after which he returned to Wright's Corners and again engaged in blacksmithing, continuing up to 1848, when he commenced farming. In October, 1854, he purchased his present farm of fifty-one acres, which has since been his residence, excepting a time during the war. He enlisted October 17, 1861, in Company H, Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged in October, 1864. He was an active participant in the battles of Forts Donelson and Henry, and of Corinth; after the last-named engagement Mr. Wilson was on detailed duty, and for eighteen months led the supply train. He was married to Margaret Coberly, in 1850, and they have an adopted daughter—Adel. Mr. Wilson is one of Johnson Township's best citizens, and a Democrat. Mrs. Wilson was born October 10, 1827, in Randolph County, Va.; she came with her parents to Crawford County, Ohio, where her mother died; her father returned to Virginia, where he died. After her mother's death she was bound out to a family, and with them came to Indiana when fourteen years old; she lived with this family, working very hard. Commencing at fifteen, she worked out by the week until her marriage with Mr. Wilson. They commenced poor, but by hard labor have acquired a good home.

GEORGE WOLCOTT, deceased, was born in Torrington, Conn., July 26, 1806, and was one of a family of twelve children. When sixteen years old he removed with his parents, Guy and Abigail (Allyn) Wolcott, to Summit County, Ohio. His father dying in August of that year, he had charge of the home farm until 1828, when he went to Wadsworth and engaged in farming until 1832. August 6, 1828, he married Miss Margaret Hine, of Tallmadge, Ohio, and for a time was engaged in saw-milling and the manufacture of fanning-mills at Wadsworth. In 1836, he sold his possessions here, and in March, 1837, he located on the southern line of Johnson Township, where he built a log house, and the following September moved his family, and then commenced reclaiming the then unbroken forest. One of the first industries started by Mr. Wolcott was a mill fed by a race half a mile long, which he dug himself. By his excellent management, it was not long before a little settlement sprang up around him, which took the name of Wolcottville, in his honor, now a thriving village of 500 inhabitants. He built mills, shops, stores, houses, etc. He erected the Wolcottville Seminary, hired teachers, and through his endeavors made Wolcottville what it now is. He was peculiar in disposition, but was a friend to the poor and needy, and at an early day did much to relieve those suffering from fever and ague, then so prevalent. In politics he was a Whig, but afterward a Republican. He died March 31, 1857, but his widow is yet living, at the advanced age of seventy-eight, in Wolcottville. They were the parents of six children—Ann L., Abby A., Rowena R., Almira J. (deceased), Elton R., Marshall F. and Amelia M. (deceased). Mrs. Wolcott is living a retired life on her property near the village; she owns seventy-four acres of good land and is one of the highly esteemed old settlers of Johnson Township.

O. L. WOODRUFF, merchant, Wolcottville, of the firm of O. L. Woodruff & Co., is a son of Charles and Jane (Landon) Woodruff, natives respectively

of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Charles Woodruff in early life learned the tailor's trade, but when he arrived at maturity abandoned that business, and studied the Eclectic system of medicine, and that has been his chief employment since. After a successful practice in Ohio a number of years, he came to Huntington County, Ind., in 1845; but after a residence there of six months, returned to Ohio, and again, in 1852, emigrated to Indiana, locating in Albion, Noble Co. He purchased the Samuel Woodruff farm north of town, but soon afterward traded it for the Worden House. During the excitement regarding the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad at Albion, he subscribed almost his total possessions to the enterprise, and it ruined him financially. In 1869, he went to Ligonier, and engaged in the drug trade, and the practice of his profession. The spring of 1880, he purchased a farm near Ligonier, of our subject, and has since been engaged in farming. O. L. Woodruff, was born in Sunbury, Delaware Co., Ohio, in 1839, and is one of six children. He lived with his parents up to the time of his father's failure, and since the age of fourteen has been doing for himself. At eighteen he had saved sufficient money to attend school one year at a Fort Wayne college. After this he attended the Wolcottville Seminary over a year, paying the expenses by teaching. Owing to ill-health, he left school, and in the spring of 1861 went to Albion, and there enlisted in the Nineteenth Indiana Infantry, but was rejected on account of poor health. He then clerked in a drug store at Albion, and from there went to Kendallville to clerk. By economy, he had saved a sufficient amount to enter into a partnership at Wolcottville in 1869 in a general store, and has continued that trade at this place. His present partner is Hon. O. B. Taylor. The firm name is O. L. Woodruff & Co., and they do an average annual business of \$20,000. Mr. Woodruff was married in 1867 to Lydia Garrison, and they have one adopted daughter. Mr. Woodruff is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the M. E. Church.

J. W. YOUNGKINS, M. D., born in Lancaster Co., Penn., 1834; is the youngest of eight children, of whom Abraham and Sarah J. (Montgomery) Youngkins were the parents. Dr. Youngkins, at the age of fourteen, came with his parents to Richland Co., Ohio, where the parents died. He received only a common education in Ohio, and in 1855 began the study of medicine, graduating from the Medical College at Columbus in 1856. From that time until the breaking-out of the war, he practiced in Hancock County, Ohio, and in May, 1861, enlisted in the Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and received his commission as Surgeon. After serving out his time—three months—he re-enlisted with his regiment, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. For two years he was on detailed duty at Winchester, from where he received his discharge in December 1864. After the war he resumed the practice of his profession in Mansfield, Ohio. From there he removed to Butler, De Kalb Co., Ind., and from there to Wolcottville, in 1876, where he has since resided. Dr. Youngkins has a large and lucrative practice, and is a man of extended information, having traveled across the plains of America in 1851, Mexico and Central America in 1852, and Texas in 1872. He has been twice married. First, to Mary Ann Hall, who bore him one daughter—May; and his present wife is Eliza Bingham. Dr. Youngkins is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F. of Wolcottville.

**VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP.**

**WILLIAM BELLAIRS** was born in England July 31, 1820. In 1845, he came to America and located in White Pigeon, Mich., where he remained until after he was married, December 19, 1852. He then came to this county and settled on a farm he had previously purchased. After living here for a period of five years, he returned to St. Joseph County, Mich. In 1863, he again returned to this county, having exchanged his farm in Michigan for the one that he now occupies, in this township. He owns 300 acres of good land, well improved. Mrs. Bellairs, formerly Ruth Julin, was born in Ohio, October 8, 1831. They are members of the Methodist Church and have a family of eight children—Olive, Ann, George, Henry, Caroline, Josephine, Levi and Mary. Mr. Bellairs is an enterprising citizen and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having attained the third degree in that order.

**ELMER BELOTE** is the son of John and Fanny Belote; was born in Monroe County, N. Y., August 10, 1814. His father was a native of Connecticut, born May 2, 1789, and his mother's birth occurred in Rhode Island January 1, 1796. They were married in New York State, February 14, 1813, and, in 1835, emigrated to La Grange County and located in this township on Section 29, where the remainder of their lives was passed. He died August 22, 1850, and her death occurred October 26, 1871. They were parents of eleven children, viz.: Elmer, James S., Joseph M., John B., William M., Jefferson A., Naomi E., David E., Andrew I., Amos and an infant. Elmer Belote came to this county with his parents and lives on the farm where they first located. He and brother John own the old homestead of 200 acres and they are both single. Their brother William, who is married, lives with them. The subject is a good citizen and has the confidence of all. He has served creditably as Township Trustee for a number of years.

**CHRISTIAN BERGER** is the son of George and Eve Berger, who were born, married and died in Germany. The former's birth occurred in 1799 and the latter's in 1809, their marriage in 1829 and their deaths in 1871 and 1848 respectively. They were parents of ten children, viz.: Jacob, George, Eve, Magdalena, Katie, John, Harriet, Jane, David and Christian. The latter, our subject, was born May 14, 1831, and remained in Germany until October, 1852, when he came to America, going to Erie County, Penn., where he was married, November 10, 1852, to Miss Mary Pfeiffer, also a native of Germany, born September 3, 1829. In 1860, they removed from Pennsylvania and have since resided in La Grange County. In 1869, Mr. Berger bought his property in this township, Section 21, that he has since farmed and improved. He owns 203 acres of land and has a family of seven children—Levi B., born January 21, 1856; Abner A., October 31, 1859; Charlie F., September 16, 1861; Joseph L., February 18, 1865; Emma M., March 31, 1867; John H., May 14, 1869; and Edward C., May 14, 1871. Mr. Berger is an enterprising resident. Himself and wife are members of the Evangelical Church.

**AMI BERRY**, son of Conrad and Lois Berry, is a native of this county and was born April 16, 1841, on the farm where he is now living. After his marriage, which was consummated March 4, 1868, he settled on the old home-

stead farm in this township. Mrs. Berry is a native of Germany, where her birth occurred July 19, 1844. Her maiden name was Mary Bardon and she was one of ten children in the family of Michael and Catharine Bardon, who were also born in Germany, the former January 6, 1810, and the latter April 27, 1812. The subject's parents were natives of Ohio. His father was born June 15, 1813, and his mother September 28, 1814. Mr. and Mrs. Berry are members of the Baptist Church and are very worthy people. They own 140 acres of good land. Mary A., their only child, was born December 10, 1868, and died December 5, 1871.

DANIEL BOYER is the son of Daniel and Mary Boyer, of York County, Penn., where they were born, married and died. They had a family of ten children. Daniel, the eldest, was born in York County, Penn., September 17, 1821, and remained there until 1856, when he located on Section 21, of this township. He was first married in his native county, in 1843, to Miss Sarah Sleeper, of the same nativity as himself, born in 1822. She died November 9, 1848. They had two children—Emanuel, born May 27, 1844, and Mary E., December 31, 1845. The latter died June 28, 1881. Mr. Boyer's second marriage occurred April 29, 1849, to Mrs. Catharine Sleeper, the daughter of Michael and Mary Boeckel, natives of Germany. She was born in York County, Penn., February 10, 1820. They have two children—Jemima and Franklin S., the former born January 18, 1851, and the latter May 24, 1854. The subject and his wife are members of the Evangelical Church and citizens that are well respected. Mr. Boyer owns 183 acres of land. His father was born in 1800 and his mother in 1802. They were married in 1819. The former died in 1864 and the latter in 1881.

STEPHEN BROWN is living on the old homestead farm, situated in this township, and composed of 176 acres of land. He is the third child in a family of seven, born to Isaac and Catherine Brown, and is a native of the Hoosier State, born in 1840, on the 16th of June. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married, subsequently removing to this State, where Isaac Brown died in 1848, and his widow married John Wenzer in December, 1860. He died April 8, 1878, and she died March 7, 1880. Stephen Brown was married in Elkhart County, Ind., March 17, 1861, to Mary Wenzer, a native of that county, born April 8, 1844, and the youngest of seven in the family of John and Mary Wenzer. August 18, 1864, Mr. Brown enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, serving throughout the entire war. Previous to purchasing the old homestead farm, Mr. Brown was located in Section 8, in this township, where he moved about one year after his marriage. Four children have blessed their union—Samuel I., a native of Elkhart County, Ind., born February 10, 1862; John F., born in this county January 7, 1864; Jonas A., born May 26, 1868, and Alvie M., whose birth occurred August 11, 1870.

AMI CALAHAN is the son of Nathaniel and Anna Calahan. The former was born in Delaware July 20, 1788, and, when twelve years old, accompanied his parents to Washington County, Ohio, where he was afterward married. The latter was born in the State of New York, November 19, 1795, and moved to Ohio, when a child, with her parents. She married Nathaniel Calahan in 1810, and they emigrated to White Pigeon, Mich., in 1830, remained but a short time, then came to this county, settling on Section 17, this township, where he entered land in June, 1831. June 7, 1837, Mrs. Anna Calahan died and he was married in 1847, to Mrs. Esther Olney, and



removed to Section 19, where he died July 20, 1855, and she died in February, 1858. Mr. Calahan, Sr., had a family of fourteen children. Ami, was born in Washington County, Ohio, June 21, 1818, and came to this county with his parents. He was married June 18, 1843, to Lucinda Selby, a native of Ohio, born March 25, 1817, and the daughter of Charles W. and Elizabeth Selby. Soon after this event, Mr. Calahan settled on his present farm, having purchased it in 1840. He now owns 477 acres of land. Mrs. Calahan died June 4, 1880, having borne her husband five children—Alfred M., Almon L., Ami N. (deceased), Charles R. and Edmon.

JOHN DALTON, son of Major and Anna Dalton, was born near Albany, N. Y., July 6, 1810. At the age of fifteen, he went to Geneva, Ontario Co., N. Y., remained about seven years, and was married there, June 11, 1831, to Catharine Cooper. She was born in Waterloo, same county, November 4, 1809. They subsequently resided in Rochester, N. Y., where Mr. Dalton followed painting about four years. In 1836, he bought land and engaged in farming in St. Joseph County, Mich. Here Mrs. Catharine Dalton died, July 21, 1838, after which Mr. Dalton visited in New York about six months, then returned to Michigan. December 11, 1839, he was married to Laura E. Fitch, who was born in Ohio, September 1, 1817. In April, 1841, they came to this county, and located in this township, where she died, August 18, 1842. Mr. Dalton married his present wife—Anna Hayner—December 20, 1843. She is a native of New York, born August 22, 1812. In 1867, he removed from Section 12, to Section 13, where he is yet living. Mr. Dalton started in life a poor boy, and his efforts have met with abundant success. He owns 1,227 acres of land, and is an esteemed and prominent citizen. He has held honorable positions in office a number of years, having served as Treasurer and Trustee, and he and wife are members of the M. E. Church, the subject having united with that denomination in 1834. Mr. Dalton, by his first wife, had three children, as follows: Charlotte E., born in New York, August 15, 1832, now Mrs. Bycroft; Mary J., also a native of New York, born May 2, 1836, now Mrs. Frost, and Cornelius A., born in Michigan, February 4, 1838. His present wife has borne him three daughters—Frances A., born January 27, 1847, now Mrs. Otland, is residing on the homestead farm; Katie A., born July 1, 1849, died June 11, 1873, and Lucelia, born March 23, 1853, now Mrs. Huff. Mr. Dalton has also reared an adopted child, Henry A., born October 1, 1845, and died May 14, 1868.

NATHANIEL DAVIDSON is a native of Lancaster County, Penn., where he was born June 17, 1831. His parents were natives of the same county; his father, Michael Davidson, was born March 1, 1794, and his mother, Rebecca Davidson, May 12, 1794. In 1840, they removed to Erie County, Penn., where Michael Davidson died in February, 1869, and she is yet living. Their family was composed of four children—Sarah, Catharine, Nathaniel and Michael. The subject went to Erie County, Penn., with his parents, and remained nine years; he then went to Erie City to learn the shoemaker's trade. After serving an apprenticeship of three years he returned home, then again resumed his trade in Erie City, and was employed by various parties. In 1854, he came to Goshen, Ind., made a limited sojourn, and went back to Pennsylvania. In 1855, he went to Iowa, and after spending two years there returned again to his native State, and was married, October 8, 1857, to Mrs. Martha Gerst, who was born in Erie County, Penn., April 24, 1832. In 1861, they came to La Grange County, and located in this township. They

lived four years with his parents, then Mr. Davidson went to the village of Van Buren, where he was engaged in working at his trade about three years. The following nine years he was employed in working on the home farm, removing then to his present farm, of 198 acres, in Section 27. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson belong to the Methodist Church, and have had five children—Charlotte V., David P., William E., Sarah C., and Earl, deceased.

VOLNEY C. DIBBLE is the son of Andrew and Percy Dibble; the former was born in Connecticut, in 1777, and the latter in New York, in 1782. They were married in 1798, in the last-named State, where they spent the rest of their lives, and where their children, eleven in number, were born. Andrew Dibble died in 1875, and his wife in 1863. Volney C. Dibble's birth occurred January 8, 1807, in New York State, and he was married, December 31, 1829, to Fidelia Parker, who was born November 3, 1811, in New York, where they lived until 1843, then came to this county, and settled in Lima, where Mr. Dibble started a wagon-shop, and continued that business until 1859, when he sold out, went to Elkhart County, Ind., and one year subsequently returned to this county and bought a farm in Newbury Township. Afterward resided four years in De Kalb County, Ind., then settled on his present farm of 44 acres, in Section 23, this township. Mr. Dibble is one of the enterprising citizens, and has a family of three children—Hannah, Lauretta and Adelbert.

EMANUEL EAGLEY is a native of Pennsylvania, born on the 26th of May, 1853. He was accompanied to the West by his parents, John and Leah Eagley, and soon after he was married, settled on his present farm of 120 acres, that is located on Section 18 of this township. His wife, Mrs. Mary Eagley, was born at Sturgis, Mich., December 14, 1857. She is a member of the Evangelical Church, and her parents were Frederick and Christena Kielkopf. She was united in marriage to Emanuel Eagley on the 17th of January, 1876. To their union two children have been born—Frederick E. and Alta M.; the former's birth transpired May 5, 1877, and that of the latter November 29, 1879. Mr. Eagley spent his youth with his parents, receiving the average school advantages. His farm presents an improved appearance and he is one of the reliable men of this township.

JOHN EAGLY, JR., was born in Erie County, Penn., March 31, 1849, and came West with his parents, John and Leah Eagley, with whom he remained until reaching the age of twenty-one. December 12, 1869, he was united in marriage to Saloma Brown; she is a native of this State, her birth occurring on the 5th of September, 1848. He owns a farm of 101 acres, where he has lived ever since he was married, although he did not make a purchase of it until 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Eagly are members of the Evangelical Church. Three children have been born to them—Alinde E., December 13, 1872; Katie J., December 13, 1875, and Alverada B., whose birth occurred September 14, 1879. Mr. Eagly is a good farmer and is reckoned among the best citizens of his township.

L. E. FERGUSON, the youngest of four children, was born September 22, 1845, on the farm where he is residing, it formerly being the home of his parents. He attended the Ann Arbor University, in Michigan, four years, from which he graduated in 1870, then returned to the homestead farm which he managed two years, spending the following year in California; after returning, he spent one year in lake surveying and one year in traveling. In 1876, he bought the old homestead and resumed farming. He owns 290 acres of

good land with buildings to correspond. Mrs. Mary J. (Odle) Ferguson is a native of Michigan, where she was born the 30th of June, 1858. She was married to Mr. Ferguson September 18, 1878; they have two children—John A., born August 13, 1879, and Maud E., February 9, 1881. Mr. Ferguson is the son of George W. and Elizabeth Ferguson, who were married in Pennsylvania April 26, 1825; she was born in that State August 6, 1806, and he was born in New Hampshire January 27, 1799. They came to this county in 1836, and located where the subject is now living, then went to White Pigeon, Mich., returning to their farm after an absence of five years. In 1871, they again returned to White Pigeon, Mich., where they lived in retirement until their death; she died May 15, 1874, and he died April 15, 1876.

JAMES E. FISH is a native of this county, and the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Fish, who were born in the State of New York. The subject was born November 19, 1845, since which time he has been a resident of La Grange County. December 16, 1868, the event of his marriage occurred to Miss Olive S. Morehouse. About two years afterward they moved onto their farm of eighty acres in Section 28, of this township, where they dwell amid comfortable surroundings. In their family are two girls and one boy; Hattie, the eldest, was born in 1869, on the 29th of October; Norah's birth occurred January 16, 1874, and Charles O. was born October 8, 1876. Nathan and Harriet Morehouse were the parents of Mrs. Fish; they had a family of eight children; Olive S., the oldest, was born in New York, May 6, 1843. Mr. Fish, although comparatively a young man, is an experienced and practical farmer, and his property is well improved.

ALBERT GREGORY was born in New York June 6, 1841, and is the son of Goodsell and Marcia Gregory, who were natives of New York and the parents of five children. The former was born in 1806 and the latter in 1805. They were married, in 1836, in their native State, where they continued to reside until 1845, at which time they came to this county, locating at Ontario, and four years afterward removed to the farm in this township where Albert Gregory now lives and where Mrs. Marcia Gregory died March 11, 1861. Goodsell Gregory was married a second time December 15, 1861, to Mrs. R. A. Lewis. Subsequently they removed to White Pigeon, Mich., where he died November 31, 1868; after which she married again. At the age of twenty-two, Albert Gregory began work for himself, and in November, 1864, enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He was married to Elizabeth Driver, December 25, 1866. She was born in Perry County, Ohio, April 6, 1842. They have had five children—Marion B., Will B., Leroy D. (deceased), George E. and Jay D. Mr. Gregory bought the homestead farm soon after his marriage. It is composed of 100 acres of well-improved land.

AQUILA HINKLE, a native of Erie County, Penn., was born January 9, 1834. His parents, Andrew and Catharine Hinkle, were born in Pennsylvania, the former in August, 1794, and the latter in October of the same year. They were married in the same State in 1819, and came, in 1864, to Indiana. They located in this township on Section 18, but subsequently took up their residence with their son Aquila, and after living with him a few years, Andrew Hinkle purchased property in Lima, expecting to spend the rest of his life there, but his wife died March, 1874, and he returned again to the home of the subject, where he is yet living. In his family were nine children—William, Amos, Catharine, Henry, Elizabeth, John, Aquila and Priscilla (twins) and

Jacob. Aquila Hinkle came to this county with his parents. He was married in Crawford County, Penn., March 10, 1859, to Mary Boyer, a native of that State, born April 13, 1840, and the eldest of six children in the family of Abraham and Elizabeth Boyer. They also were natives of Pennsylvania, her father's birth occurring in April, 1812, and her mother's in October, 1815. The former died in June, 1854, and the latter still resides in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle remained in Erie County, Penn., a few years after their union, and then emigrated to this county. They lived with the subject's parents until 1872, when Mr. Hinkle purchased and removed to his farm of 120 acres in Section 29 of this township. They have an only child, Emma L., who was born in Erie County, Penn., February 23, 1860.

CHRISTIAN HOOFNAGLE is a native of Union County, Penn., where his birth occurred December 1, 1839. He subsequently accompanied his parents, John H. and Mary A. Hoofnagle, to Ohio, removing thence to La Grange County in 1865. The subject owns a farm of eighty acres in this township and provides a home for his parents and a sister. During the late war, he served on the field of battle until the close, enlisting, in August, 1862, in Company K, One Hundredth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Hoofnagle is unmarried. He is a thrifty and enterprising farmer, with flattering prospects for the future.

M. HOOFNAGLE was born in Snyder County, Penn., April 27, 1839, and in 1852 left his native State, in company with his parents, who located in Ohio, where the subject remained until the age of eighteen, then went to Illinois, where he resided four years. Returning to Ohio, he enlisted, November 11, 1861, in Company B, Seventy-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, served three years, and was discharged; then re-enlisted in same company, and remained until the war closed, September 11, 1865; he then came to this county and farmed two years, when he sold out to his brother. December 24, 1867, he was married to Miss Sarah B. Steininger, and located in St. Joseph County, Mich., where they resided until 1876, then returned to this county, where he has been engaged in managing his father-in-law's farm, in this township. Mrs. Hoofnagle is of the same nativity as her husband, and was born May 15, 1847. She is the daughter of Simon and Catharine Steininger, and the youngest of three children. The subject is one of ten children in the family of John H. and Mary Hoofnagle, of Pennsylvania. They belong to the Reformed Church, and have three sons—John S., a native of St. Joseph County, Mich., born February 26, 1872; Eugene B., born May 28, 1875, in same place, and Willard A., a native of this county, born July 16, 1880.

ISAAC G. MISNER is the son of Joseph and Sarah C. Misner, and next to the eldest of nine children. The first twenty-seven years of his life were spent in Canada, where he was born June 19, 1828. He then went to Elkhart County, Ind., and was married, at White Pigeon, Mich., December 17, 1855, to Miss Eliza Fleming. She was born on the farm where they now live, December 22, 1835, and is the only child of Tyler and Samantha Fleming. Her father was born in New Jersey April 23, 1811, and died September 7, 1839. Her mother was a native of New York State, born August 17, 1806, and died February 13, 1872. Soon after marrying, Mr. Misner settled on his farm of 150 acres, in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Misner have no family. They are fine people, and, besides their property here, own 120 acres of land in Kansas. Mr. Misner's parents were Canadians by birth, and were married in 1826, May 10. In April, 1856, they journeyed to this county,



where Joseph Misner died, December 30, 1859. He was born November 5, 1805. Mrs. Sarah Misner was seventy-six years old on the 15th of February, 1882, and is spending her last days with her children.

JOHN McDONALD is the son of Robert and Nancy McDonald, both of whom were born in Albany County, N. Y., the former June 12, 1799, and the latter January 27, 1805. They were married about 1821, in their native State, where they are yet residents. Robert McDonald represented the county of Schoharie, N. Y., in the State Legislature, and in his family were eleven children. John, the subject, was born May 14, 1831, in New York, where he was married, January 23, 1856, to Barbara Pitcher. She died, October 14, 1857, leaving one child. In 1858, Mr. McDonald went to St. Joseph County, Mich., and was there married to his present wife, September 18, 1861. She was Mary C. Purdy, a native of New York, where she was born November 22, 1836. They came to La Grange County in 1864, where he bought a farm, and settled, soon after removing to his present location. He owns 240 acres of excellent land, and has a family of four children—E. B., born in New York, October 14, 1857; N. Medie and N. Mettie (twins), born July 8, 1870, and Emily Dell, May 10, 1873.

PETER MOAK is the son of Jacob and Margaret Moak, natives of New York, the former born in 1778, and the latter in 1786. They were married in 1816, and remained in New York until they went to White Pigeon, Mich., from whence they came to this township, where their last days were passed. She died in 1842, and he in 1855. They were members of the Reformed Church, and parents of five children. Peter Moak was born in New York on the 3d of May, 1823, and came here with his parents in 1835, remaining with them until the age of twenty-five. February 10, 1847, he was united in marriage with Miss L. Satchel, native of New York, born July 20, 1827. He then bought the old homestead, where they lived two years, then exchanged for another farm; lived there seven years, then removed to his present location. May 20, 1877, the death of Mrs. Moak occurred, and January 15, 1879, Mr. Moak and Mrs. Eliza A. Crockett were united in matrimony. She is the daughter of John and Polly McDonald, and was born in New York in 1832, October 23. In the family of Mr. Moak there were four children—two living, Clara and Wallace, and two deceased, Ettie and Henry; the former died December 16, 1872, and the latter September 2, 1878. Mr. Moak is a man of enterprise, and owns a farm of 128 acres, that is well improved, with good buildings.

JAMES MOONEY is a native of Lancaster County, Penn.; born December 25, 1824, and is the son of James and Margaret Mooney; in 1827, he went with his parents to Erie County, Penn., where he was married November 4, 1847, to Juliann Fry, who was born on board vessel October 16, 1828, while her parents were en route to this county from Germany; after coming to this county they settled on the farm where they are yet residing; it is situated in Section 33, is well improved and comprises 240 acres of land; Mr. Mooney ranks among the best farmers and prominent citizens of his township. They have seven children—Frederick, born October 26, 1848; Jacob, September 8, 1850; Mary, January 14, 1853; Anna, August 10, 1856; Ellen, June 8, 1860; Agnes, September 4, 1861; these were all born in Erie County, Penn., and George D., the youngest was born in this county October 19, 1865. Mr. Mooney's parents were born in Lancaster County, Penn., his father September 20, 1795, and his mother February 21, 1790; they were

married in the same county in September, 1818, and remained there until they moved to Erie County, same State; in 1864, they emigrated to this county, lived in Lima Township one year, then returned to Pennsylvania, making a second trip to this county about two years subsequently, when they settled in this township, where Mr. Mooney died September 10, 1869; she is yet living, and resides at the home of the subject. Their family consisted of four children—Henry, James, Martha and Jacob.

R. L. NEWMAN was born in Philadelphia, Penn., December 12, 1820, and is the son of John D. and Ursula Newman. At the age of three years, he accompanied his parents to New York City, where he remained until he was eleven years old, when his mother died and he went to live with an uncle; he came with the family of the latter, about a year afterward, to this county; they settled in Lima Township on Section 20, and with them the subject remained until he was eighteen, when he commenced working out by the month, continued about two years, then went to Lima and began serving a three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, and followed the same for some time; February 5, 1843, he married Mary A. Parker, who was born in New York July 10, 1820; all his earthly possessions—an old horse—he exchanged for its value in furniture, and began housekeeping. Through energy and economy he has amassed a comfortable fortune, owning now 260 acres of land and good buildings. He is a citizen that is well respected; five children have been born to himself and wife—Rozane H., February 22, 1844; Frances E., August 2, 1847, died August 21, 1850; Delmar A., March 24, 1851; Orlinda C., August 16, 1854, and Charles R., June 23, 1864.

WILLIAM S. OLNEY is a native of this county, and was born September 16, 1834, on the farm where he is residing. His parents, John and Esther Olney, were early settlers of this county, locating on Section 19, Van Buren Township, in 1830. His father's birth occurred February 24, 1800, and his mother's March 13, 1802; they were married in Ohio August 14, 1823. John Olney died in 1841, June 9, and his widow was afterward married to Nathaniel Calahan March 23, 1847, and they died on the farm now owned by the subject, the former February 12, 1858, and the latter July 20, 1855. She had a family of seven children—John D., Truman M., Betsey A., Asa J., Henry, William S. and Martin V. After the death of his parents, the subject and one brother bought the old homestead. William S. purchased his brother's interest in the winter of 1881–82, and now owns 401 acres of excellent land. His marriage to Miss Delila J. Sidener occurred June 10, 1858; she was born in this county October 2, 1839, and is the eldest of eight children born to Nicholas and Margaret Sidener. Mr. and Mrs. Olney are members of the M. E. Church, and have had three children—Charles B., born June 30, 1859, died May 15, 1873; Eddie A., born September 17, 1862, now attending school at Sturgis, Mich., and an infant born October 27, 1873, and died November 28, 1873.

THOMAS PEATLING is a native of England, where his birth occurred September 7, 1828. His parents, William and Ann Peatling, were English people; the former was born February 7, 1798, and the latter June 20, 1802; their marriage occurred September 12, 1820. Mrs. Ann Peatling died May 30, 1842, and August 4, 1845, William Peatling was again married. In 1848, he emigrated to America, settling in Beaver County, Penn., where he is yet a resident; his second wife died September 1, 1873. Thomas Peatling crossed the ocean in 1850, and went to Beaver County, Penn., where he was married

March 28, 1855, to Elizabeth Calpass, also a native of England, born June 26, 1826. She is next to the youngest of seven children born to Robert and Ann Calpass. In 1874, Mr. Peatling moved to St. Joseph County, Mich., where he remained until 1880, when he sold out and bought the farm where he now lives, in Section 16, of this township. He owns 240 acres of land that is furnished with good buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Peatling belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have had six children—Willard C., born September 9, 1856; Ann C. and Edward A., twins, born May 13, 1858, the latter died July 27, 1858; Thomas E., May 4, 1860; Elizabeth, March 23, 1862; died February 6, 1864, and Joseph B., November 12, 1864.

P. W. PRESTON is the son of Thomas Preston, one of the oldest pioneers of La Grange County. The subject was born in England October 9, 1820, and came to this country with his parents, who settled on land in Section 26, of this township. He is one of nine children, and lived at home until twenty-six years of age. May 30, 1847, he married Margaret C. Iron, a native of Delaware, where her birth occurred June 8, 1828. They did not locate permanently until after his father's death, when he removed to and soon after purchased the homestead farm, where he has since remained, and has assisted in caring for his aged mother. The farm consists of 109 acres and is excellently improved. Mr. and Mrs. Preston are members of the Baptist Church, and have a family of eight children—L. H., Mary C., W. S., E. W., Elizabeth J., R. A., Martha B., and Margaret F. Although Mr. Preston is a mechanic, he devotes his attention exclusively to farming.

JOHN F. ROTE is the third of a family of seven children, and a native of Snyder County, Penn., where he was born April 9, 1842. His parents were Solomon and Maria Rote; they were both born in Pennsylvania, the former in 1809 and the latter in 1810. In 1849, they removed from their native State to St. Joseph County, Mich., where Mrs. Maria Rote died in 1870, her husband's death occurring three years later. John F. Rote accompanied his parents to Michigan and remained with them until he was twenty-four years old. He has been married three times; his first wife was Harriet Brokaw, to whom he was united December 22, 1866; his second marriage occurred March 14, 1872, to Lucy A. Robinson, by whom he had one child—Solomon D. Mrs. Lucy Rote died in 1873, and May 22, 1879, he was married to his present wife, Jennie Dean. They have one child—Ira U. Mr. Rote owns a good farm of eighty acres, and is a member of the Reformed Church.

JACOB SCHMIDT, the eldest of a family of nine children, born to Jacob and Elizabeth Schmidt, is a native of Germany, his birth transpiring October 13, 1831. He is of German parentage, the birth of his father occurring in 1803, and that of his mother seven years later; they were married in 1830, and passed their entire lives in Germany. Mrs. Elizabeth Schmidt died in 1865, and five years afterward her husband followed her to the grave. Jacob Schmidt came to America in 1854, and located at White Pigeon, Mich., where he was married November 15, 1862, and resided until he moved to his present home in this township. He is the owner of 186 acres of land that is under good cultivation and lies in Section 18. Mrs. Schmidt, formerly Nancy Steininger, was born in Pennsylvania September 24, 1839. In the family of Mr. Schmidt there are eight children—John W., Ellen A., Ida E., George E., Louisa M., Charles C., Edward W. and Lula A.

JOHN SHERWOOD, son of William H. and Elizabeth Sherwood, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., September 26, 1821. His parents were

natives respectively of Orange and Oswego Counties, N. Y., the former born October 18, 1798, and the latter August 26, 1799. They were married May 4, 1819, in the latter county, and remained in New York until 1853, then moved to Elkhart County, Ind., settling near Goshen. About ten years afterward they emigrated to Illinois, and lived with their daughter, until he died, March 18, 1873. She afterward went to Marshalltown, Iowa, where she died, November 27, 1875, at the home of her son, Dr. A. C. Sherwood. They were parents of nine children—Sarah, deceased; John, Diana, Betsy A., deceased; A. C., M. A., deceased; Isaac N., deceased; Mary L.; and D. B., deceased. The subject lived with his parents until seventeen, and received a good education. In 1842, he came to Steuben County, Ind., going from there to Ohio, but returned soon to this State, and engaged in school teaching near Goshen. He remained about four years, and April 9, 1845, was married to Lucinda M. Storn, who was born in New York, June 21, 1828. She died eighteen days after her union with Mr. Sherwood, and he then returned to his home in New York. December 24, 1846, he was married to Elizabeth Savage, also a native of New York, born March 29, 1824. He left New York in 1854, and went to Michigan, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, continuing the same until April, 1857, when he sold out and began farming in Cass County, Mich. Two years afterward he located in this county, and has since remained. He is one of the prominent citizens, owns a farm of 220 acres in this township, is a member of the I. O. O. F., and has a family of nine children—Almond E., Nelson A., Ida L., Amy H., John B., Editha J., Ella A., Guisippi G. and Sarah E.

H. M. SIDENER, a prosperous and enterprising farmer, is a native of this county, where he was born October 3, 1841, and has ever since made it his home. His marriage to Miss Mary C. Hinkle was consummated June 22, 1869. She was born in Pennsylvania May 13, 1849, and is the daughter of William and Matilda Hinkle. In 1867, Mr. Sidener bought property located in Section 28 of this township, where he resided until 1880, when he sold it and purchased a farm in Section 29, where he took up his abode, and has remained since. He has always been engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, and at present owns 111 acres of fine land. Mr. and Mrs. Sidener have an only son—Roy G., who was born in this county, March 11, 1881. Mr. Sidener is the son of Nicholas and Margaret Sidener.

NICHOLAS SIDENER owns 300 acres of land in this township, which is well improved. He came to La Grange County, in 1835, and bought his present farm. Returning to Ohio, he was married April 6, 1837, to Margaret Bussard, and soon after settled in this township, on Section 30, where his farm was located, and where he had entered 160 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Sidener are both natives of Fairfield County, Ohio. He was born December 3, 1811, and she June 27, 1817. They have had nine children—Dellia J., Henry M., Samuel L., Willard, John, Mary, James E., Martha E. and Margaret E. They are among the oldest resident pioneers, and belong to the M. E. Church, of which Mr. Sidener has been a member since 1839. He is the son of Nicholas and Nancy Sidener. His father was born in Virginia September 1, 1773, and was twice married; first, in Kentucky, to the subject's mother, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1782, and died in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1821; they had eleven children. His second wife was Mrs. Sarah Prough, by whom he had five children. He died in 1851. Mr. Sidener has accumulated all his present wealth (except \$1,000) by his own exertions, and has sold 113 acres of fine land. He has assisted in laying out the roads, and in building the bridges in



the township, and is a respected and valued citizen. Both his grandfathers came from Pennsylvania, and resided at one time in Kentucky; his grandfather Kline subsequently locating in Ohio at an early day.

SAMUEL L. SIDENER, the son of Nicholas and Margaret Sidener, was born in this county July 23, 1843. He remained at home and assisted his parents, until he was twenty-two years old. April 18, 1865, he was united in marriage to Miss Ettie E. Parker, who was born in this county in 1848. Soon after, they located on one of his father's farms on Section 20, this township, where they resided until her death July 24, 1875, after which Mr. Sidener returned to the home of his parents. January 18, 1878, he was married to his second and present wife, Annie E. Wolf, a native of Erie County, Penn., where she was born June 25, 1852. They moved into a house built by his father, where they have since lived, and he has been engaged in farming the old homestead. Mr. Sidener has a family of two children—Ralph, born January 20, 1868, and Alta M., September 23, 1870.

E. SIXBEY is the son of John and Elizabeth Sixbey, natives of New York; the birth of the former occurring September 9, 1781, and that of the latter August 28, 1782. They were married in their native State in 1805, and in 1835 went to White Pigeon, Mich., remained until they came to Indiana, where she died in La Grange County, in May, 1852, and Mr. Sixbey subsequently married, and died in 1855. The subject, one of thirteen children, was born in New York January 5, 1819; came here with his parents, and remained with them until the age of twenty-six. February 15, 1843, he was married to Orpha L. Barnes, a native of New York, born October 17, 1820. After farming two years on his father's place, Mr. Sixbey moved to his land in Section 14, this township, where he is now living. In 1850, he went to California, where he was engaged in mining five years. He owns 150 acres of land and has a family of five children—Frank E., born February 24, 1844, now a stock-dealer of New Mexico; John, April 11, 1846, railroading; Catherine S., August 20, 1848, school-teacher; Charles, March 6, 1858, railroading; and Orpha M., April 6, 1862, a music-teacher. Mr. Sixbey is a member of the Masonic Order, and has served his township two years as Trustee.

N. N. SIXBEY was born in New York, January 31, 1833; two years later his parents, Nicholas and Christiana Sixbey, natives of New York, came west to White Pigeon, Mich., thence to this county, where they bought 640 acres of land, subsequently moving to St. Joseph County, Mich., where they lived on a 240-acre farm until 1865, and then removed to near Sturgis, where they lived five years, finally locating in Vistula, Elkhart Co., Ind., where Nicholas Sixbey died November 26, 1875, and his wife December 20, of the same year. The former was born February 13, 1806, and the latter December 20, 1804. They were married in Kentucky in 1824, were members of the Reformed Church and had thirteen children. November 17, 1857, N. N. Sixbey and Louisiana Olney were married. She was born in this county November 30, 1837, and is the youngest of two children in the family of Asa and Thankful Olney, natives of Ohio. Her father was born in 1805 and her mother in 1811; they were married in 1829. They came to this county about one year afterward, and are now living in Section 18, this township. Mr. and Mrs. Sixbey first located on Section 14, this township, afterward removing to Section 13, where they are living, and he owns 214 acres of land that is well improved. They are of the Methodist denomination and have a family of two children—Cora E., born March 6, 1870, and Lora E., November 27, 1874.

EDWARD SNYDER was born in Union County, Penn., September 17, 1812, where he passed the earlier part of his life and was married in 1832, on the 22d of September, to Mary A. Stallnecker. She was born in the same county August 11, 1813; they moved on a farm, previously purchased by the subject, and lived there until 1866, when they sold out and removed to Noble County, Ind. Near Avilla they settled on a farm, making their home there eight years, at the end of which period Mr. Snyder bought his farm in this township. It comprises 120 acres of good land, and is located in Section 15. Mrs. Edward Snyder died at her home August 13, 1873, leaving a husband and six children to mourn her loss. The children are Charles, Mary E., Sarah, Add M., Anna E. and Edward S. Mr. Snyder's parents—George and Peggy Snyder—were natives of Pennsylvania. Subject and family are members of the Lutheran Church.

SAMUEL H. STEININGER is a native of Snyder County, Penn., and the son of Simon and Catharine Steininger. They came to this county about 1854 and are now living in White Pigeon, Mich., and are parents of three children. Simon Steininger was born April 27, 1818, and Catharine, his wife, September 18, 1825. Samuel H. was their second child. He was born May 14, 1844, and came here with his parents, remaining with them until twenty-three years old. After he was married, December 24, 1867, to Miss Amanda Sterner, he worked the home farm until he moved to his present location, that was purchased by his father in 1876. The latter owns considerable real estate and has retired from active labor. Mr. and Mrs. Steininger are among the estimable families of this township and are members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Steininger is a native of the Buckeye State, where her birth occurred September 26, 1844, and has borne her husband two children. Willard S. was born January 27, 1869, and Franklin I. December 23, 1871.

ROBERT T. THORN was born in England July 23, 1809; married there in 1832, July 2, to Miss Maria Dunn, and remained there until about forty years of age. He worked at a mechanic's trade in England until 1850, when he emigrated to America and located at Bellville, Ohio. Eight years subsequently he removed to Indiana; resided in Elkhart one year, then settled on his farm in this township, where he owns eighty acres of good farming land. Mr. Thorn has retired from active work. His parents, John and Elizabeth Thorn, were English people. His wife also was born in England, in 1811, on the 25th of March. Mr. and Mrs. Thorn have had born to them twelve children, six of whom have died. Those living are Elizabeth M., Maria, Robert, Seella, Emma and William H., and those deceased, John, Theresa, Richard, William, Theresa and John.

CASPER WEISS is a native of Germany, born November 25, 1840, the next to the youngest of eight children born to Emanuel and Elizabeth Weiss, who were natives of Germany. The subject, at the age of seventeen, emigrated to America, going first to Erie County, Penn., where he lived four years and during that time learned blacksmithing. He next removed to Grant County, Wis., and there resumed his trade. After a lapse of two years he returned to Erie County, Penn., and September 3, 1864, enlisted in the army, serving until its close. Returning to Pennsylvania, after a brief period he came to this county, selecting, as a desirable location, Van Buren, where he established a shop and resumed his trade, and is doing a good business. October 26, 1865, Mr. Weiss was married to Mary Schwitzer, and they have one child, a daughter, Rosie A., who was born July 13, 1872. They are members

of the Evangelical Church. Mrs. Weiss was born in Germany September 14, 1845, and he owns property in this town.

HENRY WEISS is a native of Germany, where he was born August 19, 1834. He started for America the 13th of April, 1856, and landed in New York City June 7 of the same year. Starting the next day, he went direct to Erie County, Penn., where he remained some time, and was married March 27, 1861, to Anna Schweitzer, who was born in Germany November 14, 1843. In 1865, they came to Indiana, settling in Van Buren Township, this county, and in 1874 purchased his present farm of eighty acres in Section 23. Mr. Weiss belongs to the Evangelical Church, and is the son of Emanuel and Elizabeth Weiss, who were Germans and parents of eight children, viz.: John, Justus, Elizabeth, Peter, Henry, Jacob, Casper and Catherine. Emanuel Weiss was born in 1800 and his wife in 1796. They were married in 1826, and she died in Germany July 22, 1855. He came to America in 1868, and spent the remainder of his days with his son Henry. He died June 20, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss have three children—Charles E., born April 29, 1862; J. Casper, January 17, 1865; and Clara, April 4, 1870.

JONAS WENGER, son of John and Mary Wenger, natives of Canada; Jonas was born in Canada December 16, 1828, and was next to the oldest in a family of seven children. He came to the United States with his parents in 1847, and remained with them until he was twenty years old. He was married, August 30, 1848, to Miss Elizabeth Black, who was born in Ohio October 19, 1824. After their marriage he purchased a farm in Elkhart County, Ind.; here they moved and lived until 1863, when he sold out and came to La Grange County, purchasing and settling on a farm in this township, in Section 16; in 1872, he removed to Section 21, where, at present, he is located, and owns 340 acres of excellent land. Mr. Wenger is one of the enterprising farmers of his township. He and wife belong to the Evangelical Church, and have a family of four boys and two girls—John F., Samuel, Henry, Mary A., Jacob and Katie L.

## EDEN TOWNSHIP.

J. K. BYLER, the proprietor of a hardware and agricultural implement store in Haw Patch Center, is a son of Jonathan and Catherine C. Byler, natives of Pennsylvania. He was the third in a family of eight children, and was born in Union County, Penn., July 26, 1847, and came to Noble County with his parents in 1855. Beginning in 1871, he served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade and worked at carpentering about two years, after which he was engaged, by J. W. Hall, in the sale and erection of the Hall Wind-mill. He continued in this employment after the firm changed to Flint, Wallen & Co. He subsequently engaged in farming, continuing until October 25, 1881, when he started his present line of business. He carries a complete stock of goods, and is receiving the assistance his enterprise merits. Mr. Byler was married to Hannah M. Miller December 28, 1875, in Noble County; she was a native of Pennsylvania; they have two children—Ida, born June 3, 1878, and Ora, born August 22, 1880. Mr. Byler owns some property in this vicinity, and his family follow the teachings of the Omish Mennonite Church.

PATRICK CARR, son of Franklin and Mary Carr, was born in Ireland March 17, 1829; his parents were married about the year 1811, and died in Ireland, his father's death occurring about 1841, and his mother's

in 1833; Patrick Carr was the third of eight children, and remained in Ireland until 1850, when he came to the United States, landing in New York. He remained there and in vicinity five years, then came to this county, and, in 1861, December 25, enlisted in Company I, Forty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the war until its close. After his return he purchased his farm in this township. Mr. Carr is a systematic and thrifty farmer. November 22, 1865, he was married to Miss Hannah Carey, who was born in Boston, Mass., December 20, 1848. Her parents were Michael and Catherine Carey, natives of Ireland; they have seven children—Lilly C., born November 21, 1866; Mary B., October 8, 1868; Frank J., January 3, 1870; Michael C., October 23, 1875; Thomas L., March 10, 1877; and twins, William P. and John W., born October 20, 1881. Mr. Carr and family are all members of the Catholic Church.

DR. J. N. DENNY, son of John and Mary Denny, is a native of Elkhart County, Ind. His father was born in Wheeling, W. Va., March 8, 1790, and his mother in Franklin County, Penn., April 23, 1797. Their marriage was celebrated at Steubenville, Ohio, March 2, 1822; they remained at the latter place until 1834, at which time they came to Elkhart County, then a wilderness filled with wild animals, but three years later took up their residence in La Grange County. The father died at his residence on Section 35, in April, 1867, but the mother yet survives. This worthy man and wife experienced through the long years all the trials incident to the settlement of a new country. The father was a man of more than ordinary intelligence. At last, full of years, like the patriarchs of old, he was gathered to his fathers—his life work was done. To these parents four children were born—W. J., in Ohio, March, 1825; J. M., in Ohio, October, 1827; F. M., in Ohio, April, 1832, and J. N., the subject of this sketch, in September, 1834; the latter has always been the "home boy." His early education was received from different sources, but in 1856 he began the study of medicine at Goshen, continuing hard at work for three years, at the end of which time he took a course of lectures at the famous Rush Medical College, Chicago. He then returned to his father's farm on Section 35, "hung out his shingle," where he has remained in successful practice since. He is yet unmarried. The four children of this family are, intellectually, much above the average. W. J., the eldest, lives at the old home, himself and Dr. Denny owning 300 acres of fine land. J. M. is an eminent attorney at Albion, and is the author of an excellent chapter in this volume. F. M. is a practicing physician in California. The father was for some time an Associate Judge of the county, and his memory is treasured by a large circle of friends and relatives.

W. H. FRANKS, M. D., is the only son of Samuel and Susan Franks, and was born in Fayette County, Penn., April 26, 1841. Though his education was obtained under difficulties—by reason of limited means—yet, with that determination and perseverance characteristic of the man, he succeeded in fitting himself for almost any position in life. At the age of sixteen, he attended the George's Creek Academy, near his home. For two years, while at his father's, he studied medicine, then placed himself under the tuition of Dr. F. C. Robinson, subsequently attending lectures at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He then commenced the practice in partnership with his preceptor, in his native county. A few months later he came to Noble County and commenced practice in Brimfield. In the winter of 1873, the Doctor, after attending lectures at the Rush Medical College, in Chicago, graduated. After



this his practice so increased that he injured his health ; and with the intention of giving up his profession, he sold his property in Brimfield, and after a residence of about one year in Noble County, purchased the farm where he now lives, on the Haw Patch. Here the call for his professional services necessitated resuming practice, and he now devotes all his time to this calling. Dr. Franks was married, September 24, 1866, to Mary E. Gibson, who was born in Noble County, May 26, 1848, a daughter of A. G. and Eliza Gibson, now living in Noble County. A family of four children has been born to them—Walter E., September 15, 1867 ; Ernest G., September 25, 1873 ; William A., December 7, 1878, and Ada M., May 31, 1880. The Doctor owns eighty acres of finely improved, and eighty acres of timbered land, also an eighty in Kansas. He is a member of the Northeastern Indiana and the Noble County Medical Societies, of which he has served as President. Himself and wife belong to the Baptist Church. The Doctor's parents were natives of Pennsylvania ; the father born about 1805 and the mother about 1809. They were married about 1830 ; their children were Sarah A., Anna, Elizabeth H., William H., Eliza J., Mary C., Amanda and Susan. The mother died August 15, 1864 ; the father still lives in the old place in Pennsylvania, where he has filled many positions by the suffrage of the citizens of his county.

MILTON HERALD was twenty-nine years old on the 22d of September, 1881. His father, William, and mother, Sarah Herald, the former a native of Holmes County, Ohio, and the latter of Armstrong County, Penn., were united in marriage in the last-named county in 1849. After a short time, they moved to Wayne County, Ohio, where they still reside. They own 313 acres of land there, besides 110 in La Grange County, Ind. Milton, the second of a family of five, remained in Wayne, his native county, until 1876, when he came to La Grange County, and began working the farm his father had previously bought. He married Miss Mary M. Denny January 9, 1878. This lady's parents are J. and Sarah Denny. Mr. Herald moved on his father's farm, buying the same and increasing it until he now owns 134 acres, one of the finest farms in the township. He owns a fine brick residence and one of the largest and most convenient barns in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Herald are industrious and bright, and may be numbered among the best residents of the township. They have no family. Mr. Herald's father was born in 1824, his mother in 1823 and his wife in 1854. The elder Herald's occupation was farming and stock-raising.

M. J. HOCHSTETLER, farmer, is a son of John and Magdalena Hochstetler, natives of Pennsylvania. She died in Pennsylvania, and her husband, John Hochstetler, was married again and moved to Ohio, where his last days were passed. Among eleven children was the subject, born in Somerset County, Penn., June 9, 1812, and with his parents came to Ohio. After a lapse of two years, he returned to Pennsylvania, and was married, January 17, 1838, to Elizabeth Mast. After living three years in that State, he bought a farm in Holmes County, Ohio, where they farmed eight years ; then disposed of it, and in turn purchased a farm and grist-mill. After operating the mill eight years, he bought the land in this township, where he is yet continuing his extensive farm practice. Mr. Hochstetler is the owner of 240 acres of land, and himself and wife are believers in the Omish Mennonite religion. Of thirteen children born to them twelve are living, viz.: John M., Samuel J., Eli M., Moses M., Eve, Paul J., Elizabeth, Polly, Jacob J., David J. (deceased), Andrew J., Uriah J. and Henry J.

**CHRISTIAN KAUFFMAN**, farmer, came to this county in 1854 with his parents, Joseph and Nancy Kauffman. His father and mother were both natives of Mifflin County, Penn. The dates of their respective births are August 27, 1807, and January 7, 1807. Their marriage was celebrated in Wayne County, Ohio, about the year 1829, and there they remained until they came West and settled on the farm now owned by the subject, subsequently, in 1867, moving to Elkhart County, Ind., where Joseph Kauffman died in March of the same year. Mrs. Kauffman still survives and is with a son in Haw Patch Center. Christian Kauffman purchased the homestead farm in 1860. He was one of seven children and was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1831, August 8. November 8, 1833, Elizabeth Myers was born in the State of Pennsylvania. December 28, 1856, she was united in marriage with Mr. Kauffman and has borne him five children—Rufus A., born December 6, 1857; Joseph I., September 2, 1859; John M., September 5, 1861; Ninette C., September 13, 1865, and Mary E., May 8, 1869. Mr. Kauffman owns 120 acres of land, good buildings and is a deservedly popular citizen.

**ROBERT LEPIRD**, farmer, is the eldest of seven children, and came to Indiana at a very early day with his parents. His father, Samuel Lepird, was born May 13, 1815. His mother, Harriet Lepird, was born April 24, 1816. They were early settlers of this county, where they died. Robert Lepird was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, September 10, 1840, and when of age assumed the management of the homestead farm for his mother, his father having died previously. In 1867, he went to Eaton County, Mich., where he bought and sold three different farms, and then returned to this county. He farmed on shares about one and a half years, then went to Noble County, lived two years, sold his farm to his brother and bought the old homestead on the Haw Patch, where he is permanently situated, having 120 acres of land and good buildings. January 5, 1862, Mr. Lepird and Miss Sarah A. Waddell were united in marriage. The following is a record of their children's births: Fayette R., January 11, 1863; Ada M., March 25, 1864; Mary B., July 5, 1865; Elvey, March 22, 1870; Elton G. and Alton J. (twins), June 5, 1878. Mary B. died March 9, 1868.

**JOHN W. LOW**, farmer, is the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth A. Low, the former born in Pennsylvania, the latter in Maryland, and were pioneers of this county, where they located about 1836, and are residents of Clear Spring Township. Four of their children are living—Mary J., Thomas H., John W. and Martha E. February 9, 1845, John W. Low was born in this county, and November 15, 1868, was married to Elizabeth H. Coppes. Her parents, Richard and Hannah Coppes, natives of the State of Pennsylvania, lived some time in Wayne County, Ohio, where Elizabeth was born September 9, 1846; they are now residing in this county. After the event of his marriage, Mr. Low worked his father-in-law's farm about three years, when he bought his land in this township. He owns 200 acres of land, well cultivated, and is classed with the first citizens and farmers of the township. They have a family of three children—Hannah E., born January 12, 1872; Martha J., February 18, 1874, and Mary E., May 14, 1878.

**M. J. NELSON**, farmer, a native of Elkhart County, Ind., is the son of Anthony and Sophia Nelson. Anthony Nelson was probably born in the year 1796, in Ohio, and Sophia Nelson in North Carolina, about 1802. They came West in their youth, and were married in Union County, Ind. Eight children constituted their family. M. J., the subject, was born December 13, 1832. He lived

until about thirty-seven years of age at the home of his parents. December 3, 1867, he married Eliza S. Anderson, who was born May 9, 1845, in this county. They are living on 180 acres of the old homestead farm, in this township, and are well respected by the community in which they reside. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been blessed with three children, viz.: Elva J., born October 3, 1868; Gusta A., born January 25, 1872, and Cecil E., born November 19, 1878; the latter died May 24, 1880.

JOHN PECK, blacksmith, proprietor of pump-factory and corn-mill, is one of a family of six children born to Burton and Sarah G. Peck. He was born in La Grange County April 29, 1855, and lived with his parents until nineteen years old, when he went West to Kansas, remaining there one year, working at blacksmithing. He then returned to La Grange County, and went to work for his father, continuing thus about two years, at which time he formed a partnership at La Grange with Francis M. Stage, in a pump-factory. After about two years he purchased his partner's interest, moved the tools, etc., to a building on his father's farm, and continued manufacturing pumps quite extensively for some two years, when he bought a lot in Haw Patch Center, erected a building thereon, and opened anew the same business, continuing the same until the present. He is doing good work. His wife, to whom he was married September 7, 1876, was Miss Christina King, born in Ohio in 1856, who has borne her husband two children—Laurence, born April 13, 1880, and Alta, born June 29, 1881. Mr. Peck is an enterprising citizen.

PETER PROUGH, farmer and carpenter, is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, born June 18, 1808. He is the only child of George and Sarah (Winder) Prough, the former a native of Bedford County, Penn., and the latter of Washington County, Md. George Prough died in Fairfield County, Ohio, July 25, 1808, and his wife in the same place in 1861. Peter Prough lived with his mother until the age of fourteen, when he went to learn the carder and fuller's trade with an uncle, Daniel Winder, with whom he remained five years. In 1832, he came to this county, entered 137 acres of land in Lima Township, and returned to Ohio, where for two years he rented and operated a distillery, after which he was engaged for the same length of time in carpentering summers, and teaching school winters. In 1837, he returned to this county, entered 84 acres of land in Clay Township, and the next year sold his land in Lima, and bought 80 acres in Bloomfield Township, where he built a house, and began building a saw-mill. He went to Perry Township, Noble County, in 1845, and was employed one year in a carding and a saw mill. The next year he disposed of his property in Bloomfield, and invested in 120 acres in Eden Township, where he resided until 1854, then removed to his present farm of 71 acres. He was married to Barbara Thurston March 29, 1840, and they have nine children—George; Margaret, now Mrs. Donaphin; Ezra; Sarah, now Mrs. Hart; Martin T.; Daniel; Joseph; Thomas and Franklin. Mrs. Prough's parents, Daniel and Margaret (Birch) Thurston, were natives of Dutchess County, N. Y., and she was born in the same State, in Wayne County, October 14, 1821. Mr. Prough was Justice of Peace of his township five years, and Postmaster at Eden Mills, seven years. He is a Democrat, and one of the prominent and oldest citizens.

JOSEPH RODERICK, a young and enterprising farmer of this township, is the son of William and Margaret Roderick. He is a native of this State, and was born in 1847 (November 23), in La Grange County. Joseph Roderick lived at home with his parents, who were among the early settlers of this

county, until he became of age. In 1868, he was married to Margaret J. Harr on the 5th of September. She was born in Ohio January 13, 1850, and was the daughter of Jacob and Mary Harr, natives of Pennsylvania. Two years previous to purchasing their present farm, they lived on rented property, but have acquired a good home and sixty acres of improved land. They have a family of two children—Ida M. (born February 3, 1870) and Charley M. (born November 22, 1872).

WILLIAM RÖDERICK, farmer, is a native of Fayette County, Penn. His parents, Daniel and Sarah A. Roderick, were natives of the same State, where they were married. In about 1846, they came to this county from Wayne County, Ohio, where they had lived since about 1818. They died on their farm in Section 13, this township. They were the parents of ten children, viz., Nancy, Mary, John, Lydia, Michael, Susan, William, Sarah A., Daniel and Eliza J. William was born September 10, 1822, and married March 10, 1844, to Margaret Bales; she was born in Wayne County, Ohio, October 2, 1825, and came to this county with Mr. Roderick in 1846. He followed shoe-making for some time, and, in 1848, bought land in Section 13, this township, where he has since lived. His farm of 160 acres is in excellent condition. He has an elegant brick residence, good barn, and makes stock-raising a specialty. Mr. and Mrs. Roderick have had eight children—Elmöre, born May 18, 1845, died December 8, 1862; Joseph, born November 23, 1847; Lydia A., born May 28, 1849; Johial, born May 1, 1854; Julia A., born July 14, 1856; William T., born February 5, 1859; Stephen A. D., born December 2, 1862, and Charley B., born July 7, 1867, and died February 1, 1871. Mr. Roderick has held the office of Constable three years; was Township Assessor fifteen years, and Trustee two years; he has taken the third degree in Masonry, and is a prosperous farmer and first-class citizen.

DAVID SHOWALTER, farmer, was born on the 4th of March, 1824, in Rockingham County, Va. He was married to Mary E. Hoffman December 23, 1846, and about three years later immigrated to La Grange County, Ind., where he has found it profitable to remain. He remained with his parents until about 1847. His father, David Showalter, was born about 1783, in Pennsylvania, where he was married; his wife, Agnes Showalter, was a native of the same State, born about 1798, where they both died. They were parents of twelve children—Benjamin, Lovina, Matthias, Ann, John, Catharine, David, William, George, Margaret, Lewis and Sarah. Subject's wife was of the same nativity as her husband, born March 20, 1829, and the daughter of Frederick and Ann Hoffman, who were married in Virginia in 1819, he at the age of twenty-four, and she at twenty. They died in Elkhart County, Ind., in 1873, and had a family of five children—Charity J., Emily, Henrietta, Mary and William. Mr. Showalter owns 330 acres of land, and has given 238 acres to his children. The following are the dates of the children's respective births—Charity J. in Virginia December 15, 1847; Frederick H. in Virginia September 16, 1849; Agnes J. in Indiana April 14, 1852, died October 2, 1855; William N., March 25, 1855; James F. B., April 14, 1857; Edith, April 16, 1862, and Bracie E., May 25, 1871. They are an estimable family and members of the Lutheran Church.

W. L. SIPE is the youngest and the only son of Andrew and Elizabeth Sipe; the former was born on the 5th of May, 1797, in Somerset County, Penn., and the latter in 1803, in the same State. They were married in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1822. Mrs. Sipe died in the month of March, 1854. He



married again, May 15, 1859, to a Mrs. Sarah Stoker, and she died in October, 1873. The year following his second bereavement, Mr. Sipe sold his property in Ohio, and then came to this county, where he resided with his children until he, too, passed away on the 30th of July, 1877, at which time he was living with his son, W. L. Sipe, who was born on the 3d of June, 1844; he lived seventeen years with his parents, and since then has been in various kinds of employment. He worked two years near Dayton, Ohio, in the service of W. C. Davis and Henry Tenick, and farmed about one year after that, in Marshall County, Ind.; also manufactured shingles to some extent, then was engaged about one and a half years in running a saw-mill; after this, he farmed until 1871, when he resumed saw-milling in a village near by. He followed building and other mechanical work until he entered the grocery business about two years later. In June, 1875, he began in La Grange County, and conducted his father's farm for about a year and a half. Mr. Sipe bought the land that he selected for a home in Section 35, in 1877, and it still forms the center of his hopes and plans. He also owns a farm in Section 34. Mr. Sipe is the present able Trustee of his township, and prior to this had served satisfactorily as Constable. He is a good citizen and universally known and respected. Mrs. Matilda J. Sipe, to whom he was married June 5, 1864, in Marshall County, Ind., was the daughter of Henry and Margaret Hanes, of Pennsylvania. Their family consists of two girls—Aurora A., born in Marshall County, Ind., October 6, 1867, and Minnie B., of the same nativity, born September 12, 1869.

JAMES TAYLOR, deceased, son of James and Margaret Taylor, was a native of Maryland, where he was born November 16, 1802. His father died in Maryland, and shortly succeeding his mother's second marriage he came with her and his step-father to Brown County, Ohio. He returned to Maryland, and was there married, August 4, 1825, to Eliza Gillcree; they lived in Ohio about twelve years, then accompanied by Mr. Taylor's mother and step-father came to this county and located on a farm in Eden Township. His first wife's death occurred September 17, 1854, and Mr. Taylor was remarried in 1855, February 5, to Elizabeth Shrinkley, who survived him, and is living on the above-mentioned farm in this township. She was born in Brown County, Ohio, January 10, 1835, and has four children by Mr. Taylor—Theodore (deceased), Mary O., Wynona and Norman. Mr. Taylor, by his first marriage, had nine children—Margaret I. (deceased), Elizabeth A., Mary J. (deceased), William T., Lydia A., Ellen T., James L., Milton M. and Eliza J. Mr. Taylor was a man of good standing, was a member of the M. E. Church, and, at the time of his death, had served as Trustee a number of years. For about fifty years he was a class leader, and he left his family in comfortable circumstances. Besides the farm of 140 acres, on which they live, they own 182 acres of land in Iowa.

T. S. TRITTIPO, grocer, is a son of Thomas and Sarah A. Trittippo, natives of Virginia, where they were married and remained until 1849, when they removed to Ohio. Five years later they journeyed to La Grange County, where they have since resided. Mr. Trittippo owns a fine farm of 215 acres, the acquirement of which is largely due to his own endeavors. He also owns property in Wawaka, in Ligonier and Haw Patch Center. Five children were born to these parents, T. S. Trittippo being one, his birth occurring in Virginia May 19, 1845. He remained with his parents until the age of twenty-five, at which time he learned the trade of painting, continuing the same for about ten years. He also worked at other branches of business. On the 25th of March,

1879, he purchased a stock of goods in Wawaka, moved the same to the Haw Patch, where he is yet enjoying a fair country trade in a building owned by his father. His wife, to whom he was married August 25, 1869, was Miss Catharine Kime, a native of Holmes County, Ohio, her birth occurring August 7, 1851. They have two sons—Elmer E. and Amos F. In 1863, Mr. Trittippo entered Company D, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteers, with which he served until the close of the war.

R. N. VANSLYKE is a prosperous and successful blacksmith of Haw Patch Center. He lived with his parents until 1870, being away portions of the few previous years, learning, in the meantime, his trade of W. H. Manning, of Ligonier, beginning about the year 1867. This chosen occupation has been followed more or less since. He has the reputation of being one of the best blacksmiths for all work for miles around. He is doing a large business, and, like all really good and successful workmen, guarantees his work to give satisfaction. His parents are W. N. and Catharine Van Slyke, residents of Ligonier; they came from Ashtabula County, Ohio, in about the year 1863. They are well known at Ligonier, and are universally respected. On the 23d of October, 1872, our subject was united in marriage with Catharine Shaffer, of De Kalb County. This lady was born on the 2d of May, 1851, while her husband was born on the 16th of February, same year. They are parents of one son, Milan N., born August 9, 1875. Mr. Vanslyke owns some property in Haw Patch Center. He is a good citizen, and his brother, W. M., is a minister and a very worthy man.

DANIEL WAGONER, farmer and blacksmith, son of Samuel and Lydia Wagoner, is an energetic farmer and worthy resident of Eden Township. His parents were married in Pennsylvania, their native State, and there his mother found her last resting place, her death occurring on the 22d of December, 1841. Mr. Wagoner, after spending some time in Ohio, returned to his native State, and was married a second time; they lived in Ohio two years, returned to Franklin County, Penn., and removed to the village of Dillsbury, where Mr. Wagoner died. Daniel, the second of six children, at the age of twenty-two, commenced blacksmithing in York, his native county, Pennsylvania, finishing his trade two years later in Stark County, Ohio. He, for four years, conducted a shop of his own at Sugar Creek. Since coming to this county, in 1849, he has not been actively at work at his trade, but has devoted more of his attention to farming. He owns eighty acres of land. Mr. Wagoner has been twice married; his first wife, to whom he was married August 9, 1846, was Sarah Fitzgerald, born October 30, 1828, in Pennsylvania; she died on the 21st of November, 1857, having borne her husband four children—Elmira, Mary, Alice and George. The present Mrs. Wagoner, formerly Mary A. Himes, was born December 31, 1827, in Huntingdon County, Penn.; she has three children—Thomas W., John E. and Susan H.

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### SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP.

RUSSEL BROWN, born January 24, 1805, is a native of Stephenstown, Rensselaer Co., N. Y. When quite young, moved with his father, Elijah Brown, to Berkshire County, Mass., and when about eighteen accompanied his parents to Cayuga County, N. Y., where he was married, in 1828, to Miss

Laura Sweet, a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., born January 31, 1805, and daughter of Wm. Sweet, of Massachusetts. In 1835, they removed to Onondaga County, N. Y., resided one year, thence to this township, arriving July 14, 1836, and settling on Section 26. Mr. Brown, by diligent application, acquired quite a thorough education, and followed teaching a number of years, previous and subsequent to his arrival here, at which time he had about \$2,000. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are parents of five children—Philenia, when her parents came to this county, did not accompany them, but remained with her grandfather, Sweet, and died at the age of fifteen; Ezekiel is a farmer of Steuben County, Ind.; Warren is a resident of this township, engaged in farming; Erastus is an attorney at Lincoln, Neb., and President of the Gage County Bank. He, while residing in New York, raised a military company, and was commissioned a Lieutenant in the late war; William, the youngest, is an attorney at law, and formerly practiced at Lincoln, Neb. Mr. Brown has served as Justice of the Peace, Township Trustee, and County Surveyor. In November, 1855, Mr. Brown moved to Orland, where he has since resided, and where Mrs. Brown died, April 18, 1879. The father of the subject was born in Killingly, Conn., in 1773, of English descent. His maternal ancestors were Irish, and their descendants, for a number of generations, resided in Rhode Island, his grandfather on that side being a noted sea captain. His great-grandfather, William Smith, was compelled to flee from Ireland, and subsequently became a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary war.

JOSEPHUS BUMPUS, son of John Bumpus, a native of New York, of Welsh descent, was born October 25, 1825, in Richland County, Ohio. Mr. Bumpus is a cooper by trade, and came to this county in the spring of 1846, locating at Ontario, where he was employed the first season at his trade, then in his shop until 1849, when he rented the "Widow Newton" farm, north of Ontario. About a year later he purchased land in this township, that has reached its present improved state by Mr. Bumpus' industry. December 10, 1848, Mr. Bumpus was married to Mary A. Sears, who was born in New York, June 10, 1832. She came to this county with her father, Chancey Sears, in about 1836, and lived with Judge Luther Newton from the age of six years until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Bumpus have seven children—Savilla, Viola, Roderick, Nellie, Carrie, Joseph and Cora.

Z. M. CARR is a native of Washington County, N. Y., where he was born April 6, 1822. His father, Daniel Carr, a native of Rhode Island, moved to St. Joseph County, Mich., with his family in 1835, and two years later came to Pretty Prairie, this county, thence to English Prairie, then to Steuben County in 1843, where he died in 1844, leaving a wife—Martha (Mason) Carr—and seven children, the subject being the oldest son living. He assisted in caring for the family until twenty-eight years old; then with \$240 came and purchased 50 acres of land in this township, making the rest of the payments (\$160 in all) on time. His farm is now enlarged to 145 acres, and is well improved. In 1851, Mr. Carr and Miss Angeline Golden, who was born in Seneca County, N. Y., August 6, 1828, were united in marriage. Her father was Nathaniel Golden, a native of Nova Scotia, and her mother, Elizabeth (Tuttle) Golden, of New York; in 1836, they came with family to Steuben County, where their deaths occurred. Mrs. Carr died in 1872, January 15, leaving her husband and five children to mourn her loss; they are James B., Ella, Jarvis, Frank and Nettie. Mr. Carr is an enterprising Republican.

ELISHA DEAL, son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Rawles) Deal, was born in 1830, in Marion County, Ohio. Both parents were Ohioans, and came here in 1835. His mother, who is residing at the home of her youngest daughter, Mrs. Holton, is in her seventy-sixth year. His father, after clearing a farm in Section 23, where they had lived many years, died in 1870. At the age of twenty-seven, Elisha Deal began farming for himself, having previously made his home with his father, and been engaged in running a threshing machine nine years. He purchased and improved land in Section 21, before locating on his present farm of 120 acres. Mr. Deal, although never a solicitor for office, has been chosen and served as Supervisor of Roads several times. Mrs. Deal is a faithful member of the M. E. Church. She was Catharine Millis, the daughter of Levin and Ruth (Leonard) Millis, natives of Maryland, where Catharine was born in 1834. She married Mr. Deal on the 14th of February, 1857, and they have two children—Augusta, now Mrs. Frank M. Smith, was born January 27, 1859, and Mary E., whose birth occurred on the 27th of August, 1863.

HARRISON DEAL, the eldest born to Conrad and Elizabeth Deal now living, came to this county in 1835 with his parents, who located on Section 23. He was born April 20, 1828, in Marion County, Ohio, and from the age of sixteen to twenty-four was engaged a portion of the time as feeder for a threshing machine. Shortly after his marriage, January 5, 1851, to Miss Ellen Jones, he located on 80 acres of his present farm, the lease of which was given him by his father-in-law; but twelve years subsequently, he purchased that and 40 acres adjoining. He is now worth about \$20,000. He has served as School Director and Pathmaster. Mr. and Mrs. Deal have had six children—Benjamin F., William H., Louis E., Charles H. (deceased), Carrie E. and Jennie M. Mrs. Deal's parents, Benjamin and Mary (Michael) Jones, were natives of Virginia. They came to this county in 1829, and located near Lexington, renting land until 1832, when Mr. Jones purchased 400 acres in Section 20 and 21, at the first public sale of land in the county, upon which they settled. Mr. Jones was a leader in the La Grange Phalanx, and the first to introduce thoroughbred cattle into the county. He also assisted in building the Free Hall. In the early history of the county, Mr. Jones once went in search of his cattle and at the end of three weeks found them in the southern part of the State. In 1862, he moved to Kendallville, where he was familiarly known as "Uncle Ben." By reposing too much confidence in others, he lost a part of his property, and in 1875 moved to Fairbury, Neb., where he now resides, but expects to spend his remaining days at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Deal. Mr. Jones was born July 6, 1794, and is now in his eighty-eighth year. He served in the war of 1812, and was reared a Baptist; during his later days has been a Spiritualist.

HENRY DEAL came to this county with his parents, Conrad and Elizabeth Deal, in 1834. His birth occurred in Marion County, Ohio, February 22, 1832, and that of his wife, Helen, in this county, May 1, 1838. They were married on the 1st day of January, 1855. Her parents, Robert and Jane Wade, were English people. Mr. and Mrs. Deal have two children—Alice E., now Mrs. J. A. Spearow, and Willis H.; both are school-teachers. Mr. Deal, at the age of twenty-one, commenced carpentering, and continued that occupation until in 1857, when he invested in property in this township, 100 acres of wild land. This is now his home, and is all well improved. Mr. Deal, with his son, attended the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. He has held the



office of Assessor four terms, being first elected in 1877, and also has served as Supervisor a number of terms, and has executed the duties satisfactorily.

WILLIAM DUNBAR is a native of Summit County, Ohio, born in 1829, May 7. In Milford Township, on the 7th of September, 1838, Mary Perkins was born. She was the daughter of Jacob and Sarah A. (Phipps) Perkins, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and of German and English descent. She was married to Mr. Dunbar, April 12, 1857. He is the son of David and Mary (Rhodenbaugh) Dunbar, both natives of Pennsylvania, and of Irish and English descent. David Dunbar, at the time of his death, was living at the home of his son William; the former first came to this county in the spring of 1853, and the subject came in the fall of the same year, remaining near Wolcottville until in March, 1862, when he located on the farm of 200 acres, entered by John B. Clark; he now owns 280 acres, and is worth probably \$15,500. His dwelling-house was erected at a cost of about \$3,000. From the clear, running spring on Mr. Dunbar's farm, the township received its name, and 'twas here the first town-meeting was held. Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar are parents of two children, Jacob and William A.

JOHN F. FRELIGH is a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and the son of John I. and Mary (Latta) Freligh; both parents were natives of New York, his father of German and his mother of Irish descent. October 29, 1823, John Freligh was born, and in the fall of 1845 came to this county, where he was variously employed until 1850, when he was married to Miss Susan A. Shepardson, the ceremony being performed by a Mr. Newton, Justice of the Peace. They soon after settled on her father's farm, that has since been purchased by the subject, and is yet their home. It comprises 187 acres of improved land. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Freligh—Eva J., now Mrs. Joseph Geddes, of Oregon; Ida M., now Mrs. Richard Hopkins; Ella F., now Mrs. Fleming Barr; Arthur P. and Frank L. Mrs. Freligh is a native of Vermont, where she was born in February, 1832. Her parents were Otis and Susan Shepardson, of Vermont, and Scotch and English ancestry. They came to this county in the fall of 1835, and lived the first winter in a log-house with puncheon floor and no windows. Mr. Shepardson died in 1843, of quick consumption, at the age of fifty-one, having secured a comfortable home for his wife and family of seven children. Mrs. Shepardson died at the age of eighty-four, in the fall of 1880. Mr. Freligh has served in the offices of Assessor, Road-master and School Director.

ELSLEY W. FULLER is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., where he was born January 10, 1818. In 1836, having saved \$50, from laboring in the school-room, he started for the West, taking passage on the steamer "United States;" and while crossing from Dunkirk to Erie, the vessel struck a rock and sunk; but the passengers—eight hundred in number—were saved by being landed on a ledge-rock, where they remained all night, in a driving rain-storm. Mr. Fuller succeeded in reaching main land by means of a large tree that had fallen over the rock. He then proceeded overland to Erie, thence to Ypsilanti, Mich., where he taught one term of school; on to Calhoun County, Mich., then to this county, where he made a limited sojourn, returning to Gilead, Mich., to re-engage in teaching. Mr. Fuller was one of the members of the La Grange Association, at Lexington, until it disbanded. For seven years, or thereabouts, he lived on a farm in Milford Township, this county, that he bought in 1849; then purchased 260 acres in this township, but soon after found himself bankrupt. After having rented five years, he was able to buy the 100-acre farm

where he yet lives, in this township. For many years Mr. Fuller has manufactured large quantities of cider-jelly and sorghum molasses. He has been married three times; first to Keturah Sanders, of Branch County, Mich., in 1839. They had a family of three children—Mary J., Harriet M. and Melinda. After his wife's death, in 1852, Mr. Fuller married Mrs. Lois Hayward; she was the daughter of Stephen Severy, and died in 1878, leaving two children—Alice and Lucina. His present and third wife, to whom he was married in 1878, was Mrs. C. L. Rosell, the daughter of Abijah and Maria (Shoff) Brown. By her first marriage Mrs. Fuller had two children—Charles B. and Florence M., now Mrs. James L. Kingsbury, of Lima. Mr. Fuller is the son of Ezekiel and Eunice (Wyman) Fuller, natives of Massachusetts.

G. F. HALL is a native of Clark County, Ohio, born April 2, 1832. His parents, William H. and Lucinda (Hull) Hall, came to this township in the year 1835, locating on Brushy Prairie. His father subsequently entered land in Section 16, also in Kosciusko County, which he traded for 130 acres near Lexington; increased this to 616 acres and sold for \$27,000; his home at present is near Kendallville, where he purchased land in 1867. With \$1,000, the subject, at the age of twenty-four, went to Michigan and contracted for a \$10,000 farm. Through misfortunes he was compelled to resign this farm, and with \$600 returned to Greenfield Township. Since coming to this township, in 1860, he has prospered, and is the owner of 256 acres of land, improved. His residence was the first brick house built in the township and cost the owner about \$3,400. The present Mrs. Hall, to whom he was married December 31, 1865, was Mrs. Mary A. Appleman, the daughter of D. L. Popino. Flora is their only child. Mr. Hall's first wife died in December, 1862; she was Lucinda Bradford, daughter of Elder Bradford, of this township. By their union, which was consummated in September, 1857, three children were born, viz.: Charles, Franklin and Lucinda, deceased. Mr. Hall is a Republican and an enterprising man.

GEORGE W. HALL, son of William H. and Lucinda (Hull) Hall, was born in Clark County, Ohio, in March, 1834. His father came to this township in 1835, and is residing now near Kendallville. The subject, in 1855, November 8, was married to Miss Margaret Pickles; her death occurred November 15, 1880; she was born in England in 1833, and was the daughter of Robert and Jane Pickles. In the spring of 1856, Mr. Hall began farming on rented property, and two years later paid \$1,600 for 120 acres of wild land in Greenfield Township; this he traded for other land in Greenfield and Springfield Townships; subsequently sold and purchased farm of eighty acres near Kendallville, that he finally exchanged for 160 acres in this township. Mr. Hall is living with his second wife, to whom he was married December 1, 1881; she was Mrs. Susan E. Selby, widow of Joseph Selby, by whom she had four children. Mr. Hall, by his first wife, had seven children. Although of limited education, Mr. Hall is behind the times in nothing, readily adopting new ideas and methods that are superior to old ones.

WILLIS HASKINS is next to the oldest man in his township, and one of the oldest settlers; he came here with his parents, Erastus and Mary (Moore) Haskins, in August, 1836, and has ever since lived on the farm where they located. His father died at the age of seventy-two and his mother at seventy. Mr. Haskins is now in his eighty-fifth year; he has always been a leading farmer, and owns 208 acres of land, acquired by economical industry. He was one of the early Township Trustees. November 21, 1830, Willis Haskins and

Miss Jane Jackson were united "for better or for worse." This lady died April 5, 1856, having borne her husband eight children, viz., Elizabeth, Franklin, Charles, George, Albert, Mary J., Edith and Willis. Mr. Haskins' second marriage was to Mrs. Clarissa L. Murray, daughter of John Kemp, October 25, 1858; they had two children, Eugene and Ella, deceased. Three sons of Mr. Haskins served during the late war, Franklin, Charles and Albert; the former never lived to return, but rests in a soldier's grave at Nashville, Tenn. Previous to his advent in this county Mr. Haskins farmed in New York, his native State, being born in Cayuga County August 21, 1797.

CHRISTOPHER L. HAWK, son of Christopher and Ellen Hawk, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in March, 1821. Mrs. Ellen Hawk died in 1823, and in 1825 Mr. Hawk was married to Lena Bopp. The subject, with his father and step-mother, came to America in 1831; after living three years in Holmes County, Ohio, they moved to Hancock County, thence in 1858 to De Kalb County, Ind., and after a sojourn of ten years came to the village of Mongo, where they are yet residing with their eldest son, the subject, at the respective ages of ninety-two and seventy-six years. C. L. Hawk was married, in 1847, to Miss Sarah Wyckoff, the daughter of Casper B. and Catharine (Johnson) Wyckoff, New Jerseyites, of German descent. They had nine children, seven of whom are living: William C., a miller; Charles F., a merchant; John L., Eli Z., Mary E. (now Mrs. O. G. Long); Anna S. (now Mrs. Charles E. Dickenson), of White Pigeon, Mich., and Sarah E. Mr. and Mrs. Hawk are both members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Hawk is quite an experienced miller, that having been his chief occupation since eighteen years of age; at that time he received \$6 per month, and until 1845 gave all his earnings to his parents, and when he married had \$60. In about 1850, he bought 80 acres of land, sold it in 1858 for \$2,300, then came to this State and purchased a flouring-mill in De Kalb County, on the St. Joe River, previous to buying his saw and grist-mill and town property in the village of Mongo, where he is now located and respected as a prosperous business man and citizen.

JOSEPH J. HOLTON, son of James and Susan Holton, came to this township in about 1859, for the purpose of spending the winter with his brother-in-law, Dr. Spalding; but, being pleased with the country, has made it his permanent abiding place. Since twelve years of age, he has been dependent on his own resources. During the summer of 1860, he learned the carpenter's trade, but the two years following was employed in painting at La Grange, then began farm work, in the employ of Mr. Seaburn. In 1866, he commenced farming for him on shares. Two summers previous, he worked for Mr. Millis. Since then Mr. Holton has been engaged in farming and stock-raising to some extent. At the time the war opened, he had \$96, but paid \$76 to exempt the township draft. March 13, 1869, Mr. Holton and Miss Sarah Deal were united in matrimony. His birth occurred in Morrow County, Ohio, in September, 1843, and hers in this county in 1845. Her parents—Conrad and Elizabeth (Rawles) Deal—were among the first to locate in this township, coming here in 1834. Their humble cabin home was adorned with home-made furniture and an orchard raised from seed brought here by them. They had a family of twelve children, eight now living, viz.: Harrison, Elisha, Henry, Melinda, Frank, Teresa, Hadley and Sarah. Mr. and Mrs. Holton have an only son, Frank Vern, born January 5, 1880.

PHINEAS T. HUNTSMAN is the son of Jesse and Lucy (Jones) Huntsman, natives of Pennsylvania and Vermont, who moved with their parents at

an early date to Ohio, and, shortly after the event of their marriage, came to this township in 1831, where Phineas T. was born December 29, 1832. Mr. Huntsman, Sr., took an active part in the organization of the township and the La Grange Phalanx or Association. He first located on Section 28, but subsequently sold and moved to Sections 20 and 21. That was his share in an association farm when it disbanded. Here he died in December, 1860. His wife died in May of the same year. Phineas Huntsman, after his father's death, purchased the homestead farm of 220 acres and fairly improved. On the 1st of January, 1863, he was married to Orissa Jennings, whose birth occurred in Jefferson County, N. Y., October 25, 1832. Her parents—Benjamin and Eliza (Hunt) Jennings—came to this township in 1854. Mrs. Jennings was born in Vermont. She is seventy-one years old and is living on the homestead farm. Pennsylvania was Mr. Jennings' native State. He died in Allegan County, Mich., in October, 1878, having lived there ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman have had two children. Mary E. (deceased) was born January 30, 1867, and Jessie L., born November 22, 1869. Mr. Huntsman is a Republican and a man of good standing in society.

MRS. HANNAH E. KINGSLEY, the daughter of Hustis and Eliza Cronkite, of New York, was born in Orange County, N. Y., in 1826. Her parents were a mixture of English, German and French descent. In 1845, Miss Hannah Cronkite was married to Lorin Kingsley, now deceased. They removed from Monroe County, N. Y., to Orleans County, same State, thence to Indiana in 1857, and located on the old association farm, their goods being lost on the way, leaving them almost entirely destitute of bedding and cooking utensils. They moved into a house about two hundred feet long and lived there about six weeks. Mr. Kingsley, from a poor boy, became one of the leading farmers and stock dealers of the township, owning at the time of his death, December 10, 1879, \$30,000 worth of property or more. He was a thoroughly good man, and is mourned by his family and large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley had six children—Nettie, Elizabeth, Carrie, Eva, Kate P. and Charles E. Mr. Kingsley was born in Monroe County, N. Y., May 20, 1814, and by his first wife, Mary Lilly, had five children, four living, viz.: Jennie, Marcia, Minnie and William H.

EDWARD MILLIS is among the early settlers of Springfield Township. His father, Levin Millis, was a native of Maryland and twice married. By his first marriage there were born four children, and by his last wife—Ruth Leonard, also a native of Maryland—there were born three children. After his second marriage, Mr. Millis, in 1837, emigrated to Wayne County, Ind., where he had friends. After living in Wayne County two years, he moved to Springfield Township, where he engaged in farming until his death, August 2, 1840. His widow died March 9, 1874. Edward Millis was born February 6, 1831, in Talbot County, Md., to his father's second wife. He assisted in the labors of pioneer life at home, receiving but a common school education, and was married March 28, 1855, to Eleanor M., daughter of Robert and Mary (Pollman) Griffin, who were natives of England and who came to the United States in 1829 and 1834 respectively. They came to La Grange County in 1841, and moved to Steuben County in 1842, where Mr. Griffin died the same year. His widow died in 1856. In 1856, Mr. Millis purchased a farm in Clay Township, but after four and a half years sold out and returned to Springfield Township, where he purchased a farm and resided until his removal to La Grange. By hard labor and economy, they have made additions, until they now own 210 acres of land



on Sections 23 and 24. They are the parents of five children—Emma E. (deceased), Frank E., Marian M., Louis M. and one that died in infancy. In 1879, Mr. Millis moved to La Grange, for the purpose of giving his children better school advantages. They resided there until March, 1882, when they removed back to their place in Springfield Township, where they still reside. Mr. Millis is a Republican. He and wife are members of the M. E. Church. Mrs. Millis was born in Niagara County, N. Y., July 6, 1835.

MATTHEW MYERS is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., and son of John F. and Elizabeth Myers, natives also of the same State. John Myers was a shoemaker, and his son Matthew naturally acquired a taste for that pursuit, and worked at it when a boy; but for some time previous to visiting Indiana, in 1853, he drove a stage team. Since coming to this township, in 1855, with his family, Mr. Myers has accumulated property worth over \$6,000. For the first two years after arriving here, he was engaged in stage driving, while his family kept the toll-gate on the plank road; subsequently worked at shoemaking seven years, then bought his farm of 150 acres that has proven a good investment. Mr. Myers has been three times married. By his first marriage, in 1836, to Lucy Hopkins, he had one child—William H. In 1852, he was married to Cornelia Dunham; they had an only son—Frank. His third wife was Zoe M. Scoville, daughter of Josiah Richard. They have an only daughter, Libby.

SAMUEL H. NEWNAM was born in September, 1841, on the farm in this township where he has ever since resided. He was married in December, 1870, to Miss Emma Faulkner, a native also of this township, where she was born in November, 1841. Her parents were William P. and Nancy (Pearson) Faulkner, both natives of Maryland, and descendants respectively of the English and Irish; he came to this township in 1837 with his brother Elsbey, locating on Section 31, where he was engaged in farming many years, subsequently removing to La Grange, where his death occurred in March, 1878; he was a member of the Methodist Church. Samuel Newnam, when of age, started with a capital of \$100; he rented the old homestead until after the death of his father in 1876, when he purchased a portion of it, comprising 214 acres. For ten years past he has dealt largely in stock, buying and shipping in the spring. In 1881, he shipped two car loads of sheep that averaged 155 pounds per head, and one double-deck load that averaged 140 pounds per head. For the past three years his farm has yielded an annual profit of \$3,000. Mr. Newnam is a leading farmer of his township, and is the son of Nicholas B. Newnam, who came to this township in 1836, and was married to a second wife in 1840—Susan Greenfield, the daughter of Robert and Ann (Austin) Greenfield, of Maryland, who moved to Ohio in 1818, thence to this township in 1835, where Mr. Greenfield died, leaving a wife and six children.

WILLIAM S. NEWNAM, the son of Benedict and Rachael (Benson) Newnam, was born October 5, 1808, in Talbot County, Md., that being the State of his parents' nativity, who were of English descent. In the spring of 1836, William Newnam and family started for the West, stopping about one month in Franklin County in June, thence to this township via Indianapolis, South Bend and White Pigeon. Here he entered 120 acres of land, living in his wagon until he completed a log cabin, where he lived until the death of his wife. Soon after sold his place, having cleared forty acres and improved with new buildings. For four years he was variously employed, and about 1854 purchased land in Milford Township that was subsequently exchanged for his

present farm of 130 acres, that is in an improved condition. In May, 1832, he was married to Sarah H. Clark, of the same nativity as himself and the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Clark. They had four children—Edward B., Rebecca A., John C. and Sarah S. His second marriage was consummated in 1856. His wife, Jane Bryan, the daughter of William Cochran, came to this county in 1837 with her parents. She died in 1867, and Mr. Newnam has since lived with his daughter H. (now Mrs. Frank Lewis), on the homestead farm. The subject while in the employ of Capt. Barry, in 1840, husked seventy bushels of corn in one day. Previous to coming to Indiana, he was a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge, and is a charter member of the Regulator Society, in which movement he was actively engaged. He is a Republican, and was once a Free-Soiler; he was accompanied to this county by three brothers and two sisters—Gerry P., Daniel I., Francis A., Rebecca and Ann, and another brother, Nicholas B., came in the fall. William Newnam is now the only living representative of the family. He is known and respected as an old pioneer that has endured much for the sake of the country's good. His son, John C., during the war, enlisted in Company H., Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in the fall of 1861, and served three years, receiving a wound at the battle of Chickamauga.

PHILO NICHOLS, born in Connecticut in 1815, is a son of James Nichols, of the same State, and one of five brothers who located in this county—Drusus, in 1833, John, in 1836, Thaddeus, in 1837, Augustus, in 1838, and the subject in 1839. Augustus previously had lived in Texas about four years; Philo Nichols stopped with his brother about three years at Union Mills (Mongo); the following ten years resided in Steuben County, then bought his home of eighty acres in this township in 1852, it being then partially cleared; is now finely cultivated, and worth \$70 an acre. Mr. Nichols' first wife, Melinda Carr, of New York, to whom he was married in 1848, died in 1851, leaving one child—Alice (now Mrs. Joseph Talmage). His present wife became Mrs. Nichols on the 17th of March, 1857; she was formerly Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart, widow of William Stewart and daughter of Levin Millis. Mr. Nichols has twice been chosen to serve as Township Trustee. His first election was in 1854. Farming and stock-raising principally engage his time and attention.

DAVID PAULUS, son of David Paulus, in 1841 was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Babb, who was born in Pennsylvania November 25, 1820, and her husband in Stark County, Ohio, August 11, 1817. She was the daughter of John Babb, both parents being of German descent and natives of Pennsylvania. David Paulus, Jr., when of age, learned carpentering, receiving \$24 for his first year's work, and that has occupied the principal part of his time until within the past seven years. He came to this county in 1844, and since buying eighty acres of land in this township, in 1847, has followed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Paulus belong to the Church of God, and have had seven children—William H. (deceased), Mary S., Charles E. (deceased), Albert A., Elvora (deceased), Ella and Harvey E. Mr. Paulus was Trustee of his township three years, and is recognized as a valuable citizen. His son William (now deceased), served during the war of the rebellion, first enlisting in the spring of 1861 in the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, re-enlisting in 1864 as a veteran, and remaining until the war closed.

HON. WILLIAM PRENTISS, one of the representative men of the township, comes from pioneer stock, and was born in pioneer days, April 18,

1835, on the old homestead farm, where he now lives. He inherits in a large degree the sterling qualities of his parents—Judge William S. and Jane Prentiss, who filled so honorable a place in this community. Young William in his boyhood gathered his book knowledge as best he could from the limited opportunities of those primitive days. He continued to live with his parents after he was twenty-one years old, and after working a couple of years for his father, entered partnership with him in running the farm. Subsequently, he went West during the Idaho excitement, but returned at the end of about five months, just in time to vote for Abraham Lincoln for his second term of the Presidency. In the autumn of 1872, he was elected by the Republican party as Representative to the State Legislature, serving his constituency in a creditable manner. Upon the death of his father, he was made executor of the estate. Since 1876, he has been serving as a member of the Republican Central Committee, performing an influential and active part in home politics. At present, he is filling the position of Township Trustee. Mr. Prentiss was married February 27, 1866, to Hermie S. Coffinberry, daughter of S. C. Coffinberry, of Constantine, Mich.; five children have been born to them—James F., May 27, 1867; William S., November 3, 1868; Margaret E., October 31, 1871; Mary J., February 12, 1876, and Helen L., September 15, 1879.

JUDGE WILLIAM S. PRENTISS (deceased) was an early pioneer of La Grange County, having entered land on Section 34, and settled in what is now Springfield Township in the fall of 1832. He was a native of Massachusetts and of English descent. Born of poor parents, he was thrown upon his own resources in his boyhood days, and went to live with a Mr. Chandler as clerk in his store for his board and clothes, conditioned that he should remain until he was twenty-one years of age. At the expiration of his time, he engaged to remain with his old employer at a small salary, with whom he continued for two years. He then entered college, and, notwithstanding his self-dependence, by assisting himself with teaching school at intervals, he secured a good education and attended Cambridge University, Massachusetts, until 1826. He then took up civil engineering under Col. Baldwin, of Boston, continuing until the fall of 1832, when he came West to locate a home. Here Mr. Prentiss at once entered upon an intelligent and useful career. December 25, following his arrival here, he was united in marriage by Judge Seeley with Miss Jane M. Clark, and the next day he drove to White Pigeon and purchased their housekeeping outfit, which he packed in a barrel and returned home. A peculiar coincidence occurred in connection with this couple. A short time previous to their first meeting, Mr. Prentiss was taking a view of the surrounding country on horseback with a view of locating, and when just west of where his home now stands his horse became mired and was extricated with difficulty. Notwithstanding this episode, Mr. Prentiss was so attracted by the beauty of the scenery that he decided to make his home in the neighborhood. A few days subsequently, Miss Clark was riding for recreation in the vicinity, when her horse became mired in the same mud-hole. A short time after this, they met at Judge Seeley's, where they became acquainted. Among the early improvements made by Mr. Prentiss was a saw-mill built by him in 1838, on Turkey Creek, which is still in operation. Being a man of superior education, with a mind far above the average, and possessed of those sterling attributes, integrity and moral rectitude, he soon took a decided position as a leader in his township and county. All enterprises that had in view the advancement of the public interests, found in him an able, earnest and uncompromising advocate. In politics, he was a Whig, and,

upon the organization of the Republican party, he joined its standard, and became a warm supporter of its principles. Besides filling many minor positions, he served as County Commissioner for a number of years, and administered the duties of the office of Probate Judge for two terms. His great administrative ability was called into active play by his appointment as administrator of a large number of estates of great and varied interests, and in his discharge of the trust as guardian, in several instances he displayed his usual good judgment and unyielding impartiality. In religious matters he was liberal, inclining to a conservative spiritual belief. The free hall erected in the township was projected and built largely through his instrumentality. The organization of Springfield Township, and the location of the county seat at La Grange was due, perhaps, as much to the active co-operation of Judge Prentiss as any other man. He was not of a speculative turn of mind, but by judicious management and attention to business his interests grew far beyond his youthful expectations or ambition, which had placed the sum to be acquired at \$2,000. Mrs. Prentiss is a native of Massachusetts, and was reared in the Presbyterian faith, but in after years grew out of that school to a more liberal belief. She came to this locality in 1831. By her union with Judge Prentiss, she became the mother of five children, three of whom are yet living. Mrs. Prentiss makes her home with her son William on the old homestead, and is in the enjoyment of reasonably good health—now in the seventy-third year of her age. In the death of Judge Prentiss, which occurred in 1872, the public lost an able and earnest advocate of its best interests, and the family an affectionate and noble head.

**RODERICK PRENTISS** (deceased), a son of Judge William S. Prentiss, at the age of fourteen years received an appointment through the aid of Judge Chamberlain to the Naval School at Annapolis, where he received a thorough education, and subsequently accepted service in the U. S. Navy, and while gallantly serving as executive officer of the sloop of war *Monongahela* in an engagement during the war of the rebellion, August 5, 1864, he was terribly wounded by both legs being shot to pieces, and died the following day. His remains rest near Pensacola, where a stone, erected by his brother officers, marks his grave. Thus upon the threshold of a brilliant career, at the age of twenty-four years, a brave officer and a noble gentleman was ruthlessly slain in a ruthless war.

**ELISHA RAWLES**, son of James and Maria (Williamson) Rawles, is a native of Ross County, Ohio, born May 13, 1821. His parents, natives respectively of Kentucky and New Jersey, from Ross, moved to Marion County, Ohio, thence to this township, in April 1839. In 1842, James Rawles was elected County Sheriff, re-elected in 1844, and after the expiration of his services he became a resident of La Grange, where he died in 1853. He served as Justice of the Peace previous to being Sheriff, and was an influential and respected citizen. Elisha Rawles was married to Rosetta Talmage on the 24th of February, 1845. Her parents, Henry and Sophia Talmage, were natives of New York. She died, November 27, 1878, leaving three children, viz., Charles W., Hattie L. and Clinton H. Mr. Rawles, when twenty-one years old, bought his first land—160 acres—on credit, paying for it with the profits. In 1873, he bought the 240 acres he is now farming in this township. For some time he ran a breaking team (six yoke of oxen), and in one season fitted fifty acres for wheat, Fort Wayne then being the grain market. For about fifteen years, Mr. Rawles has raised stock quite extensively, shipping to Chicago and Buffalo. Mr. Rawles is a man of ability, and a worthy citizen.



HORACE B. ROGERS came to this township, accompanied by his mother, in 1838; settled on land in Section 19, but soon exchanged it for his present farm, where he has lived since, with the exception of two winters spent in Lima, Ind. His parents were Bradish and Polly (Mase) Rogers, of Massachusetts, and are of English descent. In their westward journeying they stopped in Ashtabula County, Ohio, where the subject was born in 1822; thence, in 1836, to Sturgis, Mich. Since the age of twelve, Horace Rogers has cared for himself, and has received few advantages. He has 320 acres of land in this township, and has ever been a valued and worthy citizen, having served ten years as Trustee, during which time eight schoolhouses were built and furnished; he was Treasurer of the War Fund, and has served as School Director and Pathmaster. Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Priscilla Gage, April 13, 1848. Their family numbers six, viz., Emery A., Harriet E., deceased; Albert N., Henry A., Adella M. and Esther L. The three sons are married, and living near home. Mrs. Rogers was born in Pennsylvania, in 1830. Her parents, Isaac and Hannah (Eastlick) Gage, were of English and German descent, and came to this township in 1832.

GEORGE SANDERSON, a retired farmer of this township, came over to this country from England, his birthplace, 1832. He is the son of John Sanderson, of England, and at the age of eight years was left an orphan. In England, he worked for three guineas (about \$15) a year, and finding it extremely difficult to make a living, he was induced to come to America. Although meeting with many hardships, his experience on the whole has been satisfactory and profitable. From New York, he proceeded to Detroit, and remained in the vicinity, his services being engaged by a farmer, until, in June, 1834, he came to this township, and while in the employ of Elder Bradford, was attacked by the ague, from which he suffered thirteen months. Being in reduced circumstances, he returned to Detroit, engaged some time in sawing ship timber, and then purchased land—forty acres—in Lenawee County, Mich., that he subsequently traded for eighty acres in this township, where he moved in 1842; but soon sold out and went to Monroe County, Mich. After the death of his wife, Mr. Sanderson returned, and bought 100 acres, where he is now living, in the seventieth year of his age. Mr. Sanderson is a Republican, and an anti-secrect man. His first marriage in April, 1839; his wife, Margaret Cooper, a native of Yorkshire, Eng. Their children were Lydia A., now Mrs. John C. Newnam; Mary E., deceased; John F., Ellen, an infant, and George O., who manages the homestead farm. His second wife was Mary Tinklepaugh, whom he married in April, 1857. She died in March, 1875. George O. Sanderson was united in marriage with Nancy Stover, of Steuben County, March 30, 1879. Willam C. is their only child.

JOHN SEABURN, a practical and successful farmer of the township, was born in 1835 on the place where he is now living. His estate comprises 532 acres of improved land, including the old homestead, where his parents, William and Nancy A. (Rawles) Seaburn, of Ohio, located in April, 1832, it originally being a tract of 80 acres of entered land. William Seaburn, before his death in 1870, had the satisfaction of increasing the number of acres to 280. He was a prominent citizen of the county, having held the offices of County Commissioner and Justice of the Peace several terms. He was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. He died in his sixty-third year. Mrs. Nancy Seaburn died about the year 1852. John Seaburn is a Mason and quite a political worker. The proceeds of his farm for the past five

years average annually a profit ranging from \$2,500 to \$3,000. He also raises live stock to some extent. Mrs. Ellen Seaburn, the subject's wife, is the daughter of James and Susanna (Lash) Holton, of Pennsylvania, and German descent. They have two sons—Fred H. and Frank H. Mrs. Seaburn's birth occurred in Richland County, Ohio, in 1838, and her marriage to Mr. Seaburn in 1861.

EZRA SEARS, the eldest son of Eleazear and Sarah (Wheaton) Sears, is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., born December 23, 1826. His parents were of English descent, and natives of New York. They moved to this township in 1842, and for five years rented Judge Wescott's place. Mr. Sears traded his property in New York for forest land here. His family consisted of four children. Ezra, when of age, was given 80 acres of land in Elkhart County, Ind., and after numerous changes, located in this township in 1851, and has increased his farm to 424 acres; he also owns about \$2,000 worth of property in Sturgis, Mich. For the year 1879, the proceeds of Mr. Sears' farm were \$3,700, and for 1880, \$3,600. Another profitable branch of industry, i. e., sheep-raising, engages Mr. Sears' attention. Mr. Sears, during the years of 1876 and 1877, lived eighteen months in Sturgis, Mich., where the school advantages were better. Mrs. Sears, formerly Jane Tuttle, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, November 8, 1837, and is the daughter of Halstead and Didama Tuttle, who settled in Lima Township about 1838. She was united to the subject March 29, 1853. They have two children—Charles W., born May 18, 1856, and Florence J., September 12, 1860. Mr. Sears was reared to labor and economize, and as a result, is now worth \$30,000. His father died at the age of sixty-eight, from injuries received by an accident while mowing in the yard.

HIRAM SMITH was born in Ellisburg, Jefferson Co., N. Y., in 1817, from which place he emigrated in the summer of 1834, stopping in Greenfield Township, on Pretty Prairie, until 1840, when he located at Mongoquinong—now Mongo. He is the son of Oliver and Polly Smith, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, and of Welsh descent. Oliver Smith came West, to Greenfield Township, in 1836, thence to Orland, Steuben County, where he died in 1840, at the age of seventy-four years. In 1840, Hiram Smith opened a wagon-shop, where he was employed about ten years; then engaged in mercantile business, continuing it twenty-five years. He next began the undertaking business, which he still follows. Mr. Smith at one time, in company with three companions, went on an expedition down Pigeon River, into the St. Joe, thence across Potato Creek, down the Kankakee into the Illinois River, near Ottawa. They sold their skiff and took steamboat for St. Louis, returning home *via* Wisconsin, in time to vote for Gen. Harrison. Mr. Smith held the office of Justice of Peace twelve years, being first elected in 1842, and has served as Notary Public. He has been a member of the Republican Central Committee, and was elected County Commissioner, but resigned. Under President Polk, Mr. Smith received an appointment as Postmaster, and served twelve years. He has been married three times, first in 1842 to Mary J. Cleveland. Of three children born to them, one, Theodosia, is living; she is now Mrs. James Bixler. His second wife was Olive B. Farr; their only son, Eugene, is a resident of Kansas. He is living now with his third wife, Mrs. Margaret Appleman. They have five children—Cassius, Arthur, Walter, Willie and Jennie.

G. W. SMITH is a wealthy and retired farmer of this township; came here and located in 1837. His land at that time was entirely covered with timber, with the exception of a clearing of four acres, where stood a rude log cabin. Mr. Smith worked by the month four years. In 1842, he married Mrs. Jane Shepherd, widow of Starr Shepherd, and daughter of Joseph Gray, native of Connecticut, and of Irish descent. She was born in Connecticut in 1808. Mr. Smith is a native of Madison County, N. Y., born in September, 1812. His parents, Calvin and Sophia Smith, of English ancestry, were born in New York. Mrs. Smith had two children by her first husband—Annie E., deceased, and Jerome F., now landlord of the Central House at Mongo. By Mr. Smith she has three children—George, Sophia and Charles. The sons are both living on the homestead farm, and Sophia, now Mrs. Emery A. Rogers, is living in this township. Mr. Smith has marketed wheat at Fort Wayne at 50 cents per bushel, when it required three days to make the trip.

JOHN SNYDER, SR., is the son of Samuel C. and Elizabeth Snyder, descendants of the Germans, and natives of Pennsylvania. Samuel Snyder was a blacksmith by trade. At the age of fifteen, John Snyder went to Wayne County, Ohio, subsequently moving to Adams County, Ind., where he lived twelve years. In the fall of 1863, he moved to Noble County, lived three years, then bought his farm of 153 acres in this township. Previous to this, he had been principally engaged at his trade—masonry—at which he was a first-class workman, and has assisted in laying the foundation of numerous buildings in Fort Wayne and Waterloo. Mr. Snyder was born in Franklin County, Penn., December 29, 1819, and was married March 24, 1841. He was reared among religious people, and has long been a member of the Church of God; his wife belongs to the same church. Mrs. Snyder was Elizabeth Kahl, daughter of John and Christina (Garn) Kahl, of Pennsylvania, of German descent. By Mr. Snyder's foresight in detecting an accident about to take place, while at work on the main sewer in Fort Wayne, the lives of at least twenty men were saved, and a calamity averted. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have had thirteen children, seven of whom are living—Mary, Susan, Margaret, Samuel, Henry, John and Elizabeth.

JOHN SPAERO, SR., born in Lancaster County, Penn., January 12, 1831; son of James Spearow, of this Township, formerly of Pennsylvania. In 1854, the subject rented land of Benjamin Jones; then two years later journeyed to Polk County, Iowa, where he lived three years, and after a brief visit to this county started for Pike's Peak, but returned within a year. He then enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in the fall of 1861, and, owing to disabilities, was honorably discharged at Nashville, Tenn., January 20, 1863. Among the battles he participated in may be mentioned Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Perryville. After returning home, he worked four years for Peter McKinley, then purchased 160 acres of land where his home is now located. Mr. Spaero has been mail carrier since July, 1880, and expects to serve four years. October 24, 1853, he was married to his first wife, Louisa J. Curtiss, a native of this county, and daughter of Alanson Curtiss, of New York. She died March 1, 1879, and left three children—John A., James H. and Schuyler C. The present Mrs. Spaero and the subject were joined in marriage June 13, 1880; she was Anna G. Maybe, daughter of Cornelius Maybe, of New Jersey. Mr. Spaero is a leading Republican citizen.

A. M. SPAULDING, M. D., the successful practicing physician in this vicinity, is a native of Essex County, N. Y., born near Crown Point in 1827. Until he began the study of medicine at the age of twenty-four, he was a stock-

drover and lived with his parents, Miles and Theodosia (Nichols) Spaulding. His father, who went to Richland County, Ohio, in 1838, and came here in 1879, is living with the subject at the age of eighty-four. His first experience in reading medicine was with Dr. Cyrus Damsell, of Lexington, Richland Co., Ohio, who died about two years subsequently, and for one year the subject was under the tutelage of Dr. U. P. Anderson. During the winter of 1849-50, he was a student in the Starling Medical College, Ohio. In 1852, after practicing two years at Lexington, he went to California, returning in the spring of 1854, to begin his medical career in this township, having located his home at Springfield Village. The Doctor is widely known and has built up a large practice. His first year's work was not very encouraging, however, as he came out \$100 in debt, but he has striven and succeeded. Dr. Spaulding was married October 10, 1851, to Miss Lovina Holtom. Her parents, James and Susan (Lash) Holtom, were natives of Ohio, and descendants of the English. Dr. and Mrs. Spaulding have two children—Isadora Minnette, now Mrs. Joseph Newnam, and Frank, who is now engaged in farming. Dr. Spaulding is a Republican, and was chiefly instrumental in causing to be organized a lodge of Good Templars and establishing a permanent mail route. He was a charter member of the Regulator Society, serving twenty-one years as secretary.

JAMES SPEAROW, SR., was one of seven children born to William and Rosanna (Ruth) Spearow, and the first to leave his native State, Pennsylvania, to seek a Western home. He was married in October, 1829, to Susanna Stauver, born in Pennsylvania, in 1801; Mr. Spearow was born in Lancaster County September 18, 1808. About 1832, they went to Stark County, Ohio, and in the spring of 1846 came to this county, and Mr. Spearow traded his team for 160 acres of land, never questioning the honesty of the parties with whom he bargained, but afterward discovered that they had no claim on the land. He soon after moved to land in this township; his wife was unequal to the tasks and hardships, and died in February, 1849. They had ten children—Rosanna, John, Samuel, Susanna (deceased), William, James, Daniel, Jacob, Solomon and Mary. September 13, 1849, Mr. Spearow married Mrs. Martha Millis, widow of John W. Millis and daughter of Robert and Mary (Connel) Burke, natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia, and of Irish descent. Mrs. Spearow is a native of Madison County, Ky., born in 1811, and by her first marriage had four children—Elnora E., Helen S., Estella and Sarah C. By Mr. Spearow, three, viz., Sarah A., Amelia and Gibson—Amelia only living. Subject and wife belong to the U. B. Church. He is a Republican, and owns 240 acres of fine land, and has retired from active work. Four of Mr. Spearow's sons served during the war of the rebellion.

SAMUEL SPEAROW, who owns 240 acres of land in this township, came here with his parents in 1846, and has spent his time since in working hard to possess himself of a good home and improved farm. He lived for some time in a log house, and during the month of May prepared and planted ten acres of corn. He was married on the 25th of December, 1847, to Frances Deal, the daughter of Conrad and Elizabeth Deal, who came to this county in 1834. Mr. and Mrs. Spearow had eleven children, six of whom are living, viz.: Charlie F., Fred, Joe, Agnes E., Ned and Maggie B. Mr. Spearow is a native of Stark County, Ohio, and was born October 14, 1832; his parents were James and Susanna Spearow. He lived under the parental roof until twenty-four years of age; then went to Van Buren Township, and rented a farm one year; then returned and bought 80 acres of his present farm, which



is now worth about \$11,000. He is an active Republican and energetic citizen; paid \$150 to assist in clearing the township draft.

SOLOMON SPEAROW was born August 15, 1843, and when a child came to this county with his parents, James and Susan Spearow. He remained with his father until the age of twenty-two, and October 25, 1868, was united in marriage with Mrs. Lydia A. Gage, the widow of Samuel Gage, deceased, and daughter of Elias and Roxia Gilbert. They have four children—Addie, Hattie H., Flora and Rollin. By her first husband Mrs. Spearow had one child, Ella R., who is now teaching school. Mr. Spearow's farm is well cultivated, and for the past three years the proceeds have averaged about \$1,800 a year. He is a member of the U. B. Church. Mrs. Spearow's father, Elias G. Gilbert, was born in New York State August 2, 1808, and moved thence to Clark County, Ohio, when but a boy. In 1833, he was married to Mrs. Roxia (Hammond) Nickelson of New York. He moved to this county in 1835, three years after its organization. He first settled in Green Township on the farm of Judge Seeley, and in two years had accumulated enough to purchase 80 acres of land in Springfield Township, on Brushy Prairie. Having partially cleared his land he built a log-cabin, where they dwelt until 1851, when they built the frame structure that is yet standing. Mr. Gilbert was an industrious man, a kind father and accommodating neighbor. At the time of his death he owned 500 acres of land, well improved with good buildings. He died at his home on Brushy Prairie, of typhoid fever, September 22, 1865.

ELISHA TALMAGE is one of ten children in the family of Enos and Polly (Barber) Talmage, who were natives of New York, of English descent. He learned carpentering at the age of twenty-one and followed it two years at \$10 a month; then in the summer of 1836 worked in Auburn, N. Y.; the succeeding fall went to Michigan, made a brief sojourn in Lenawee County, returning to his home via Canada. In the spring of 1837, in company with his brother-in-law, came to Indiana, settling in the fall on 120 acres, for which he paid \$500. He now owns 169 acres, worth \$75 per acre. Mr. Talmage's first wife, Lucy Williams, native of New York, died in April, 1849, after nine years of married life, during which time five children were born to them—Joseph, Harriet, Enos, Mary E. and Calista E. Mr. Talmage in 1851, October, married Miss Jane Griffen, a native of Spaxton, England, who came to this country in 1833, with her parents—Robert H. and Mary (Polman) Griffen. They have ten children, viz.: Lewis E., Isaac G. (deceased), Charles E., Harvey H., Herbert J., Lucy L., Arthur F., Ernest E., George G. and Eva J. (deceased). Joseph W., son of subject, in 1861 enlisted in the Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but soon after was transferred to the Twenty-first Heavy Artillery. He is now a resident of Nebraska, and donated land for the church on his farm. His wife belongs to the Methodist Church. Mr. Talmage, since 1856, has raised considerable live stock, is an enterprising man, and was born in 1813 in Milton, Saratoga County, N. Y.

HENRY TALMAGE, SR., began farming for himself when twenty-one years of age, and has followed that occupation since; has retired from active work and is living on the farm where he and family located in the fall of 1840, which is now under the skillful management of his youngest son. Ira Enos and Polly (Barber) Talmage were New Yorkers, of English descent; their son Henry, the subject, was born in 1804, in Saratoga County, N. Y.; he married Sophia W. Corwin, January 7, 1827; she was born October 22, 1807, and is the daughter of Horton and Betsey (Armstrong) Corwin, natives of Connecti-

cut. They have had five children—Rosetta, (deceased); Louisa, Henry C., Ira C. and Werter, (deceased). Mr. Talmage owns 160 acres of land, and is versed in the experiences of pioneer life. At one time he worked three weeks making hay in water twelve to eighteen inches deep. He is one of the charter members of the Regulator Society, and assisted in constructing the first school building in the vicinity. Ira Talmage was married, December 15, 1871, to Ellen Knight, who was born in Ohio June 22, 1844, the daughter of Daniel and Lucy Knight, Virginians by birth. They had two children—Clara B., and Marion G., deceased.

GEORGE THOMPSON, son of Barnabas Thompson, was born in Berkshire County, Mass., in 1812, December 24. His father was a shoemaker, and located, about 1830, at White Pigeon, Mich., and then came with his family to Greenfield Township, this county, and died while with his son. When of age, George Thompson left his native State on the 1st of September and arrived in this county on the 20th. For two years he worked, variously employed, then entered eighty acres of land, and, shortly after, two lots of forty acres each; he has since improved and increased it to 217 acres; it is worth about \$55 per acre. Mr. Thompson is considered a leading farmer and citizen, and has never belonged to any secret society except the Regulators. Mr. Thompson's first wife, Caroline F. Butts, to whom he was married in 1837, died in March, 1848; she was a native of New York and had three children—Marshall, George W. and Ithai. September 10, 1848, the subject was married to his second wife, Cassia Searles, a native of New York; their children are Emeline, Lettie, Dora and Charles, who reside near the home farm.

CHARLES W. WADE is the son of Robert and Jane (Jiles) Wade, his birth occurring in Upper Canada in 1840. Robert Wade was an Englishman, and came to America with a brother in 1829, locating at White Pigeon, Mich., as a farmer. Jane Jiles came to Detroit, from England, with her parents in 1830, but from some discouragement, they returned to England the same year. Being again induced to cross the ocean, they located on English Prairie, in this county. In 1833, Jane Jiles and Robert Wade were married, and four years later moved to Canada, where they were residents until 1849, when they returned to this township. In 1853, Mr. Wade went to California and a few years later met his death; he was one of the passengers on board the "Central America," when that ship went down, shortly after passing Lower California. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. His wife yet survives, aged seventy-three years, and lives with her son, Charles W. For more than forty years she has been actively connected with the Methodist Church. Her father, John Jiles, was the first on English Prairie to grind wheat by hand, with a stone, an invention that served a good purpose at the time. Charles W. Wade was first married in 1870 to Harriet Waterhouse, who died in 1873, January 23. March 13, 1875, his marriage with Harriet A. Newnam was solemnized. She is the daughter of Nicholas B. and Susan (Greenfield) Newnam, her birth occurring on the 26th of February, 1845. Mr. Wade owns the old homestead farm where they are living, and in addition to farming, Mr. Wade is engaged in stock-raising.

**CLEARSPRING TOWNSHIP.**

**FRANK L. CHURCH** was born August 20, 1845, in Skaneateles, Onondaga County, N. Y. His parents were Darius D. and Jane Church, both natives of New York, where they died. The subject passed his youth in the State of New York, and when eleven years of age began working out by the month during summers and for his board in the winter, when he attended school. When nineteen years old, he enlisted in Company H, Fifteenth New York Engineer Corps. During his fifteen months' service, he participated in the engagement at Petersburg and his company were part of the army held in reserve at Richmond, and was the first to pass through that city after its surrender. He was discharged at Elmira, N. Y., and came to Indiana in 1864, since which time he has been engaged in farming. March 28, 1866, Mr. Church was married in this township to Miss Eliza A. Hoagland; she is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and was born in this county. Her parents, Clement and Abigail Hoagland, came from New York at an early day to Indiana, and died in this county. Mr. Church owns 200 acres of well cultivated land, of which he has cleared 150. He has a family of three children—Delta, Freddie and Bessie.

**JOSEPH DALLAS**, born in Dixon Township, Preble County, Ohio, October 5, 1820, son of William and Mary Dallas, came to Indiana when sixteen years old and lived on a farm with his father in this township. When twenty-one years of age, he contracted for a job of clearing twenty acres of land and splitting 6,000 12-foot rails, receiving forty acres of timbered land as payment. This he subsequently resided upon six years, and July 4, 1850, bought thirty-six of the 271½ acres of his present farm. He learned grafting in his youth, and continues to follow that as a branch of industry. Mr. Dallas was married in this county, May 9, 1843, to Miss Emily Clark, native of New York, and daughter of Erastus and Jerusha Clark, who located on a farm in Clay Township, this county. Mr. Clark died in Harrison County, Iowa, and his wife in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Dallas are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Eight children have been born to them: George T. was a soldier in the late war, and died at home; Erastus C., Sylvia E., Ida and Joseph S., deceased; Theodore, living in Adams County, Iowa; Isola J., in Noble County, and Lottie, a resident of Oregon.

**LEVI DALLAS** was born in Ohio, and is a son of William and Mary Dallas, natives of New Jersey. The subject came to Indiana in 1836, and lived with his father on a farm where the latter died; Mrs. Dallas died in Ohio. Levi Dallas, after acquiring a common-school education, began working by the month at Rochester, in Perry Township. Previous to his marriage, he bought eighty acres of land in Clearspring Township, and cleared six acres. He now owns 110 acres with first-class improvements. His large residence is constructed of brick, with all surroundings to correspond—iron fence, large barn, etc. Mr. Dallas is an excellent farmer whom it is difficult to surpass. October 27, 1859, Mr. Dallas was united in marriage with Caroline Newhouse, a native of Ohio. They have four children—Mary, Eva, Lucy and Martha. Mrs. Dallas' parents, natives of Virginia, were Amos and Mary Newhouse,

and were among the first settlers of La Grange County, coming here in 1835, and locating in this township on land secured to them by a warrant, and there they died.

**LORENZO DALLAS**, one of the four brothers living in this township, son of William and Mary Dallas, was born June 28, 1819, in Preble County, Ohio, where his education was achieved in the common schools. His mother dying in Ohio, his father came to this county, October 3, 1836, and located on a farm, where the latter period of his life was passed. Lorenzo Dallas, in common with his brothers, chose the life of a farmer, and keeps apace with the times. He owns 165 acres of fertile and highly improved land. Mr. Dallas was married in November, 1840, in this county, to Miss Sarah Kitchen. She was the daughter of Richard and Mary Kitchen and of the same nativity as her parents who were born in New Jersey, and died in this township. They have six children, namely: James, married and living in this county; John, at home; William, living in Montana; Clarissa J., married and a resident of this township; Richard and Newell, at home.

**SAMUEL DALLAS** is a native of New Jersey, and came to Indiana in 1836. His parents, William and Mary Dallas, were also natives of New Jersey. Mr. Dallas, Sr., upon arriving in this township, entered 40 acres of land and built a log cabin and a saw and grist mill, the first in the township, which he operated until 1838. William Dallas died in this township, and his wife in Preble County, Ohio. Samuel Dallas was reared in Preble County, Ohio, on a farm, and received but a meager education. He was married, March 25, 1841, to Anna M. Crosby, a daughter of Simeon and Sarah Crosby, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively. Mr. Crosby died in New York, and Mrs. Crosby in this township. Mrs. Dallas was born in Massachusetts. They began married life very modestly on 80 acres of his present farm, in a little log-cabin, with log stable, etc., which Mr. Dallas has cleared, improved and increased, until now he owns 200 acres, a large residence, barn, etc. Mr. Dallas is a thorough and enterprising farmer. They have two children living—Sarah A. and Mary J., both married, and living in Clear-spring Township.

**URIAH ECKER** is a native of this county, born March 5, 1850, and son of John and Martha Ecker, who came to Indiana in 1841, and located on a farm in Eden Township, where John Ecker died; he was born in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Ecker, a native of Ohio, is yet living, in Middlebury, Elkhart County. Uriah Ecker was educated a farmer, and was married in Ligonier, September 20, 1871, to Miss Ellen L. Ramsby, native of Pennsylvania, whose parents, John S. and Hannah Ramsby, came to Indiana and settled on a farm in Eden Township, in 1838. Mr. Ecker and wife lived eighteen months on a rented farm; then moved to Noble County, where they rented four years; then came and settled on 80 acres of land he had purchased in this township, where they have remained. They are both members of the Methodist Protestant Church, and have four children—Mattie M., Frank T., Jay S. and Albert R. Mr. Ecker, although comparatively young in years, is an experienced farmer, and has a fair prospect before him.

**SOLOMON FLECK** was born in Washington County, Ohio, in 1820, on the 26th of December. He purchased 40 acres of uncleared land when he came to Indiana, in 1848. He has made a marked improvement in the 120 acres that constitute his farm in this township. Mr. Fleck's wife was Julia A. Karshner, daughter of Louis Karshner, and a native of Harrison County,



Va. They were married in Clearspring Township in 1850, December 12. Mr. Fleck's younger days were passed in Ohio, where his advantages for learning were very limited. The intervening time, prior to his marriage, was spent profitably in hard, every-day work. Mr. Fleck's mother, Elizabeth Fleck, died in this township. She came here in 1848, from Ohio, where her husband died; both were born in Maryland, and were worthy, Christian people.

IRA FORD is a native of Wayne County, N. Y., and a son of Jarrett and Rebecca Ford, who came to Indiana and located in La Grange in April, 1856. Jarrett Ford was a native of Massachusetts, and died in La Grange, May 1, 1881. Rebecca Ford was born in Maryland, and is now living in La Grange, at the advanced age of seventy years. Ira Ford was born October 13, 1848, and spent his youth with his parents, and previous to his marriage taught five terms of school, beginning when he was nineteen years of age. February 6, 1873, he was married, in this county, to Miss Julia A. Peck, a native of this township, and daughter of Hawley and Harriet Peck, since which time he has been engaged principally in farming, although he has taught eight terms of school, during the winter, when not otherwise employed. Mr. Ford owns 80 acres of land, replete with the modern improvements and buildings, and his reputation as a thorough farmer and worthy citizen is indisputable.

JAMES HAVILAND came to this township in the year 1837, purchasing 200 acres of land that his brother had entered from the Government, and before reaching it was obliged to open three miles of road; but with the characteristic industry of the pioneer, brought this land to its present state of cultivation. James Haviland was born in New York July 30, 1808; his father, John Haviland, was born and died in that State. His mother, Polly Haviland, a native also of New York, came to Noble County, and, until her death in Elkhart Township, made her home with her children. Four years before leaving New York, Mr. Haviland was married in Waterloo, to Miss Betsey Pearson. She was the daughter of Peleg and Sarah Pearson, and a New Yorker by birth. To them have been born two children—Mary E., now married, and Caroline, deceased. Mr. Haviland is a citizen of good standing in the community, and his wife is a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church.

WILLARD HERVEY was born in Bridgewater, Mass., June 10, 1815, and when seventeen years old began an apprenticeship of eighteen months in making custom-made shoes, and followed that industry for four years. His parents, Byron and Parnell Hervey, were natives of Massachusetts, and died in Worcester County. Willard Hervey, while in Oneida County, N. Y., was married, December 3, 1835, to Miss Louisa B. Crosby, a native of Massachusetts. Her parents were Simeon and Sarah S. Crosby. Her father died in New York, and her mother in this township. After a short residence in Utica County, N. Y., Mr. Hervey and wife came to Indiana, remaining two months in Steuben County; then came to this township, where he entered 120 acres of land, upon which he built a log cabin and located in 1837. Eighty acres of this land are under cultivation. Mr. Hervey has held several township offices; served four years as Justice of the Peace, and for eight years was Postmaster at Ringgold—the latter office is now abandoned. October 23, 1839, Mr. Hervey's wife died, and he was married to her sister, Sabrina C. Crosby, a native of Massachusetts, December 22, 1839. They are members of the M. P. Church. By his first wife Mr. Hervey had two children—Parnell, deceased; and Louisa B. The other children are Lucelia, Luthera C., Laura B., Lovilla R., Bashby F. (deceased), Henry H., Calista A., and Lois (deceased).

CHRISTOPHER HOOLEY, one of the enterprising men of Clearspring Township, is a native of Mifflin County, Penn. David and Mary Hooley, his parents, were born and died in Pennsylvania. Christopher Hooley lived with his parents, who were farmers, until he was married, and taught school two winters previous to that event. February 28, 1874, he was married to Miss Sarah Zook, a native of Mifflin County, Penn., and daughter of S. and Frances Zook, natives of Pennsylvania, where they died. The subject and wife lived in Pennsylvania eight years previous to coming to this county, in 1855. They first rented a farm in Eden Township, then went to Noble County and resided one year; returned, and rented again for one and a half years. During that time, Mr. Hooley taught one term of school. In 1858, he bought forty acres of land, thirty of which were improved; he now has 120 acres, and a substantial brick residence, with no less than fifteen separate buildings on the farm. Mr. Hooley is a thorough and systematic manager, and can compete with any farmer in the county. He has served six consecutive years as Township Trustee. Mr. and Mrs. Hooley are members of the Omish Mennonite Church, and have two children—Emma R., married, and living on the old farm; Rachel Z., also married, and a resident of this township.

J. J. and A. J. HOSTETLER constitute the firm of Hostetler Brothers, dealers in general merchandise, at Emma, La Grange County. They are substantial business men, and engaged in their present enterprise in the fall of 1880. They are both natives of Holmes County, Ohio, and the sons of Moses J. and Elizabeth (Mast) Hostetler. The parents were natives of Somerset County, Penn., their respective births occurring in 1812 and 1822. Jacob J. Hostetler was born August 12, 1854. His school advantages were very fair, and at the age of seventeen he began teaching, following that vocation winters, and working on his father's farm during the summer season, until he attained his majority. He taught ten terms in this county in nine years. November 26, 1876, he married Miss Jennie Nelson, a native of this county, born January 28, 1858, and the daughter of John P. and Sarah A. (Roderick) Nelson, natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Hostetler are members of the Mennonite Church, and have three children—William O., Ora M. and Myrtle M. Mr. Hostetler is at present Postmaster at Emma. Andrew J. Hostetler was born August 18, 1858. Until he became of age he was employed in working on the home farm, after which he worked for his brothers, up to the time of entering his present business. He received an average education, and is yet unmarried.

ORVIN KENT is a native of Connecticut, and son of Elijah and Achsa Kent, natives also of Connecticut, and who came to this State at an early day. Elijah Kent was a farmer and merchant, and died in Noble County, and Mrs. Kent in this county. Orvin Kent attended school in Connecticut until sixteen years old, and also attended one term at the Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham, Mass. He taught his first term of school when sixteen years old, and followed that vocation until his marriage, after which he turned his attention to farming; he has probably taught forty terms of school in all. He was married in Butler County, Ohio, in December, 1840, to Drizella Tweedy, a native of Ohio, who was the first child born to Robert and Elizabeth Tweedy after coming to America from Ireland. They lived in Monroe County, Ohio, for some time, where the subject was engaged in teaching; from there he came to Eden Township, and located on 200 acres of wooded land. About twenty years ago he built a large frame building in this township, and seven years ago one in Eden Township, just opposite his commodious residence that was built in 1881. Mr.

Kent at one time owned 300 acres of land. He has filled the offices of County Commissioner and Justice of the Peace one term each, and is a member of the Masonic Lodge, 185 of Ligonier; belongs to the Swedenborgian Church. Their children are Robert (married, and lives in this township), Nathan (married, and living in Eden Township), Laura (married and living in this township), Volney (married, and living at Marshalltown, Iowa), Alvin (deceased), and Alice (twins), and Elvira (deceased). Alice is married and living at Grand Rapids.

THOMAS H. LOW is the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth Low, and was reared in this township, where he was born August 10, 1843. He lived at home, assisting his parents on the farm until he was married, September 22, 1865, to Miss Tressa Shoemaker, a native of Stark County, Ohio, in La Grange. Her parents were John and Elizabeth Shoemaker; her mother, who was a native of Maryland, died in Elkhart County. Her father went to California during the time of the gold excitement there, and never returned. Since their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Low have resided on their present farm, and have been moderately successful, as the fact of their having the material for the erection of a brick residence the coming spring will testify. They are both members of the church, and Mr. Low for the past four years has been engaged in the ministry, and expects to continue. For three years Mr. Low executed the duties of Justice of the Peace. Of seven children born to them, six are living—Annette A., Warren W., Charles N., John F., Bernona E., Laura E., and Cora L. (deceased).

NICHOLAS LOW, son of Jesse and Elizabeth Low, is a native of York County, Penn.; his parents were natives of the same State, and the father died there; the mother in Maryland. Nicholas Low was educated at the common schools, and remained with his mother until the age of sixteen; he served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade; worked at that for some time, then came to Ohio and spent about a year there, then returned to Maryland, and was married in New Market, Baltimore County, to Elizabeth A. Hendricks, a native of Maryland; her parents, Thomas and Elizabeth Hendricks, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Baltimore, Md., both died in Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Low came to Indiana in 1836, and lived two months in Eden Township, then moved to this township, where he built a log cabin, but has since improved and cleared the land and built a good, large residence, with the customary outbuildings; he owned 320 acres of Government land. Mr. Low is one of the oldest pioneers of the county, and an excellent farmer. They have had nine children—Sarah A. (deceased), Joseph (deceased), Mary J., (living in this township), Thomas H. (of this township), John W. (of Eden Township), Elizabeth, Daniel and Juliann (deceased), and Martha E. (of this township). The four living are married. Mrs. Low is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

JAMES H. McLAUGHLIN came to this State in 1849, and bought forty acres of land in this township in partnership with an uncle, who also rendered him some assistance when he invested in his present farm of eighty acres. His father, John McLaughlin, came to this country from Ireland when eight years old. His mother was born in Lancaster County, Penn., where they were living when James H. was born; they subsequently moved to this township in 1844 or 1845, and were living here at the time of their deaths. The subject was married in La Grange February 10, 1853, to Miss Rebecca Row. Her parents, Samuel and Rebecca Row, natives of Pennsylvania, came from Wayne County, Ohio, to La Grange in 1848. Her father died in Clay Township, but

her mother still survives. Mrs. McLaughlin was born in Lancaster County, Penn. In 1853, Mr. McLaughlin went to California and spent three years there in mining; returned, and, in 1858, established himself on his present farm, which is up to the average in improvements and appearance.

ERASTUS NELSON, son of Eli and Isabella Nelson, was born April 9, 1819, in Seneca County, N. Y., where his parents both died. They were natives, respectively, of Maryland and Massachusetts. The subject's boyhood days were spent in New York, in attending school and laboring on a farm. He came to this township in 1847, and located on 80 acres of land. Mr. Nelson was very unfavorably impressed with Indiana at first, and after clearing one acre, and building a log-cabin, he sold his land and bought 80 acres where he is now living. At that time the nearest market place was Fort Wayne, and wheat was worth only 40 cents a bushel. There being more profit in raising peppermint than anything else, Mr. Nelson engaged in that to some extent, finding a market for his crops at Constantine, Mich. He now owns one of the best farms in the township. Mr. Nelson was married in New York, December 26, 1844, to Miss Arvilla Puffer, native of Oswego, N. Y., and daughter of Ira and Sarah D. Puffer. The former died in New York, the latter in Michigan. They are parents of six children—Lovina, at Ligonier; Angeline, Isabella, and Francis, living in this township; all are married; Charles F. and Mary L., deceased. Mr. Nelson has served eight years as Trustee, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge, 159, Star of the West.

FRANCIS M. NELSON and his wife were both born in this township, and were united in marriage at Wolcottville, on the 18th day of April, 1878. She was Almira J. Musser, the daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Musser. They have an only child—Ethel L.—and are living on a farm in this township, of 80 excellently improved acres of land, with good buildings to correspond. Erastus and Arvilla Nelson, parents of the subject, were early settlers of this county. Mrs. Nelson's parents were also among the pioneers of La Grange County, and are yet residents of this township. They came here from Pennsylvania, their native State. The subject in his youth taught five terms of school.

BURTON PECK, son of John and Sarah (Gilbert) Peck, is a native of Fairfield, Conn., born 1813. His parents were also natives of Connecticut, and moved to New York, where the father died, at Phelps. Mrs. Peck died in Indiana. The subject spent his boyhood in New York, and received his schooling at Phelps and Royalton, Niagara County. He started a blacksmith shop when twenty years of age, having served an apprenticeship of three years at that trade; he followed this business eight years. In 1845, Mr. Peck came to this township, settled on 40 acres of land, where he built a shop and log house, and lived there six or seven years, then removed to his present farm of 140 acres; it originally was composed of 80 acres. The improvements consist of a fine orchard of six acres, containing 250 trees, commodious brick house, etc. He was married, December 7, 1843, in Junius, Seneca Co., N. Y., to Miss Sarah Hastings, a native of that State. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church. They have five children living, and one, Esther, deceased. John lives in Eden Township; Charles at home; Olive Pancake, a resident of Noble County; Emily Showalter living in Elkhart County, and George in this township. All are married except Charles. Mr. Peck is an enterprising and intelligent farmer, possessing sterling attributes, and ranking as one of the most valued citizens.



HAWLEY PECK, a native of Newton, Conn., entered his first 80 acres of land here in 1836, then came and purchased 160 acres two years later, and in February, 1844, transferred his family and worldly possessions to this township, from New York, made the necessary improvements on his land, and moved thereon. He purchased another 160 acres adjoining, and sold his government land. His farm has numerous fine buildings, three large orchards, etc. The staple product of his early farming was peppermint, and his was the first raised in the State of Indiana. He found a profitable market for this commodity at Ontario, N. Y., to which place he went, *via* Fort Wayne, ten different times; he also raised live-stock quite extensively. Mr. Peck is well and favorably known in his vicinity. The county fair grounds were purchased by him. In January, 1863, he was elected President of an Agricultural Society, and four years later left it in a flourishing condition; he has been three times a representative of the Agricultural Society of Indianapolis, and for three years was Justice of the Peace. Mr. Peck is a Universalist. His wife died in 1873, July 10; she was Miss Harriet Burnett, daughter of Archibald and Spiddy Burnett, and was a native of New York, where she was married to Mr. Peck January 1, 1834. To their union were born twelve children, viz.: Louisa, Fayette, Jarvis, Luanna, Sarah A. (deceased), Leonard (died December 20, 1881), Archibald B. (deceased), Julia A., Harrison N., Spiddy, Jane and Ella I. Mr. Peck gave to his two oldest sons 80 acres of land apiece, and to his third son \$2,000 in real estate. Mr. Peck's parents, John and Sarah Peck, were natives of Connecticut. The former was a blacksmith and farmer, and died in New York. Sarah Peck died when at the home of the subject in this township.

JAMES PIXLEY is the son of Elijah and Lucretia Pixley, natives of Ohio and Kentucky, who located in the southern part of Indiana, and bought 80 acres of land in Union County, where the subject was born February 3, 1831. In 1835, they sold that property and came to this township and entered 320 acres of land. Upon arriving here they lived in a tent about a month, preparatory to building the customary log cabin of the early days, when beds were made by poles laid crosswise on another pole, passed through holes bored in the walls of the cabin. Mrs. Pixley died April 25, 1852, and Elijah Pixley July 24, 1873. After attaining his majority, the subject worked by the month or day, until twenty-six years old, when he visited California. In 1864, he enlisted in the Seventh California Volunteer Infantry, Company D, for the remainder of the war. After his discharge, in May, 1866, he returned to the home of his parents, and began his career as a farmer on 40 acres of land, previously purchased in this township—he now owns 120 acres of the old homestead farm. He was married in this county August 30, 1868, to Miss Martha J. McDonald, a native of Missouri, and daughter of John W. and Hannah McDonald, the latter living with subject's family. They have four children—Flora I., Elijah, Alma E. and William E. Mrs. Pixley is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and Mr. Pixley of the I. O. O. F.'s and Masonic Lodge, 152.

JOHN PRICE, son of William H. and Rachel Price, was born in this township May 22, 1851. William Price was born in Washington County, Md., and came to Indiana in 1847, locating on 80 acres of land in this township; he is yet living, and is sixty-five years old. Mrs. Price was born in Licking County, Ohio, and died in Kansas. The subject is living on the farm above mentioned, and his life has been closely identified with this township. He was

married here December 25, 1873, to Miss Emeline Barnes, a daughter of Har-ley and Julia A. Barnes, who came to Indiana and located on a farm in Clear-spring Township. She is a native of New York. Their dwelling house, which is a fine residence, was built by the subject's father, and the farm presents a thrifty and improved appearance. Mr. and Mrs. Price have one child living, Lewis, and two, Dora and Lena, deceased. Mr. Price has served as Assessor three years, and in 1880 was elected Trustee, in which capacity he is now serv-ing.

**JULIUS O. SESLINE** is a native of Switzerland. His parents, Julius and Susannah Sesline, came to America in 1847, and made their home in Stark County, Ohio. His father died in Alliance, Ohio, and his mother in Canton. Julius went to school in Canton, and, in the spring of 1864, enlisted in Com-pany C, One Hundred and Sixty-second Ohio National Guards, and after receiv-ing his discharge December 15, 1864, re-enlisted the same year in the Third Ohio Independent Battery. He was in battle when the attempt was made by Gen. Hood's army to recapture Nashville; also in the engagement at Fort Don-elson; at one time he was detached from his battery and set to fighting guer-rillas, and while in service met with numerous exciting incidents and adventures. He was discharged July 15, 1865, and was engaged in railroading some time afterward; next was employed as clerk in a hotel about a year; then with the sum of 25 cents came to Warsaw, Ind., and was with Perry & Burrill one year, learning the baker's trade; subsequently was employed eight months as baker by a firm in Fort Wayne. He next appeared at Kendallville; then removed to the Haw Patch. He married a Miss Jones December 25, 1873; she was the daughter of Aquila Jones, and is a member of the Lutheran Church. They have three children—Willis O., John N. and Clyde. Mr. Sesline has a farm of 140 acres, and is a Mason in Lodge No. 76, at La Grange.

**WILLIAM SIGLER** is a native of Washington County, Md., and when quite young went with his parents, John and Catharine Sigler, natives also of Maryland, to Ashland County, Ohio, where they died. He received a common-school education, principally in Ohio, and lived with his parents until December 29, 1841, when he was married to Miss Lydia Himes, a native of Pennsylvania. After farming twelve years in Ohio, he came to this township and settled on 120 acres of land, thirty of which were improved and adorned with two log cab-ins and one small log stable. Mr. Sigler has made the usual improvements on his farm, and increased it to 270½ acres. Mrs. Sigler's parents, Paul and Susan Himes, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Indiana in 1857, and located on a farm in Johnson Township, where Mr. Himes died. Mrs. Himes died in this town-ship. Mr. and Mrs. Sigler are members of the Lutheran Church, and are par-ents of eleven children, as follows: Mary and John M., living in Wisconsin; Amanda E., in this township; Susan C., at home; Samuel L., of Wisconsin; Matilda A., this township; Solomon F., this township; Harriet J., at home; Amelia S., of Eden Township; William H., deceased, and Paul E., in this township. All excepting Susan and Harriet are married. Mr. Sigler served as Constable one year in Ohio, and three years in this township.

**GEORGE B. ULMER**, born December 15, 1838, was the first white child born in Allen Township, and his parents, George T. and Julia A. Ulmer, were among the first white settlers in that township. George B. Ulmer started on an expedition to Pike's Peak, at the age of nineteen, with a company of seven. Mr. Ulmer, while en route home, reaped considerable profit from transactions in live stock. In Illinois he stopped nine months, working on a farm at \$18 per month; then went up to the pineries of Michigan, where he was variously em-

ployed for eight years, drawing logs, etc., and two years was foreman on the roads there. He also furnished a number of army horses. Returning to this county, he farmed for five years at English Prairie, in partnership with a brother-in-law; then worked for Hawley Peck for some time at \$26 per month. After his marriage with Melinda J. Nelson, November 8, 1866, he rented property a number of years, then bought eighty acres, that now is one of the standard farms of Clearspring Township. His wife died on the 10th of June, 1872; she left three children—Julia N., Della S. and Joseph T. The present Mrs. Ulmer has two children—Maynard C. and Carl L. She was married to Mr. Ulmer March 6, 1873, and is an intelligent and accomplished lady, having been a school teacher for fourteen years, and has also taught music. Her father, Stephen Cowley, blacksmith and farmer, is yet living in this county. Her mother, Catharine Cowley, died in this county, where they came, in 1840, from New York, where their daughter, now Mary Ulmer, was born.

HENRY J. ULMER, son of George T. and Julia A. Ulmer, was born in Summit County, Ohio, December 31, 1829. His parents came to Indiana in November, 1836, and located on eighty acres of Government land in Allen Township. George Ulmer planted the first orchard and built the first house in Allen Township. He is a native of Maine, and is now living in Kansas at the age of seventy-four or seventy-five. His wife, who was a native of Connecticut, died in this county. Henry Ulmer lived on his father's farm until twenty-five years of age, when he was married to Miss Sarah W. Cowley, daughter of Stephen M. and Catharine Cowley, December 7, 1854. The ensuing year, Mr. Ulmer was engaged in running a saw-mill in this county, then removed to Pretty Prairie, lived on rented property one and a half years, then removed to Lima and resided about seven years. During four years of this time Mr. Ulmer carried the mails from Lima to Albion once a week and devoted the remaining time to farming, and for eleven seasons ran a threshing machine with his father; he purchased eighty acres of property adjoining Lima. He next went to Ligonier, and worked in his father's grist-mill one and a half years, farmed two years, then, with his father and another partner, engaged in the mercantile business. In 1870, they were burned out, with considerable loss, and our subject then came to his present farm of eighty acres, where he has been quite successful. His wife, who was a native of New York and a member of the Free-Will Baptists, died in October, 1879. There are three children—George C., Kittie A. and Bertha.

JOHN A. WEMPLE was born in New York August 14, 1818, and is a son of Abraham and Sophia Wemple, natives of New York, in which State they died. Abraham Wemple, in early life, followed carpentering, but subsequently changed to farming, a portion of the work being allotted to his son, our subject, until he was married, July 31, 1840, to Miss Elizabeth Strang, a native of New York, where her mother, Eleanor Strang, died. Her father, John Strang, removed to this county, where he died in Perry Township. In 1856, after sixteen years of married life in New York, the subject and wife came to the Hoosier State, and located on eighty acres of their present farm, in this township. In 1857, Mr. Wemple returned to New York, purchased some real estate, remained three years, then returned to this township and has remained, engaged and interested in clearing and improving his farm. They have had ten children—Abram H., living in Perry Township; Willard G., in this township; Folly A., in Michigan; Evaline A., in this township; and Elias C., James and Elijah P., at home. Those deceased are Mary E., Catharine S. and Arville.

**GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP.**

**JACOB AKER**, the son of Adam and Tena Aker, natives of Germany, was born in Germany July 21, 1835. His parents died in the place of their birth, and he came to America in 1850. In Ohio he attended school one winter and engaged in farm work, receiving from \$5 to \$11 per month. This employment he continued four seasons, and December 17, 1855, was married to Miss Harriet Blasseus, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. They subsequently immigrated to Pretty Prairie, in this county, where they lived six years, and bought seventy acres of land, next proceeding to this township, where Mr. Aker, after disposing of his previous purchase, bought eighty acres of his present property on English Prairie. Their farm now comprises 174 acres, with first-class buildings and improvements. They have had born to them five children—Adaline (deceased), Martha E., Mary E., Catharine and Tena. The last two are single and reside at home. Mary is a resident of Michigan and Martha lives with her parents. Mrs. Aker is the daughter of Valentine and Mary Blasseus. The former a native of Germany, died in this county, where the latter, a native of Pennsylvania, is yet living.

**PETER ALSPAUGH** was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 21, 1841, son of Philip and Mary A. Alspaugh. They removed from Pennsylvania, their native State, to Ohio, thence to Indiana in the fall of 1854, settling on a farm in Johnson Township, this county, where Philip Alspaugh died in August, 1880. Mrs. Mary Alspaugh is yet living on the old homestead, at the age of seventy-six. Peter Alspaugh received a common education, and October 14, 1861, enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, siege of Corinth, Perryville and Stone River. At the latter place he was wounded, December 31, 1862, and received his discharge September 9, 1863. He was united in marriage, November 11, 1866, to Miss Martha J. Swihart, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Daniel and Sarah Swihart, who reside in this township. In 1868, Mr. Alspaugh bought eighty acres of his present improved farm of 150 acres, having previously lived on a rented farm on Pretty Prairie. Mrs. Alspaugh departed this life February 2, 1881, at the age of thirty-five years. She was a member of the M. E. Church and left two children—Luella and Lyoll. Mr. Alspaugh belongs to the Methodist Church, and is a good farmer and public-spirited citizen.

**ELIJAH ANDERSON** emigrated to Indiana from Marion County, Ohio, with his parents, John and Mary Anderson, in 1829; they located in this county on land now owned by the subject. He was born in Ohio October 10, 1817, and married, July 4, 1854, in this county, to Miss Nancy Martin, and has since been a resident of this township. He has accumulated 580 acres of land, all in this township, excepting eighty-seven acres. His farm of 240 acres on Pretty Prairie ranks among the best in the county. Wheat forms the staple product, the crop for 1880 amounting to 3,800 bushels. He also raises stock to some extent. Mr. Anderson, by perseverance and industry, has acquired his present property, and is a reliable and prominent citizen. In 1877, their fine brick residence was erected, and the other farm buildings are very good. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the M. E. Church, a native of New



Jersey, and the daughter of Daniel and Maria Martin; they were natives of New Jersey, and came to Indiana from Ohio, locating in Johnson Township, La Grange County, where they died. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, John and Alonzo (deceased), Charlotte (married and lives in this township) Orville, Charles and Daniel (twins), Harlow, and Jennie (deceased).

WILLIAM ANDERSON is a native of Ohio, and son of John and Mary Anderson, who removed to Indiana August 16, 1829. After spending one winter in Michigan, they removed to this county and settled on Pretty Prairie, where they died; both were natives of Pennsylvania. William Anderson was born April 10, 1815, and resided with his parents until his father's death. He farmed on shares and owned a half-interest in 100 acres in this township, besides 250 acres in Steuben County. After he was married, June 2, 1843, to Miss Elizabeth Selby, he bought forty acres of land in this township, where he settled, subsequently purchasing his present farm of 120 acres, that is well improved and supplied with every convenience. Mr. Anderson owns 593 acres of land, all in this township, except ninety of timber land that lies in Bloomfield Township, and besides their frame residence, has on his farm two tenant houses, four barns, etc. Mrs. Anderson is a native of Ohio, as were also her parents Samuel and Rebecca Selby; they came to this township and located in 1840. Mr. Selby died at Lima, and Mrs. Selby is yet living in Gilead, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have eight children—Eliza, Amos, Jane, Amanda, Rebecca, Albert, Alonzo and Clara, all of whom are married but two—Albert and Clara.

WILLIAM ANDERSON is a native of Ohio, and the son of George and Louisa Anderson. He was born January 10, 1852, reared, educated and married in Ohio, and his parents are yet living in that State. His father is a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother of Ohio. Mrs. William Anderson, formerly Miss Maggie Glass, is the daughter of John and Catharine Glass; the former is a resident of Ohio, where his wife's death occurred. The subject learned carpentering in his youth, and has followed it to some extent since engaging in agricultural pursuits. They first located in Steuben County, Ind.; subsequently taking up their abode in this county, where their home is now situated on a farm in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have buried their only child—Ella G.

GEORGE H. ARVER is the son of Richard and Olive J. Arver, who came to Indiana in 1860, locating in this township. Both were natives of New York State, in which State George H. was born in Broome County, October 17, 1850. Mrs. Arver died in Michigan, of which State Richard Arver is yet a resident. George Arver's early life was passed in the States of New York, Indiana and Iowa, his education being principally attained in the latter. Until the age of eighteen, he remained under the parental roof, and spent six years engaged in salary work. December 20, 1875, the event of his marriage to Miss Mary L. Berridge took place in Burr Oak, Mich. They settled in this county, and after one year's experience in farming in Springfield they removed to this township, where Mr. Arver leased a farm for a period of four years, and at the expiration of that time was sufficiently able to purchase forty-five acres of land, which they have occupied since. It is under good cultivation, and has the necessary farm buildings. Mrs. Arver was born in Indiana, and her father, Charles Berridge, was an Englishman. A son, Frank, is the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Arver.

**SAMUEL BROWN** was a native of Westchester, N. Y., where his parents, Samuel and Susan Brown, died. They were farmers and natives of New York. Samuel Brown was reared in the place of his birth, and when not in school aided his parents. December 31, 1804, he was married to Miss Sarah Kniffin, in Westchester, where they lived about eleven years with Mr. Brown's parents; then removed to Cayuga County, N. Y., thence to Richland County, Ohio, coming to Indiana and locating, in 1833, on the farm in this township, where they died. Mrs. Brown and her parents, Benjamin and Charity Kniffin, were natives of New York; the former died in Cayuga County, N. Y., and the latter at Grand Rapids, Mich. Mr. Brown, before his death, had accumulated 720 acres of land that lies near the center of English Prairie. He was a member of the Presbyterian and his wife of the Methodist Church, and they were parents of seven children, viz.: Lama, who is married and resides in Iowa; Sarah A. Nathan, deceased; Loretta; Caroline; Susan, married and a resident of this township, and Maria L., deceased; the three sisters, Sarah, Loretta and Caroline, are single, and live together on the home farm, 180 acres of which, since the death of their parents, they have successfully managed up to the present time.

**HENRY R. CRANDELL**, deceased, the son of Ivory and Hopey Crandell, was born in the State of New York May 31, 1821. His father was a native of Rhode Island; he came to Indiana and located in the township where Mrs. Hopey Crandell died, September 12, 1847; Ivory Crandell died in Steuben County, Ind. The subject passed his youth in Washington County, N. Y., with his grandparents, and there received a common education and taught his first term of school. At the age of twenty-two, he came to Indiana, taught school and clerked, and in 1849 opened a store at Lexington, in this township, consisting of general merchandise. He was married in Johnson Township, this county, October 12, 1847, to Jeanette P. Wildman, a native of Litchfield County, Conn., and the daughter of Levi and Sally Wildman, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Massachusetts; both died in La Grange County. Mr. Crandell served as Trustee and Clerk of Greenfield Township about ten years, and as Postmaster until his death, January 8, 1870; since then the office and store—which are connected—have been under the efficient management of Mrs. Crandell and her son. She is a member of the Methodist Church, and by Mr. Crandell had only two children—Sarah H. and Edwin L. H., the former of whom is married.

**DANIEL DAGE** was reared in Ohio, where he was born April 14, 1850, in Wayne County, and received a common education while assisting his parents on the farm. He came to this county and was married at La Grange, April 19, 1878, to Miss Catharine Libey, a native of Williams County, Ohio; her parents, John L. and Catharine Libey, natives of Pennsylvania, have lived in this county since first locating here in 1856. Mr. Dage, after marrying, went to Salem, Steuben County, Ind., where they rented property two years; then, in March, 1880, purchased and settled on his farm of 120 acres in this township. Mr. Dage is the son of Levi and Harriet Dage, the former a native of Wayne County, Ohio, and the latter of Somerset County, Penn. They removed in March, 1869, to Branch County, Mich., where Mrs. Harriet Dage died. Mr. Levi Dage is residing in Constantine, Mich. The subject has his farm in good condition and it is well cultivated. His family consists of two children—Wilma and Alice A.

**WILLIAM EAGLE** was reared to farm work, and is, therefore, an experienced and practical farmer. He owns ninety acres of land in this township that is well-improved, with good buildings, etc. Mr. Eagle's parents, William and Rebecca Eagle, were natives of England. They came to America and were residents of Pennsylvania for some time, in which State the subject was born, December 2, 1828. They subsequently journeyed westward and died in Ashland County, Ohio. William Eagle's advantages were few, and he came to Indiana when a boy of fifteen. His marriage with Miss Mary J. Wolgamott took place in this township, December 14, 1848. Two children are the result of this union—James D. and Annetta. Mrs. Eagle was born in Marion County, Ohio. Her parents, Isaac and Sarah Wolgamott, natives of Ohio and Delaware, both died in this township, to which they immigrated in 1829. Mr. Eagle is a member of Masonic Lodge No. 215, at Lima.

**CHRISTOPHER FAIR** was reared in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where he was married in 1864, February 16, to Miss Amanda Baker. He was born February 12, 1842, in Holmes County, Ohio, and received a common education, while assisting on the home farm. He began for himself at the age of twenty, and worked two years for \$10.50 per month. Soon after marrying, he came to this county and lived one and a half years on a rented farm in this township. Then with the pecuniary aid of his mother, Rachel Fair, he was enabled to purchase 282 acres of land, where they now reside. The farm has been divided between them, Mr. Fair owning the portion where the buildings stand. Mr. Fair's parents were natives of Pennsylvania; his father, Christopher Fair, died in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Mrs. Fair's parents, Absalom and Mary Baker, were also natives of the Keystone State; her mother died in Stark County, Ohio, and her father is a resident of this county. There are eight children in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Fair, viz.: Sherman, Doras, Henry, Viola, Benjamin, Hattie, Oliver and Ella.

**JOSEPH FENNEL**, son of Enoch and Amy Fennell, was born in England November 25, 1827. His mother died there, and his father, after crossing the ocean five times, died in this township. Joseph Fennell came to America in 1845, and was married in Michigan, March 12, 1860, to Miss Rosalie Moore, daughter of Tobias and Cynthia Moore. She was born in Ohio and died about a year after her marriage. Mr. Fennell has a farm of 301 acres in this township, accumulated by hard work and economy. He has always followed farming, and lived in Michigan for a limited period of time. Mrs. Sarah A. Fennell is a native of Ohio, and Mr. Fennell's second wife; they were married in Michigan June 29, 1862. Jacob and Elizabeth Miller, her parents, died in Ohio. They have six children—Roseann, William H., Joseph A., George W., Emery and Charles.

**CYRUS FILLMORE** was born in Lock Township, Cayuga County, N. Y. His parents, Nathaniel and Phoebe Fillmore were natives of Bennington, Vt., and both died at Aurora, Erie Co., N. Y.; had his father lived but a few days longer he would have reached the age of ninety-two. Cyrus Fillmore was married in Holland, Erie Co., N. Y., to Miss Laura Morey, on the 19th of May, 1825. They resided in Erie County five or six years, then removed to Fremont, on the Sandusky River, entered 160 acres of land, and to reach the same were obliged to cut four miles of road. After he had cleared twenty-five acres, built three cabins and a log barn, he sold out and came to Indiana in 1837. For about seven years they lived on rented property in this county, purchasing 280 acres of his farm in this township in 1843. Mr. Fillmore now owns 311

acres, and makes a specialty of raising grain, having in one year raised 2,000 bushels of wheat; also raises considerable stock. He has held the offices of Township Clerk and Trustee, the former a period of three years, and the latter, twelve. Himself and wife are members of the Disciples' Church, and he is a Spiritualist. They have four children—Benjamin F., Almon L., Helen M. and Millard C. Mrs. Fillmore is a native of Otsego County, Milford Township, N. Y. Her father, Matthew Morey, was born in Connecticut, and her mother, Sally Morey, in Massachusetts.

PETER GARLETS was born December 15, 1820, in Pennsylvania, the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Garlets, natives of Pennsylvania. His father died in his native State, and his mother in Indiana. Peter Garlets lived in his native State until the age of twenty-three, and learned carpentering there. He was married in Ohio, January 29, 1846, to Miss Maria Fair; she and her mother, Rachel Fair, were natives of Pennsylvania, and her father, John Fair, of Ireland; they came to Indiana in 1876, and he died in this county. Mrs. Fair survives him. Mr. Garlets, in 1863, sold his farm of eighty acres in Ohio and purchased 160 acres of his present farm in this township, which he has greatly improved, furnishing it with numerous fine buildings, wind mill, etc. Mr. Garlets subsequently purchased 165 acres in Springfield Township, and is a thorough farmer. They have four children, John, Jacob, Mary A. and Daniel, all married except Jacob, who resides at home; John and Mary live in Springfield, and Daniel in this township.

AARON GILHAMS is a native of Chester County, Penn., born March 11, 1825. His parents, Aaron and Sarah Gilhams, were natives of the same State, and residents of Sturgis, Mich., at the time of their death. Aaron Gilhams lived in Sturgis from the age of ten to twenty-one. In 1850, he went to California, and three years worked in the gold mines there, clearing \$100 per month. His companion from Sturgis, Elder Day, was killed by the Indians. In 1853, having returned, he bought 120 acres of his present farm of 240 acres. He is a thorough farmer, and has cultivated 120 rods of hedge fence. Mr. Gilhams was first married at Burr Oak, Mich., in November, 1858, to Mary Smiley, a native of Ohio; her parents also were natives of Ohio. Her father, George Smiley, died in Steuben County, Ind., and her mother, Catharine Smiley, at Indianapolis. The present Mrs. Gilhams was Sevilla Keim, and was married to the subject, March 8, 1876. She was born in Ohio, and came with her parents, Elias and Mary Keim, to this township, where they are yet residents. Mr. Gilhams has two sons—Clarence and Herbert—both engaged in school-teaching.

SANFORD HALSEY is the owner of considerable land in Michigan, and a fine large farm in this township, on which is a huckleberry marsh that yields a profit of \$100 annually. Mr. Halsey raises considerable live stock, and in 1880 raised 1,219 bushels of wheat. Mr. and Mrs. Halsey are members of the Presbyterian Church, and have three children—James A., Alexander and William S. They were married in Lima, this county, and lived in that township, a short time previous to going to Fawn River, Mich., where Mr. Halsey owned 196 acres of land; he finally has established a permanent home in this township. Sylvanus and Sabrina Halsey, subject's parents, came to this county in June, 1836; they were natives of Long Island and New York. Sanford Halsey was born in Franklin, Delaware Co., N. Y., and was thirteen years old when his parents came to Lima Township. His wife is a native of Stamford, N. Y., and was Catherine Hume, the daughter of Robert and Catherine



Hume. Her father was a Scotchman, and her mother was born in Delaware County, N. Y.

HARLOW J. HERN is a native of this county, and was born in Bloomfield Township, in 1839, December 22. His parents, William and Sarah Hern, came to Indiana from New York, their native State, in 1837; lived in Bloomfield Township, then moved to this township, where he died; she still survives, and is living in Sturgis, Mich. Mr. Hern owns a good farm in this township, and raises fine cattle and thoroughbred horses. He has served three years as Township Trustee, owns a fine brick residence, and has been married twice. His first wife, Martha, was the daughter of Jar-es and Naoma Mix, and a native of Ohio, where she was married. His second and present wife was Miss Mary A. Mohler, the daughter of William and Esther Mohler; they were married September 28, 1881, at Burr Oak, Mich. Her parents, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively, have lived in Indiana fifteen years. Mr. Hern is the father of five children—Willis, Charles, Harlow, Mary and Arthur; two, Charles and Arthur, are deceased.

FLEMING HOPKINS, son of Richard and Jane Hopkins, is a native of Clark County, Ohio, born March 21, 1817. When a boy of fourteen, he went to Sturgis, Mich. He visited this county for the purpose of assisting his brother in improving 160 acres of prairie land they had previously purchased. After returning to Michigan, Fleming Hopkins bought a farm of 248 acres in Burr Oak Township; married Mrs. Mary Ewing June 28, 1848, at Bronson; resided there one year, then removed to this township in March, 1849; 100 acres of his farm were improved, and he has since improved as many more; has in all 320 acres, and 200 rods of hedge fence. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins have had four children—Margaret J., Hannah A., Richard J. and Mary (deceased). Subject's parents came to Whitley County, Ind., in 1846, where his mother died in 1857; she was a native of Pennsylvania. His father, who was born in Kentucky, subsequently moved to Michigan, lived there six years, then in Whitley County two years, then on subject's farm, where he died. The parents of Mrs. Hopkins were Amos and Fereba Barr, of Delaware. They came to this township and located in 1830; both died here; he, on the 10th of May, 1838, and she March 9, 1864. Mrs. Hopkins was born in Franklin County, Ohio.

ALEXANDER S. KEIM was born in Fayette County, Penn., February 23, 1828. His parents, Solomon and Elizabeth Keim, natives of Somersset County, Penn., removed to Ohio in October, 1832, where they died. Alexander Keim, when he had attained the age of twenty-one, followed droving summers, and school-teaching winters. He drove stock from Holmes County, Ohio, to Eastern Pennsylvania and Maryland, continuing thus employed until 1860. February 20, 1853, he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Sommers, in Holmes County, Ohio, and eight years subsequently, moved to Owen County, Ind., where her parents, Jacob and Martha Sommers, died. They were natives of Pennsylvania, and came to this State in 1853. Mr. Keim purchased a farm of 260 acres in Owen County, and they resided there until 1865, when they removed to this township on a farm of 160 acres. Mr. Keim, in Ohio, served six years as Justice of the Peace, and as Clerk of the township for the same length of time. In April, 1880, he was chosen Trustee of Greenfield Township, to serve two years. Mr. and Mrs. Keim belong to the Dunkard Church, and are the parents of thirteen children, viz., Barbara E., Alice J. and John C. (deceased), Mary E., Martha A. (deceased), Eliza, Alexander H., Clara, Olive B., Charles E., Joseph W., Susan L. and Sarah.

ROBERT B. KELLETT came to America in 1848, with his parents, Charles and Margaret Kellett, from Ireland, where he was born March 14, 1845. The family settled in Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mr. Kellett, Sr., was engaged in clerking for a wholesale house until his death, which occurred April 5, 1853. Three weeks afterward, the bereaved family came to this township where an uncle of the subject had preceded them, and where Mrs. Kellett is yet living at the age of sixty-four. Robert Kellett was married on the 18th of January, 1870, to Miss Jane Kelso, a native of this township. They have three children—Kate M., Charles R. and Grace. Her parents were Matthew and Martha Kelso, the former a native of New York State, the latter of England. They died in this township, where they came at an early day. Mr. Kellett is a member of the Masonic Star Lodge, No. 225, at Orland, and also of the Angola Chapter. His farm consists of 200 acres of land that is especially adapted to the production of grain; he first purchased seventy acres, but subsequently increased it to its present size; he raises stock, also, to some extent.

JOHN W. KNIGHT was married in Whitley County, Ind., to Miss Martha J. Collins in February, 1842. They settled in that county on eighty acres of unimproved land, and Mr. Knight improved half of this land; then sold and removed to Kalamazoo County, Mich.; purchased a farm of 120 acres and lived there six years; again sold and invested in 160 acres in Barry County, Mich. Here their home was located four years; then removed to this county on 110 acres of land in Pretty Prairie, residing there five or six years previous to locating in this township, where he owns a farm of 140 acres, well cultivated and replete with the usual number of buildings. In Whitley County, Mr. Knight filled the office of Justice of the Peace five years; he belongs to the Masonic Lodge, No. 225, of Orland, and is the son of Henry and Mary Knight, of Maryland; the former, after the death of his wife in Ohio, emigrated to Indiana, where he died. The subject was born September 18, 1818, in Ohio, and lived there until the age of sixteen, going to school and assisting his parents. Mrs. Knight is a native of Wayne County, Ind., and the daughter of John and Jane Collins, who were pioneers of Indiana, and who died in Whitley County. Mr. and Mrs. Knight have had five children, viz., Eliza and Melvina (deceased), Byron, Myron (a resident of California), and William (of Iowa). Mrs. Knight is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

JAMES LARIMER (deceased) died in this township on the 19th of May, 1878, leaving a wife and three children. He was born in 1830, March 11, in Fairfield County, Ohio, and was the son of Ebenezer and Diana Larimer; his father came over to this county from Ireland and married a Virginia lady, who survives him at the age eighty-two or eighty-three, and is a resident of Fairfield County, Ohio, where Ebenezer Larimer died. The home of James Larimer was in Ohio with his parents until after he was married, December 23, 1855, to Miss Nancy Shearlock in Perry County, Ohio. Prior to removing to Indiana, they lived in Ohio on forty acres of improved land, owned by the subject. Upon coming to this township, he invested in 300 acres of land, which, at the time of his death, was well improved in every respect, and here his widow with her two sons, James S. and John C., continue to reside, the daughter, Flora J., having married and removed to Orland. Mr. Larimer was a member of the Masonic Lodge, No. 225, at Orland, and was a Presbyterian, having united with that church in 1857, in Ohio, and is mourned by many friends. Mrs. Larimer is a native of the county, in which she was married, and the daughter of James and Elizabeth Shearlock; she has been a member of the Presbyterian Church since 1849; her father was born in Pennsylvania, and her mother in Ohio.

AARON MARTIN is a native of New Jersey, and the son of Daniel and Maria Martin. He was born January 10, 1827, and the first thirteen years of his life were passed in his native State, and the following five in Ohio; then, in 1845, came with his parents to this county, and here they have found a last resting-place. Aaron Martin, at the age of eighteen, began working for himself, receiving from \$10 to \$12 monthly compensation. November 3, 1861, he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Montgomery, and having previously purchased a farm of 120 acres, immediately located thereon and began the work of improving and repairing. Mr. Martin subsequently purchased 80 acres adjoining, to where they removed, until the erection of a fine frame residence on the site of first location, where they are now comfortably domiciled. They had six children—Judson B., Frank G., Nellie, Grace and Harry A., twins, the latter deceased, and Fred P. John A. Montgomery, deceased, was the son of Mrs. Martin by her first husband. Her parents were Joseph and Eliza Reynolds, the former a native of England, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Martin is a good farmer, and raises Durham cattle, and a medium grade of sheep. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church.

CHRISTIAN K. MAST, son of Christian and Susanna (Kurtz) Mast, was born in Lancaster County, Penn., in March, 1822. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and both died in Ohio; his father was a local preacher. The education of Christian K. Mast was acquired at a district school in Ohio, while living with his parents on a farm. He was married in Wayne County to Miss Rebecca Hartzler, and settled in Holmes County, Ohio, where he owned and improved 160 acres of land. In November, 1864, they emigrated to Indiana, and Mr. Mast bought 233 acres of land in this township; subsequently added 100 acres. Here, until his death, he was engaged in farming, raising live stock, and threshing, to some extent. In 1871, his wheat crop averaged twenty-eight bushels to the acre, making a total of 1,650 bushels. Mr. Mast was a member of the Omish Mennonite Church, and was respected by all. Mrs. Mast is the daughter of John and Sarah (Zook) Hartzler, who moved from Pennsylvania, their native State, to Wayne County, Ohio, where they died. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mast—Lydia, deceased; Susanna, a resident of Elkhart, Ind.; David, deceased; Isaac, Levi, Jacob, Daniel and Amos. The two latter are single, and reside at home; Isaac, Levi and Jacob are married, and residents of this township.

JOHN U. McMAHAN, deceased, was the son of John U. McMahan, of Scotch descent. His father's birth occurred October 17, 1790, and his mother, whose maiden name was Beck, was born November 30, 1796; they were married in 1818, and in 1831 removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, where they resided three years, at Mansfield, traveling West, thence to Fremont, Steuben Co., Ind. The subject was born in Harrisburg, Penn., December 6, 1821, and his boyhood days passed principally in Steuben County, Ind. His opportunities for acquiring an education were limited, and before he was of age was in the employ of one Samuel Burnside, about two years. After attaining his majority, he worked one year for his father, but never received the stipulated compensation. He was unfortunate in purchasing land from Mr. Burnside, for whom he afterward worked, being obliged to give double the price agreed upon. Through perseverance and industry he had accumulated and improved 424 acres of land before his death, which occurred February 9, 1879. He was married November 21, 1853, on English Prairie, to Miss Emeline Francis, a native of this county, and the daughter of Isaac and Prudencia Francis. She died

April 28, 1874. To their union seven children were born—Leona, William, Emma and Julia have all died; Raymond P., Lucy J. and Frank are living together on the old homestead in this township.

JAMES MILLER was born and married in New York, the former event transpiring on the 13th of April, 1817, and the latter on the 4th of July, 1844. From the age of thirteen to twenty, he lived with an uncle, then returned to the home of his parents, Thomas and Sarah Miller, who died in New York, and were natives respectively of that State and Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1850, he came to this county, and lived six years in Lima Township, where he owned a farm of 160 acres; then bought 160 acres in this township. This he has noticeably beautified, improved and increased to 316 acres. He has three miles of hedge fence that was raised from the seed. Mr. Miller held the office of Trustee of his township five years. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are Presbyterians. She was Elizabeth Hutchinson, and was born in England. Her parents, Ralph and Jane Hutchinson, of England, both died in America, the former in Allen County, Ind., and the latter in New York. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Miller are William, Charles H., James H., Sarah J., Mary E. and George.

TOBIAS MOORE is a native of Highland County, Ohio, his birth occurring July 9, 1819. Samuel and Phebe Moore, his parents, died in Van Wert County, Ohio; the former was a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The subject was reared in Ohio, and remained there six years after his marriage to Miss Cynthia Rose, who was born in that State, and was the daughter of Cornelius Rose. Then removing to Indiana, he settled in this township, where he owns a farm of 85 acres, the soil of which is especially adapted to grain. Mr. Moore subsequently removed to Ohio, and in Mercer County, May 12, 1875, his second marriage was consummated, his bride, Catherine Rhodes, being the daughter of Jacob and Mary A. Rhodes, and natives of Pennsylvania. They have since lived in this township, and have an only son, Jacob. Mr. and Mrs. Moore are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Her parents removed from their native State, Pennsylvania, to Mercer County, Ohio, where her father died and her mother yet resides, at the age of sixty-six. The subject has been a church member since 1840.

GEORGE W. NEIHARDT is a native of Ohio, and son of Jacob and Anna M. Neihardt, natives of Pennsylvania; the former died in Williams County, Ohio, where Mrs. Neihardt yet lives at the advanced age of seventy-five years. The subject went to a district school until the age of fifteen, when he entered the Academy at Williams' Center; he afterward taught three terms of school, subsequently went to Orland, Steuben Co., Ind., where he attended school two and a half years; then went to Ann Arbor University, where he graduated. He was born October 29, 1835, and married October 27, 1861, in this township, to Miss Mary McGowan, daughter of Samuel and Susanna McGowan. They resided at West Unity, Ohio, where Mr. Neihardt taught school two years, and next removed to this township, where they farmed one year, then went to Orland, where Mr. Neihardt was Principal of the Seminary from 1864 to 1868, and has taught school since permanently locating in this township on his farm. He pays special attention to the culture of bees, but met with a severe loss in the winter of 1880-81; he has at present sixty stands of bees. Mr. and Mrs. Neihardt have five children, viz., S. Emmett, Dora, G. W., Mabel and Jonas J. Mr. Neihardt is a member of the Star Lodge, 225, at Orland, and belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, while



his wife is an adherent of the Baptist faith. Her parents, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania, came to Indiana in 1854, locating at Orland, where Mrs. McGowan died. Mr. McGowan died in this township. Mrs. Neihardt was born December 27, 1840, in Mahoning County, Ohio.

SAMUEL PARHAM is a native of England, born June 25, 1816. In 1830, he accompanied two brothers and sisters to America; Samuel was the youngest of the five. They landed in New York in April, and purchased a farm in Jefferson County, N. Y., where they lived for several years; then the subject and a brother went to Ohio, where they spent three years, mostly in Portage County, engaged in clearing land. In November, 1836, Samuel came to De Kalb County, Ind., and entered 160 acres of land, which he afterward sold. April 7, 1841, Mr. Parham and Miss Nancy Selby were united in marriage in this township; her parents were natives of Delaware; her mother, Elizabeth Selby, died in Ohio, and her father, Charles W. Selby, at the home of his children in this township. Subject and wife settled on Pretty Prairie, where they rented a farm five years, then bought 120 acres of their present farm, removing to same in 1847. Mr. Parham owns 400 acres of land with good buildings; was Township Assessor two years, and himself and wife belong to the Methodist Church. They have had eight children—George W., resides in Iowa; Julia, deceased; Jane, a resident of Michigan; W. J., of this township; Samuel M., of Michigan; James G., Charles A. and Ida. Mr. Parham's parents, James and Ann (Bristol) Parham, were English people; after emigrating to America, in 1836, resided twenty years in Jefferson County, N. Y., where they died. Mrs. Ann Parham was a member of the Methodist Church for sixty years.

CHRISTIAN J. PLANK was born on the 13th of September, 1833. He was married in Adams County, Ind., to Miss Catharine Musser, January 3, 1856, the contracting parties both being natives of Wayne County, Ohio. Her parents, Abraham and Catharine Musser, came to America from Germany, where they were born, and died in Adams County, Ind. Mr. Plank came to this township in November, 1859; then moved to Michigan, where he lived one year; then returned to Elkhart County, Ind., where he farmed and ran a threshing machine four years. His farm in Pretty Prairie, this township, consists of 155 acres of land. Mr. Plank, by his first wife, had nine children, viz., Amos F., Catharine A., Rebecca E., Susanna, Mary A., Daniel, Samuel, Lydia A. and Elizabeth, all living. He was married to his second wife, Fannie Morrell, in Noble County, Ind., February 2, 1873; they have one son—Harvey. Mrs. Plank is the daughter of David and Catharine Morrell, natives of Pennsylvania, and was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. Her mother is yet residing in Noble County, where Mr. Morrell's death occurred. Christian and Elizabeth Plank, parents of the subject and natives of Mifflin County, Penn., came to Indiana in 1872, and died in this township.

GEORGE PRESTON was reared in Ohio, although born in Beaver County, Penn. His parents, James and Rachael Preston, were natives of New Jersey; they moved to Ohio at an early day, where they died. George Preston's birth occurred December 24, 1820, and at the age of eighteen learned wagon-making, and followed that industry about twelve years. January 18, 1849, his marriage to Miss Sarah Wheeler, the daughter of Chauncey and Sarah Wheeler, was consummated. She was born in Connecticut, the native State of her parents, who died in this county. In Ohio, Mr. Preston owned six acres of land and an interest in a saw-mill. He came to this county in

1850, and bought eighty acres in Bloomfield Township, which he farmed about twelve years, rented two years, then located in this township. Besides his farm of 120 acres, he owns eighty acres in Springfield Township. Mr. Preston deals in live stock, and the staple products of his farm are wheat and corn; he keeps from eight to ten horses, and has his farm well improved and in good repair. Mr. Preston lost his wife November 20, 1880, and was married December 17, 1881, to Miss Matilda Hungerford, in Coldwater, Mich. She was born in that State, and is the daughter of Matthew H. and Sarah M. Hungerford, who were born in New York and died in Michigan. Mr. Preston has had a family of six children, two of them—George A. and Chauncey—have died; those living are Joseph A., of Colorado; A. Judson, Sarah E. and Willie M.

GEORGE W. PRICE is the son of Jonathan and Margaret Price, natives of Pennsylvania; they both died in Coshocton County, Ohio, where George W. was born February 4, 1834. He was reared in his native State, and began blacksmithing there when sixteen years old, subsequently establishing himself in that business, at a town called Chili, in 1854. He was married October 1 of that year to Miss Elizabeth Long, and, after residing twelve years in Ohio, came to this county, locating in Springfield Township on a farm of forty-five acres. This he sold after a short period, and went to Lima, where he was engaged seven months at his trade; then came to Lexington, where he owns two lots and has the only blacksmith-shop in the village. A farm of sixty-seven acres that adjoins the town is also owned and managed by Mr. Price. George and Rebecca Long, the parents of Mrs. Price, were born in Pennsylvania and died in Ohio. Of the former State Mrs. Price is a native; she is a member of the Baptist Church, and has borne her husband seven children, viz.: Maria, Marietta, Susan, Lucy, William B., Sarah E. and Delia A. Mr. Price has served five years and six months as Trustee of his township.

CASSIUS A. SHATTUCK is the son of Levi and Polly Shattuck, and a native of Huntington, Vt. His father, a native of Massachusetts, died at Lexington, in this county, and his mother, a native of Connecticut, died in Vermont. In 1844, they located at Ontario in this county. Cassius Shattuck was reared on a farm in Vermont, and for twelve years followed shoemaking, and afterward learned masonry, which he has been engaged in for about twenty years, and has built a number of fine brick residences in this township. He was married in this township, at Lexington, April 24, 1846, to Miss Jane Brown, a native of Canada. Her parents, William and Sarah Brown, came to this country from Ireland; they died in Steuben County, Ind. For some time after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck resided in Lexington, then sold their property there, consisting of two lots, and began farming on 132 acres of land in this township. They have had two children—Henry F., married and residing at Lexington, and George, deceased. Mr. Shattuck served two years as Township Assessor, and was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, but resigned after three months' service.

JAMES SMITH, at the age of thirteen, came to Indiana with his parents, who located in Lima Township, where they died. Eighty acres of land in Lima Township was the subject's first investment in real estate, and subsequently he purchased another eighty acres adjoining, from his brother. He was married April 4, 1849, to Miss Sarah Burnell, and they lived fourteen years in Lima Township, then came to their present home in this township in 1863, where he owns a farm of 134½ acres. Mr. Smith held the office of

County Commissioner for a period of eighteen years, and served one year as Township Assessor. He is the son of David and Elizabeth Smith, of Virginia, who came from Ohio (where the subject was born, in Clark County, June 16, 1820) to Indiana in 1833. Mrs. Smith is English by birth; her mother, Eleanor Burnell, died in England; her father came to Indiana in 1830, and died at Lexington, Greenfield Township. Mr. Smith and wife are parents of ten children—Jewison W., a resident of this township; David T., of Kansas; Frank M., of Lima Township; Burnell S., of this township; James C., a college student at Danville, and Tasso K., Clyde H., Nellie B., Maggie E. and Joseph, at home.

JOSEPH STEAD was born in Yorkshire, England, December 21, 1830, and came to America in 1833 with his parents, William and Hannah Stead, natives also of England; they settled at White Pigeon, Mich., subsequently removing to this township, where they died. Joseph Stead worked at home for his parents until he was married, December 23, 1852, to Miss Lydia Alcott in this township, where they located on rented property. Six years afterward, Mr. Stead bought and settled on 40 acres of his present farm, that he subsequently increased to 160 acres. Mrs. Stead is the daughter of Samuel and Nancy Alcott, and a native of Marion County, Ohio. Her parents came to Indiana in 1836, locating in Jackson Township, Steuben County; her father died in Springfield Township, this county, and her mother (who was seventy-five years old October 24, 1881) is living at the home of the subject. Three children have been born to Mr and Mrs. Stead, viz., Annie E. and George M. (deceased); Caroline B., at home. Mr. Stead has one of the best farms on English Prairie; he preserves as an heirloom an ancient brass clock, that belonged to his grandfather, Stead; it is over 100 years old, about seven feet high and keeps perfect time.

GEORGE M. STORM came to Indiana in 1836, with his parents George and Rothilda Storm, who settled in Goshen, Elkhart Co., Ind., where they both died; the former was born in Massachusetts, and the latter in Connecticut. George M. spent his youth at Goshen and Lima, and learned harness-making, establishing a shop at the latter place in 1854. This employment he continued about eight years, then turned his attention to farming; first purchasing 80 acres of land in this township, where he was located about six years, and since then has farmed on his present land—117 acres—that is under good cultivation. Mr. Storm was married March 4, 1859, at Lima, to Miss Laura A. Webster. They have two children—Clarence W. and Allyn D. Mr. and Mrs. Storm are both natives of New York, his birth occurring October 31, 1831. Her parents, Edwin and Betsey Webster, of Massachusetts and New York, respectively, came to Indiana in 1854, and died at the home of the subject; the latter contemplates building a large barn the ensuing season.

CHARLES STROUD is a native of Sturgis, Mich., and was born on the 3d of November, 1849. He is the son of Thomas and Hannah Stroud, of England, who came to America and settled in Newark, N. J., from whence they proceeded to Sturgis, Mich., where Mr. Stroud, Sr., yet survives at the age of seventy-eight years; Mrs. Hannah Stroud died in this township. Charles Stroud received a limited education, and when twenty years old began his independent career in life. In this township he was married November 24, 1872, and has since lived here. His wife, Selina Miller, is the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Miller, of Pennsylvania, early settlers of Indiana. Her mother died in this township, and her father is a resident of Sturgis, Mich.

Mr. Stroud owns 115 acres of excellent land, and takes just pride in the fine blooded stock raised on his farm. At this writing, he is feeding 200 head of sheep for the spring markets. Mr. and Mrs. Stroud have only one child, a daughter, Mary S.

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### NEWBURY TOWNSHIP.

**WILLIAM ATWATER** is a native of Wayne County, N. Y., where his birth occurred the 18th of May, 1827. In the fall of 1856, he removed to Indiana, and for the first year was located at Lima, then purchased his present home of eighty acres in this township. When Mr. Atwater first came to this county he had only \$5; he has worked diligently at clearing and improving his farm, and now is in comfortable circumstances. He was united in marriage to Miss Martha Craven, in February, 1854. She was born in England in 1831, and came to America with her parents, Martha and James Craven, in 1835. The subject is the son of Luther and Mehitabel (Sheldon) Atwater, natives of Connecticut and New Jersey, respectively, and of Welsh and German descent. They were parents of fifteen children, two of whom settled in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Atwater belong to the Methodist denomination, and have a family of five children—Adella (now Mrs. Jacob Leopold), Clara B., Edgar D., Addie and Viola.

**AMOS BORINTRAGER** is a native of Somerset County, Penn., where he was born November 20, 1826. He is one of thirteen children in the family of John Borntrager. Three of the subject's elder brothers having emigrated to Indiana, his father sold the homestead farm in 1848, and removed to this township, where he died. Amos Borntrager, in 1849, November 17, was married to Miss Lydia Miller, a native of Pennsylvania; her parents, Israel and Rosa A. Miller, were of German descent, and born in the State of Pennsylvania. Mr. Borntrager, in 1861, purchased his farm of 320 acres, and has himself accomplished the task of clearing, improving and furnishing his land with buildings. It is one of the oldest and best farms in the township; was entered by Joseph Keysey during Van Buren's administration. Mr. Borntrager is a leading resident, and he and wife belong to the Omish Church. They have had twelve children; ten are living—Rosa A., Gertie, Isaac, Barbara, John, Benjamin, Elias, David, Lydia and Abner.

**JOSEPH BORINTRAGER** is one of a family of thirteen children, nine of whom are living in this county. Their parents, John and Barbara (Johns) Borntrager, were of German descent, and natives of Pennsylvania, in which State Joseph was born in Somerset County August 4, 1811. He was married, March 20, 1832, to Miss Barbara Yoder, the daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Miller) Yoder, natives of Pennsylvania. They lived a number of years in Somerset County, where Mr. Borntrager bought a farm for \$1,400. January 3, 1841, he started for the West in company with two brothers—Christian and Daniel, who were the first Omish settlers in this section. Joseph went to Elkhart County, Ind., and located near Goshen, paying \$500 for eighty acres of forest land. In 1852, he sold this, with another eighty he bought in 1843, for \$3,300, and, in February, 1853, purchased 160 acres in this township, where he has since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager have had eleven children, seven of whom are living—Christian E., John E., Eli E. (who was the first Omish child born in the county), Joseph, Daniel E., Reuben E. and Magda-



lene. One son—David—at the age of eleven, was thrown from a horse and killed. Subject and family are strict members of the Omish Church. He has served several terms as School Director and Roadmaster, and has been chosen as administrator and guardian a number of times. He is living with his youngest son, Reuben E., who now owns and manages the homestead farm.

JOHN BUTT is a native of Marion County, Ohio, where he was born February 7, 1826. His parents were Jacob and Mary (Mutchler) Butt, the former of Virginia, the latter of Pennsylvania, and both of German descent. They were early settlers of this county, coming here in July, 1836. The subject was a resident of Van Buren Township until after his marriage, May 15, 1850, removing that year to this township, where he invested in seventy acres of land. After disposing of this property, he bought 100 acres of his present farm, which now consists of twice that number. Mr. Butt is an experienced thrasher, having followed a machine nearly every fall since he was fifteen years, of age; also working at breaking and farming. He has rendered twelve years' efficient service as Justice of the Peace, and also filled several minor offices. His wife, Mrs. Harriet L. Butt, is the daughter of Alexander and Nancy Pointer, and of eight children that were born to them only three are living—Kansas E., Jane E. and Hattie L.

HEZEKIAH DAVIS, the son of Amos and Susannah (Leib) Davis, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 9, 1825. His parents were of Welsh and German descent and natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania. His father came to this township and entered land, in Section 19, in 1835. In 1854, Amos Davis purchased the Greenfield Mills, which he operated until his death, in 1867, at the age of seventy. While going to Bronson, Mich., he fell from a load of wheat and struck his head on the wheel, causing his death. His widow is living with her daughter Mary, at Millersburg, Ind., at the age of eighty-five. Hezekiah Davis helped his father to clear the farm and his education was very limited. Near the year 1840, when out with his father, they found fourteen bee-trees in half a day. At the age of twenty-three, he had accumulated \$400, with which he purchased 160 acres of his present home. After keeping "bach" part of the time for three years, he was married, April 10, 1851, to Miss Sarah Reynolds, a native of St. Joseph County, Mich., born November 15, 1832. Her father, Samuel Reynolds, located on Elkhart Prairie in 1829, spending the latter part of his life at Union Mills, where he died at the age of seventy-one. Mr. Davis is one of the old and influential men of the township. In 1852, he was elected County Commissioner and served eight years; then, after an interval of six years, was again elected to that office, holding it four terms in succession and giving general satisfaction. He is a Republican, formerly a Whig, is orthodox in religious belief, owns 1,400 acres of land and has \$40,000 out at interest. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had seven children—Emma F., Sam G., Eugene, Warren H., Niles R. (deceased), Lenora G. and Hewlitt. Mr. Davis has been a very industrious worker. He ran the first reaper, harvester, binder and feed-mill in the township, and during the early part of his life put in eighteen hours a day at work.

ESAIAS HOCHSTETLER is the son of Peter and Magdalena Hochstetler and a native of Somerset County, Penn. When he was twenty-one, he began for himself, and for two years worked at various employments. In December, 1841, he married Mary Blough, the daughter of John and Sarah Blough. Her birth occurred December 20, 1822, and her husband's March 17, 1819. Both of their parents were natives of Pennsylvania, of German

descent. The subject rented property about three years, and in 1844 removed with his family to this township, coming overland, in company with three neighbors. He located on the farm where he now lives, and by unceasing toil has brought it up to the standard. It consists of 157 acres, for which he paid \$100 down, going in debt for the rest. His first house was built of round logs, one story high, 16x18. This has been replaced by one of more modern structure. Mr. Hochstetler has the confidence of all. He has been appointed a number of times as guardian and administrator in settling estates. To the subject and wife have been born six children, five of whom are living, viz.: Sarah, Lydia, Daniel, Elizabeth and Mary.

JOSEPH KAUFFMAN, SR., was born in Holmes County, Ohio, in July, 1840. His parents—Stephen and Magdaline Kauffman—were natives of Pennsylvania and descendants of the Germans. At the age of sixteen, Joseph Kauffman started for himself, and was variously employed until 1864, when he rented a farm in Elkhart County, Ind., settling on his farm in this township the following year. It then consisted of eighty acres of forest land; is now cleared and cultivated, and increased by an addition of sixty acres. October 22, 1864, Mr. Kauffman's marriage to Miss Mary E. Cripe took place. Her birth occurred October 15, 1843, in Elkhart County, Ind. Her father was Benjamin C. Cripe, a native of Ohio and of German descent. They have five children—Harvy E., Anna E., Barbara Ellen, Mary J. and Amasa B—and are members of the German Baptist Church. Mr. Kauffman went to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1845, with his parents, who died there, his father in December, 1864, and his mother in March, 1855. Mr. Kauffman assisted in opening the roads in his section and is an industrious farmer.

ELI KLINGERSMITH is the eldest of six children in the family of Peter and Sarah (Gard) Klingersmith. He was born September 3, 1818, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and at the age of twenty-one began working for himself. He learned the carpenter's trade and followed the same five years. Before settling in this county, in 1864, on his present farm of eighty acres, he invested in some real estate in Wabash County, Ind., which he afterward sold; his land in this township he has cleared and converted into valuable property. In 1849, Mr. Klingersmith and Miss Anna Knepp were united in marriage, and to them have been born four children, viz., Daniel, Henry, George and Mary. Mrs. Klingersmith was born February 1, 1829, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and, in 1830, removed with her parents, John and Mary (Price) Knepp, to Holmes County, Ohio. Mr. Klingersmith is a good farmer and citizen; himself and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Klingersmith's mother is yet living and resides with her children at the advanced age of eighty-one.

PETER C. MISHLER, son of Peter and Susanna (Berkey) Mishler, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, October 7, 1827; his parents were descendants of the German, born in Pennsylvania, and had a family of seven children. Peter C., when twenty-one years old, began to work at the carpenter's trade, continuing the same about six years, after which he purchased a forest farm near Berlin, Ohio. In 1865, he emigrated to this township, settling on the farm where he now lives; he owns 180 acres, is an enterprising and thrifty farm manager, and is serving his first term as Township Trustee. While in Ohio, he held the office of Township Assessor one term. January 14, 1855, he was married to Miss Mary Yoder, a native of Holmes County, Ohio. Seven children were born to them, but only three now survive—Edward, John and

David. Mrs. Mishler's parents, Stephen and Susan (Kime) Yoder, were natives of Pennsylvania. Her mother and Mr. Mishler's father both spent their last days at the home of the subject, in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Mishler belong to the Omish Church.

JAMES C. MURRAY, the son of Edward and Jane (McKibben) Murray, is a native of Somerset County, Penn., born September 15, 1817. His parents were born in Ireland and emigrated to America in 1814. They resided in Pennsylvania, where they first located, until about the year 1820, when they moved to Ohio, traveling west to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1844, where their last days were passed. James Murray moved to Elkhart County in 1846, thence to this township in 1861, locating on the farm he now owns of 130 acres. In 1842, he was married to Miss Mary A. Smith, who is a native of Somerset County, Penn., where she was born, July 13, 1823. Mr. Murray has by his own efforts acquired his home and property; he received but a limited education in youth, is a man of energy and enterprise and active in politics. The parents of Mrs. Murray were natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. Of eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Murray five are living, viz., Silas C., David, John F., William E. and Emma.

JOHN R. NELSON is descended from Irish and English ancestors, and came to this county in 1838 with his mother and brother. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in June, 1824, and when about thirteen years old, his father, James W. Nelson, died, leaving the family dependent upon their own resources. After their arrival here, his mother, Margaret Nelson, entered a tract of unimproved land in Section 27, of this township, where they settled, cleared a farm and established a home. Mr. Nelson remembers distinctly of crossing the Black Swamp in 1838, and of the abundance and variety of game that filled the forests at that time. He first bought a farm of forty acres in Clay Township, this county, and, in 1853, invested in his property of eighty acres, in this township. His wife's maiden name was Miss Mary Boliard; she was born in Crawford County, Ohio, April 3, 1836, and married to Mr. Nelson in 1854, May 30. They have four children living, viz., John F., Rosetta, Montaville and Truben, and have buried two. Mrs. Nelson's parents were Daniel and Elizabeth Boliard; the latter was born in Ohio and the former in Pennsylvania. He came to this township in 1848, is seventy-five years old and lives in Middlebury. Mr. Nelson is much averse to secret societies and orders.

JOHN E. POWELL is the son of Caleb and Sarah (Austin) Powell, and was born the 3d of June, 1833, in Knox County, Ohio. His ancestors were of Welsh and English descent. When a child of four years, he went with his parents to Sangamon County, Ill., where he lived until after his father's death, which occurred about 1845. With his mother he returned to Ohio, emigrating after a brief period to this county, Clay Township, where he was located until 1861, when he purchased his present home. October 25, 1855, his marriage to Miss Mary E. Fox was solemnized. She was born in New York, December 19, 1837, and is the daughter of Charles J. Fox, a native of New York, who made a settlement in this county in 1838, where he lived until his death in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have had born to them seven children—Albert F., Charles E., Frankie (deceased), Eddie, Mary May, Clementine and Satie J. Mr. Powell is a man of enterprise, and has served as Constable, and was also Trustee four years.

HENRY PROUGH is the son of Samuel and Saloma (Confer) Prough, and one of eleven children, seven of whom are living. The parents were natives

of Pennsylvania and early settlers of Hocking County, Ohio, where the subject was born August 23, 1839. In 1851, they came to this county, locating on a farm in Eden Township, where Mr. Prough, Sr., yet resides. February 14, 1861, Henry Prough was married to Miss Lucinda J. Weygandt, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, April 9, 1842, and to their union five children have been born—Albert E., Celestia J., Ira D., William C., and Chauncey, deceased. Mrs. Prough is the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Gilbert) Weygandt, natives of Ohio, of German descent; after her husband's death, Mrs. Weygandt removed with her family, in 1859, to Eden Township, this county, where she lived the remainder of her life. Mr. Prough and family are members of the Lutheran Church. He purchased his farm in 1863, previous to which time he had farmed for his father on shares. In 1864, he was drafted in the army and paid \$1,000 for a substitute. In 1867, he removed to his present location; owns 195½ acres of land, and is worth about \$11,700, having started with \$3 and a horse.

VALENTINE L. SCHROCK is one of nine children in the family of Christian and Leah (Lehman) Schrock, both of whom were natives of Somerset County, Penn., the former's birth occurring January 1, 1817, and the latter's in March, 1825. Valentine Schrock is of the same nativity as his parents, and was born January 20, 1845. He received an ordinary education and remained on his father's farm until he attained the age of twenty-one. In 1866, he went to Johnson County, Iowa, where he gave his attention to carpentering and farming, until 1867, when he engaged in the saw-mill business in Elkhart County, Ind. In 1873, he located on a farm in Van Buren Township, this county, and three years later bought a saw-mill in this township, which he has since successfully operated. May 9, 1869, Mr. Schrock was united in marriage to Mary Troyer, a native of Holmes County, Ohio, where her birth occurred March 5, 1851. Her father, Levi Troyer, was born in Holmes County Ohio, December 25, 1816. Her mother was Ann (Mishler) Troyer, of the same nativity. Mr. and Mrs. Schrock are members of the Omish Church and the parents of five children—Anna A., Aaron H., Andrew J., Adeline S. and Alice L. Mr. Schrock is a Democrat and an esteemed citizen.

DAVID SHROCK is a native of Somerset County, Penn., and the son of John and Barbara (Yoder) Shrock, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1766, and the latter, a native of Pennsylvania. They removed to Cambria County, Penn., when David was four years old, and the latter remained there until 1846, when he settled in this township, on the farm of 240 acres where he now lives. When twenty-two years of age, his father gave him \$350; by industry and judicious management, he has acquired property worth \$27,000 or more, owning 520 acres of land besides his farm. Mr. Shrock served a number of years as School Trustee, and has been chosen administrator; he is a Republican, and in 1831, April 3, was married to Maria Borntrager; she was born in Somerset County, Penn., November 14, 1808, and his birth occurred December 26, 1808. Her parents, John and Barbara (Johns) Borntrager, were natives of Pennsylvania, of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Shrock are members of the old-school Omish Church, and have reared a child—John H. Whetstone, whom they took at the age of two years; to him Mr. Shrock has willed the homestead farm. Subject owns a Bible that is over three hundred years old, and contains an inscription written in 1634.

A. SUMMEY, the son of John and Susanna Summey, is a native of York County, Penn., born in 1827. In 1837, he accompanied his parents to



Wayne County, Ohio, thence to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1851, coming, after a brief sojourn, to this township. At the time of coming here he had \$280, and bought 80 acres of land in Section 8, to which he added 100 more; then sold, in 1866, for \$8,400, and purchased his present home, that includes 572 acres of good land. Mr. Summey was married to Miss Rachael Chambers in 1850. They have had nine children, six of whom are living—Susan, Eliza A., John E., Ellis, Alice and Oliver. Mrs. Summey is the daughter of Benjamin Chambers, and a native of Stark County, Ohio. The father and mother of the subject were descendants of the German and English, respectively, and natives of Pennsylvania; they died at his home in this township, the former October 21, 1873, at the age of seventy-one, and the latter December 16, 1873, at the age of seventy-eight. They had four children, two of whom live in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Summey are members of the German Baptist Church. He is a Republican, and raises from \$1,500 to \$2,000 worth of stock annually. His education has been principally self-acquired. In their house, in the fall of 1854, the Dunkards held their first meeting in the township.

FREDERICK SUNTHIMER, son of Adam and Catherine (Shaw) Sunthimer, natives of Germany: they emigrated to America, locating in Virginia, where Frederick Sunthimer was born, 1836, in Wheeling. In 1840, they removed to Ohio, and lived in the counties of Tuscarawas, Coshocton and Holmes. In the latter place, eighteen years after the death of his wife, Adam Sunthimer passed away, at the age of seventy-one. At the age of twenty-two, the subject came to La Grange County, and worked two years, receiving \$132 per year, in a saw-mill, in Eden Township. Shortly succeeding his marriage, which occurred November 28, 1860, he rented his father-in-law's farm, where he has lived ever since, with the exception of four years, spent in working his own farm of 77 acres, in Section 19, that he subsequently exchanged for the homestead property of 180 acres, which he has greatly improved. His wife, Rachael, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Miller, natives of Pennsylvania, was born May 30, 1844. They have six children—Mary A., Joseph E., Rachael, Andrew J., Amanda and Edward. The subject and wife are members of the Omish Church. He is worth about \$12,000, and is a Republican citizen of enterprise.

HANNON J. VAN DORSTON, one of the enterprising citizens of the township, purchased and located on his farm of 107 acres in the spring of 1864, and is living in the oldest frame house in the township. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, April 4, 1833, and came to Indiana soon after celebrating his twenty-first birthday. One year he passed in Elkhart and La Porte Counties; then returned to the home of his parents. In April, 1855, he started for California, going *via* New York and the Isthmus of Panama. After arrival there, he engaged in mining for fourteen months; then went to Portland, Oregon, where he worked at lumbering until the fall of 1858, when he returned home, and, March 24, 1859, was married to Miss Susan Flora. They have had eight children—Minerva C., now Mrs. Gideon Lehman; Flora T., Charles E., Samuel J., Capitola, Lula D., Ethel E. and Othny Ono. Mrs. Van Dorston is the daughter of Jacob and Magdalena (Leshner) Flora, natives of Pennsylvania, and was born in Wayne County, Ohio, May 8, 1840. Mr. Van Dorston was Justice of the Peace four years, and then re-elected but did not qualify. His parents, Samuel and Mary (Flickinger) Van Dorston, natives of Pennsylvania, moved from Ohio to St. Joseph County, Mich., in 1865; Samuel Van Dorston died in 1880; his widow is now living in Three Rivers, Mich., and is eighty-four years

old. The subject, his wife, and two daughters, are members of the Lutheran Church.

JOSEPH WEIRICH, when a boy of fifteen years, came to this township with his parents in 1842, who settled on a farm in Section 17, subsequently changing their location to Section 20, where they began again the task of clearing a home from the forest wilderness. Joseph Weirich is a native of Somerset County, Penn., and the eldest son of Philip Weirich, also a Pennsylvanian by birth. In about 1852, Joseph purchased the old homestead property, and exchanged it a few years afterward for his present home of 150 acres. As the result of his own efforts and industry, he now is worth over \$8,000. On the 3d of March, 1852, he married Barbara Garber. Her father, John Garber, was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Weirich are believers in the Omish faith. He received a poor education in youth. As a wheat-thresher and wood-sawyer, Mr. Weirich has had considerable experience. His father died in February, 1868, and his mother, who is yet living, has attained the age of seventy-nine years.

ELIAS WIGHT was born June 6, 1830, in Augusta, Me., and removed with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, in 1833. In the spring of 1852, he came to Indiana, stopping in Elkhart County, where he taught school several years, having had some experience in Ohio, teaching there three winter seasons. This vocation he pursued two winters in Iowa, but was called home by the death of his father in 1855, after which he assisted in the support of the family until he was married, July 1, 1860. Elias and Elizabeth Wight, of Maine, were the parents of Elias Wight, the subject, who now owns and resides on the farm where they located when they first came to this State in 1853. Mrs. Wight died in 1861. The Wights are of an old family whose ancestors came to America from the Isle of Wight. Elias Wight is an active Republican citizen, was elected County Commissioner in 1878; served the township as Assessor for eleven years and during that time took the military enrollment. His wife, Sophia A., whose parents, William and Ann Telfer, came to this county in 1847, was born in St. Joseph County, Mich., in 1843; her parents were natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Wight have had four children—Marvin L. (deceased), Byron W., Eva E. and Clarence E. Subject owns 240 acres of land, half of which comprises the old homestead, and first introduced the raising of sorghum, beginning the manufacture of it in 1857. At the age of eighteen, Mr. Wight left home for the purpose of attending the college at Oberlin, whither he went accompanied by his father, arriving at nightfall. His trunk was deposited in the college building, they proceeding to a hotel to pass the night. The next morning, his father decided that he could not spare him, so they procured his trunk and returned home, his "great expectations" ending in the acquirement of a common-school education.

WRINCH WINTER was born in New York in 1830. His parents, George and Melicent (Wrinch) Winter, were English people, emigrating to America in 1824; the former came West in 1836, entering the land where the subject is now living, removing his family to the same in the summer of 1837. This was one of the earliest permanent settlements in the township. In the spring of 1852, Wrinch Winter and three companions started for California, equipped with a covered wagon, drawn by three yoke of oxen and two cows. While crossing the Elkhorn River, a band of Indians surprised them, but left them unmolested. At Stockton, Cal., Mr. Winter was employed about three years in teaming, then returned to this township, where he has remained. After his father died (December 19, 1868), he purchased the homestead farm of 126

acres, having now 206 acres of good land. He is a Republican, and, in 1863, was appointed to fill a vacancy as Trustee of the township, and continued to hold the office for three consecutive terms, serving satisfactorily throughout. Mr. Winter and Miss Lucretia Hamilton were married in 1856, and have a family of four children—George H., Corette, Regina and Marian E. Mrs. Winter was born in 1836, in St. Joseph County, Mich; her father was Samuel Hamilton, a native of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch descent.

ALLEN I. WOLFE is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and the son of Samuel and Mary Wolfe, the former of Pennsylvania, the latter of Ohio, and both of German ancestry. They removed to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1837, the subject at the time being five years of age, shortly afterward coming to Fly Creek, in this county. After several changes, they finally located on Section 3 of this township, where the rest of their days were tranquilly passed. Allen I. Wolfe, at the age of sixteen, learned carpentering; continued the same until 1852, when he went to California with three companions, starting with a covered wagon, drawn by four yoke of cattle; this equipage they disposed of at Soda Springs, U. T., landing at their destination in the fall of the year. After spending three years in the Northern mines, Mr. Wolfe returned to Indiana with the sum of \$3,600, with which he purchased his farm of 160 acres, that is now well improved with good buildings. He was united in marriage to Miss Susan Wight, by the Rev. J. P. Jones, on the 17th of January, 1856. They have had four children—Lewis A., Mary E., Warren W., and Nettie E., deceased. Mr. Wolfe is an anti-secret man, and in the early history of the township served on the Board of Trustees several times. Hunting was always with him a favorite pastime.

C. C. YODER is one of eleven children in the family of Christian and Catharine (Miller) Yoder, natives of Pennsylvania, in which State our subject's birth occurred, in Somerset County, May 29, 1819. He was united in marriage, June 27, 1841, to Catharine Harshberger, the daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Summey) Harshberger, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1843, Mr. Yoder removed to Elkhart County, Ind., where he resided until March, 1851, locating then on his present farm of 160 acres, that has been cleared and improved by him. Instead of the customary log cabin, he built a small frame structure that is yet standing. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder are firm members of the Omish Church, and parents of eight children, five of whom are living and located near home. They are—Barbara, Noah, Lydia, Harriet and Sarah. Mr. Yoder once met with a narrow escape and painful accident. Before leaving his native State, while riding through the woods during a severe storm, he was struck on the skull by a falling limb, and knocked insensible from his horse. After reviving, he continued the journey with his faithful animal, and by the assistance of medical aid was soon restored.

REUBEN YODER is a native of Somerset County, Penn., where he was born January 9, 1831. He is one of eleven children in the family of Christian C. and Catharine (Miller) Yoder, who were born in Pennsylvania, and were of German lineage. Reuben Yoder was left an orphan at the age of eighteen, and went to work on a farm. For several seasons he was engaged in threshing grain with the flail, receiving every tenth bushel. In the winter of 1850-51, he threshed 1,100 bushels of oats, and 280 of rye. On the 1st of the following April, he was married to Harriet Riehl, who was born in Pennsylvania March 3, 1830. Her parents, John and Elizabeth Riehl, were natives of Germany, and after coming to this country, with the exception of three years passed in Michigan, lived in Pennsylvania until their deaths. Subject and wife started

on their wedding tour in a covered wagon for Indiana; settled on their present farm, and lived eight years in a log house. When Mr. Yoder came here he had \$700, a team and wagon; by dint of persevering industry, he has acquired 240 acres of well improved land, valued at \$50 per acre. They are members of the Omish Church, and have had nine children—Elizabeth, Samuel R., Daniel R., Mary M., Menno S., Moses A., Peter A., Abraham (deceased), and Levi. Mr. Yoder is giving his children a good education, and Daniel is now teaching his sixth term of school.

### MILFORD TOWNSHIP.

M. B. BAIRD was born January 24, 1813, in Allegany County, N. Y.; son of Charles and Hannah (Dimick) Baird, natives of New York, and of English and German descent; they went to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1817, subsequently moving to Wood County, Ohio, where they died. The subject, in the spring of 1838, went to Monroe County, Mich.; then in a few years went to Wood County, Ohio, where he cleared up a farm; he was the first to run a separator in that county. He came to this township in 1852, and located on his farm of 120 acres, which he has much improved. He was married to Lydia Bruce, December 22, 1836; she was the daughter of Stephen and Lena (Pugh) Bruce, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and was born October 23, 1816. They had ten children—Stephen B., Josephus E., Charles, Rachel, Rebecca A., Mary J., Milton, Samuel, Josephine and Edwin P. Stephen B. enlisted in 1862, and served during the war with Gen. Sherman; Charles enlisted in the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the war closed. Mr. Baird is an able horse-farrier, and has a large practice; he was among the active Regulators, and has served as Pathmaster a number of terms. He is a Republican, as are also his sons.

J. A. BARTLETT, one of the early pioneers of this township, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., January 21, 1815, and is the son of John C. and Betsey (Arnold) Bartlett, who were parents of eight children, viz.: Ann M., Samuel A., Addlime M., John A., Henry D., Edward D., George R. and Charles C. At the age of twenty, the subject began an apprenticeship at the carpenter and joiner's trade, and worked at that until 1838, when he came to Milford Township and located, where he has since remained engaged in the practice of farming. In the fall of 1840, Mr. Bartlett was united in marriage with Salina L. Andrews, daughter of Luman and Chloe (Adams) Andrews. They have three children living—Celia M., Addie A. and Ida M., and one deceased, George A. Mr. Bartlett, in common with all early settlers, is familiar with the hardships and labor of the early days in this forest land, and he has always worked for the advancement of the country. At one time he held the office of Township Trustee, and served satisfactorily. He is a stanch Democrat, and cast his first vote for Van Buren.

J. C. BASSETT, among the leading citizens of the township, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., November 17, 1825. His parents, James and Rachael Bassett, natives of Vermont and New York respectively, moved from Oswego County to Steuben County, N. Y., where they died. Subject is one of ten children, and learned blacksmithing when seventeen years old, and made that his leading pursuit until about 1860. For three years he followed mold-



ing in New York, and harness-making one year: he came to this county in 1851, and located at Applemanburg, and came to this township in 1855, where he has lived since, with the exception of the summer of 1865, during which time he was at Kendallville, running a brick-yard. He has served twelve years as Pathmaster, is a strong Republican, and serves the people in various ways as Director of Agricultural Society, etc. March 12, 1852, he was married to Matilda Spears; she is a native of this county, born April 26, 1837, and daughter of Tunis and Mary Spears, who were of English descent, and came to this county in 1836. Tunis Spears was born in New Jersey and his wife in Connecticut.

LUCAS BASSETT was born September 1, 1840, to George W. and Samantha Bassett, in York State. Parents are natives of Vermont; his father was born in 1805, August 6, and mother September 16, 1806. They were married September 28, 1826, and moved to Brockport, N. Y., in the fall of 1833; then came to this county with the family, settling four miles east of La Grange; thence to this township, and located on the present farm. The father and his son, Lucas, purchased eighty acres, which they have cleared and improved with two good houses, bank barn, and other buildings. Lucas started out poor, and now has property worth over \$7,000. He was married to Christena Wycuff, who was born in Pennsylvania, July 22, 1850. She bore him the following children: Orlando, Cora Adell, Franklin, Emma J., George and Christena C. Mrs. Bassett was a daughter of Jesse and Kathane Wycuff, and of German descent. Her parents moved to Ashland County, Ohio, where they resided until the father's death, in 1862. The mother then came to Noble County, where she died in 1869. Mr. Bassett has served as Pathmaster two terms. He is a Democrat, and cast his first vote for Buchanan.

ALANSON BLACKMUN is the only one living of ten children in the family of Allen and Aseneth (Corbin) Blackmun, and was born in Huron County, Ohio, February 18, 1823. Allen Blackmun, a native of New York, in his early years was engaged in the manufacture of pearl-ash. After his marriage, he moved to Huron County, Ohio; lived there until the spring of 1839, when he came to this township, and settled on the place now owned by his son. The latter, Alanson Blackmun, first came here in March, 1843, but returned to Ohio, and in the fall of the same year, came back and located permanently. His father and mother both died here, the former in 1865, the latter, who was a native of Connecticut, in 1873; they were hard-working people, of Methodist Episcopal faith, and among the first comers to the county. The subject was reared a farmer, is of limited education, and was married, March 25, 1849, to Mariah Baker, whose parents came from Ohio to Steuben County, Ind., in about 1836. With the exception of one year in Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Blackmun have resided on their farm. They have had four children—Albert E., Mary J., Charles A. and Weltha R. Both daughters are dead; Albert married Annie Miller, and resides in California; Charles married Lillian Gunn, and lives in this township. Mr. Blackmun is a Republican, as was his father, and a member of the Masonic Order of Wolcottville. He was appointed to the office of County Commissioner, in 1874, in the place of A. Dickenson, deceased, and after serving out his term was elected to another, again re-elected, and is yet serving.

ALBERT BRAINERD is the son of Williard and Pattie (Aikins) Brainerd, and at an early age was thrown upon his own resources by the death of his parents. They were natives of Connecticut. Albert Brainerd was born

in Cleveland, Ohio, February 15, 1824, and at the age of nineteen was married to Minerva Himes, and shortly after purchased land in Ohio, where they remained until 1851, when they came to this township with the intention of locating, but, after a short visit with Mrs. Brainerd's parents, returned to Cayuga County, Ohio, coming again to Indiana the following year, however, and settling on forty acres of land in this township. Since then he has purchased and cleared the eighty-acre farm where he resides. Mr. Brainerd, although not an aspirant for office, has in several instances been called to serve the people, and has done so satisfactorily. Mrs. Brainerd's father, Joseph Himes, of Vermont, was a resident of Cayuga County, Ohio, before coming to this township, in about 1845, where he spent the remainder of his life. Jennie C., Harriet M., Frank P. and Fred E. are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Brainerd.

A. P. CASE is living in the first frame house built in the township and upon the farm entered by him in 1836. In company with his uncle, David Randall, he left Ashtabula County, Ohio, in the spring of 1833, and traveled across the country on foot to St. Joseph County, Mich., west of Sturgis, where they soon earned enough to enter the eighty acres of land, in 1836, on Sections 7 and 18, where, in the spring of 1837, subject, with his mother, Anna (Randall) Case, and brother Zopher, located, and for many years endured the hardships of pioneer life. Zopher Case, father of the subject, who ranked as Major in the war of 1812, came from Connecticut at an early day, and settled in Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he died in 1822, leaving a wife and four small children, among whom was our subject, who was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, October 6, 1812. After coming to this county, his mother kept house for him until he was married, December 4, 1841, to Miss Elsie Hill, daughter of Aaron and Permelia (Winston) Hill, natives of New Jersey. They are parents of ten children—Zopher P., Randall P., Daniel A. (deceased), Elizabeth C., Daniel A., Jr., Billings B., Elsie A., Perry A., Mary E. and Isa A.

C. M. CASE is a native of this county, where he was born in Johnson Township, October 8, 1850. His parents were Zopher and Nancy (Highbargin) Case, natives of Ohio. Zopher Case, with his brother, A. P. Case, and mother, came to this township in 1837, but subsequently located in Johnson Township, where he is yet living. The subject, when twenty years of age, commenced teaching school, and for three years alternated that with farm labor, during their respective seasons. In 1873, he bought forty acres of land in Section 17, and his father gave him eighty acres adjoining. Of this, he sold eighty acres for \$3,000 and purchased his present farm, that ranks among the best in the township in improvements and appearance. It consists of one hundred acres, twenty of which were presented to his wife by her father. For the remaining eighty acres he paid \$5,000. The proceeds of this farm for the year 1879 were \$2,500; 1880, \$2,800; and 1881, \$2,000. Mr. Case also raises some of the best blooded stock in the county. Although quite a young man, he is on the road to prosperity and belongs to a representative family. He was married to Miss Mary A. Newnam March 17, 1874. She was born in this township October 17, 1855, and is the daughter of Nicholas B. and Nancy (Cochran) Newnam. They were among the early settlers here, coming in 1835, and lived here until within the last year, when they moved to Kendallville.

CHARLES COCHRAN, born December 23, 1821, in Ross County, Ohio; son of Col. William and Nancy (McKelvey) Cochran, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Kentucky. They were early settlers of Ross County, Ohio, moving from there to Marion County in 1822, and in 1836

located in this township, where he had previously entered about seven or eight hundred acres of land, and forty acres upon which was a water-power saw-mill. Upon arrival, May 18, they moved into a hewed log house. In the spring of 1837, after bringing from Detroit, with an ox team, the machinery, the mill was run on custom work until his death, in August, 1844, aged fifty-six years. His wife died June 9, 1861, aged seventy-four years. The subject, when twenty-one years old, started out, March 19, on foot, and with less than \$4, for Iowa; was joined by a companion in Illinois, and they proceeded on their journey. On the North Fork of the Skunk River, they stopped and established a claim, upon which they built a log-house, cleared an acre of land, which they planted to potatoes, and traded off the crop for a yoke of steers. Next proceeded down the Skunk River to near Burlington, then to Galena; made a short stop at St. Louis, then went on to Arkansas, where for two months he was engaged in cutting wood. He next went to New Orleans, and thence to Horse Shoe Bend, and about April 1, 1844, at Galena, he traded for a good horse, and made the journey home in seven days. At his father's death, he inherited eighty acres of land, in the meantime having traded for forty acres, where he now is living in the first brick house built in the township. He owns 460 acres of land, estimated, with other property, at \$40,000. He is an active political worker and is a Freemason. He was married, January 29, 1849, to Ann E. Henry, a native of Pennsylvania and daughter of William Henry, who came to this township in 1846. They have had seven children—Mary Jane (deceased), George W., Edith H., Charles A. (deceased), Alice A., Allen M. (deceased) and Frank H. Mr. and Mrs. Cochran are Spiritualists, and he is owner of an old horse, quite smart and active, that was born May 10, 1852.

G. W. COPLIN, son of William and Bethiah (Palmer) Coplin, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., January 19, 1811. His mother was of English descent, and his father of German. The latter, when but fourteen years of age, enlisted in the army of the Revolutionary war, and shortly after, while on duty at Fort Stanwix cutting timber for repairs, the whole force was ambushed and taken prisoners by the Indians, and he taken to Montreal, Canada, where he, after gaining their confidence, made his escape down the St. Lawrence River in a bark canoe to New York, where he resided until his death in 1814. There were thirteen children in William Coplin's family, only one, the subject, now living. He practiced farming in New York until 1850, when he came West in September to locate his home, selecting land in this township. At that time, when he was clearing his farm of 80 acres, game was plenty, and hunting a pastime. He was married in Cayuga, N. Y., to Miss Rebecca Vanvranken, daughter of Adam I. G. Vanvranken. They have had six children, John V., William P., Theodore, Orcelia G., George and Spencer E.—three living, John, William and Spencer. Mr. and Mrs. Coplin are members of the Christian Church, and he is always interested in the progress of all public enterprises of a beneficent character. His first vote was anti-Masonry, and he has since been an advocate of the Republican party.

THEODORE COPLIN, son of the subject, during the late war enlisted in the the Seventy-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until sickness called him away. He died at Gallatin, Tenn., February 6, 1863, aged twenty-three years seven months and six days. His last words to friends were recorded February 1 as follows: "I'll see you no more on this earth; meet me in heaven. Father, mother and brothers, if you see me no more here, mourn not; for my faith is good, and I trust that heaven is my home."

**WILLIAM S. CORNELL**, one in a family of fifteen children, went to live with Elias Gilbert in Springfield Township, this county, where he remained until he attained the age of twenty-one years. William Cornell's parents, born in New York, were Benjamin H. and Leafie (Hammond) Cornell, who journeyed westward, stopping in Logan County, Ohio, where the subject was born in 1823. Benjamin Cornell was a farmer; he died in Whitley County, Ind., where he came about the year 1841. William Cornell is now pleasantly situated on 115 acres of land, from which the wild forest trees have disappeared, principally through the untiring efforts of Mr. Cornell, who started out in life with \$100, and the determination to succeed. October 22, 1857, Mr. Cornell and Miss Sarah J. Kline were united in marriage. She was the daughter of William and Ellen Kline, of German and Irish descent, and was born in Richland County, Ohio, August 2, 1840. Six children have been born to them—Clark, Lora, Leafie, William (deceased), Albert and Delbert.

**J. F. COSPER** owns eighty acres of improved land in Section 17, and is the son of John and Mary Cospers, natives of the East, the father of English, the mother of German descent. They came to Wayne County, Ohio, at an early day, and from there moved to Holmes County; then, in the fall of 1841, came to Noble County, where the father died in 1872. The subject is one of nine children, and was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 19, 1829, and started out for himself at the age of twenty. He worked during summers on a farm, and attended school at La Grange, taught by Mr. McIntosh, during the winter of 1849–50, and for three years at Ontario, working a portion of the time. Prof. Patch was Principal of the school there. He has taught seven terms of school in all. He married Emma Waterhouse, September 6, 1854, daughter of B. B. and Harriet Waterhouse, natives of New York, and of English descent, who came to this township and settled in 1836. Her father was a soldier in the war of 1812. Mr. Cospers and wife are Methodists, and he has held all the offices in the church; he has also served as School Director and Pathmaster. He is a Republican, and in the fall of 1864 he was drafted in the army, and served under Gen. Sherman until the close of the war. They reared an adopted child, Josie, who was born May 24, 1859; she is now the wife of Norman Royer.

**ISAAC I. CROWELL**, born February 6, 1836, in Cayuga County, N. Y., was the only one of twelve children that left his native State. He came to Springfield Township in 1857, and hired out by the month, continuing about seven years, when he was enabled to purchase the farm of 80 acres where he now lives. Hugh and Eliza A. (Irish) Crowell were the parents of Isaac. Hugh Crowell was a native of Connecticut, and his forefathers came from Ireland; the mother was a native of New York, and of English descent; they both died in New York. Isaac Crowell was married May 18, 1862, to Miss Elnora E. Millis; her father, John Millis, was of English ancestry and was born in Maryland. Her mother, Martha Millis, of Irish descent, was a native of Ohio. Mr. Crowell's property is probably worth \$6,000. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Crowell are Theron A., William P., Charlie M., John W., Edwin H., Clinton S. (deceased), and Etta M. When the Mount Pisgah Post Office was in existence, Mr. Crowell served as Postmaster.

**JOHN DANCER**, M. D., of German descent, was born in Ashland County, Ohio, October 6, 1830. His father, John G. Dancer, was born in Washington County, Penn., in April, 1802, and his mother, Margaret (Boyce) Dancer, was born in Washington County, N. Y., in April 1802;



they were married in Jefferson County, Ohio, and moved to Ashland County in 1825; thence to DeKalb County, Ind., in 1848, where they engaged in farming. Mr. Dancer's occupation in early life was that of a blacksmith; he died in July, 1873, and his wife in March, 1870. The subject, being slightly crippled, commenced teaching in 1849, to defray his school expenses, and in 1851 began the study of medicine with his brother William, at Auburn, Ind., but upon the death of the latter, went to Lisbon to study under Dr. Bicknell, with whom he remained thirteen months, and, after a short practice at Auburn, located permanently at South Milford. He completed the course of study at Rush Medical College, Chicago, receiving his diploma in 1859. In 1865 and 1867, he attended the same college, and during the winter of 1872-73 was at Jefferson and Bellevue Medical Colleges. Mr. Dancer voted for Franklin Pierce in 1852, and since has voted the straight Democratic ticket. He was nominated State Senator at one time, and also ran for Representative, but the county went Republican and he was defeated. He was married October 14, 1860, to Isabel H. Hodges, a native of La Grange County, born January 7, 1837, and daughter of Nelson R. (native of Maryland), and Mary R. Hodges (native of Pennsylvania). They have had ten children, seven now living, viz., Maggie D., Hattie M. (deceased), John M. (deceased), Kate J., Frank A., James A. (deceased), Charles W., Gratia I., Edna D. and George W.

N. B. DRYER, son of Darius and Clarissa (Rogers) Dryer, was born in Greene County, N. Y., August 9, 1829. His parents came here in 1837, his father having previously entered land in Noble County, and traded it for the farm where his son-in-law, A. B. Bennett, now lives. He settled on his farm in 1840, and died there in February, 1861. Darius Dryer, a clothier by trade, was a soldier in the war of 1812; he started the first carding-mill in this county; he also had followed teaching as a vocation, and four of his six children were school-teachers—his daughter Laura has taught school the past thirty-nine years, averaging two terms yearly. The subject was favorably educated, and after teaching six terms of school devoted his attention to farming exclusively. In 1850, he made a purchase of 80 acres of his present farm; this he has greatly improved, added 40 acres and now has property worth about \$7,000. Mr. Dryer was married March 22, 1855, to Mary A. Tinklepaugh, who was born September 14, 1834, in Madison County, N. Y.; her parents were natives of New York, of German descent, and came to this township in 1844, where they died, the father, Peter Tinklepaugh, in 1848, at the age of sixty-two, and the mother, Maria (Nifer) Tinklepaugh, in 1854, aged sixty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Dryer have had eight children—Dwight W., Romaine P., Charles D. (deceased), Zenas E., Lillie I., William B., Mary Edna and an infant. The survivors are being well educated, and three have taught school in this county. Mrs. Dryer is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Dryer has served as Assessor two terms, is an active politician and an enterprising citizen. In about the year 1848, Mr. Dryer remembers of counting as many as twenty-five deer in one drove.

W. L. DRYER was born in Greene County, N. Y., December 1, 1831, and is the son of Darius and Clarissa (Rogers) Dryer, of English descent. Darius Dryer, who was born in Massachusetts, came from New York to this township, with his family, in November, 1837; he died here in February, 1861. Mrs. Dryer, a native of New York, now eighty years of age, is living with her youngest daughter. The subject commenced learning wagon-making

at the age of nineteen, but soon turned his attention to carpentering; this he followed a number of years, and in 1857 purchased the farm where he now resides. This land was all timber, except 16 acres, and Mr. Dryer has worked hard at clearing it; he now has 120 acres, valued at \$60 per acre. Mr. Dryer was married in 1858, December 23, to Lodema Taylor, who was born in this township April 20, 1841. They have had five children—one infant, Laura, Morton W. and Lura, all deceased, and Mary A., living. Mrs. Dryer's parents were Theston and Nancy (Blair) Taylor, of English descent, and natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. Mr. Taylor entered land in this township in 1836, and two years later the family came. Mr. Dryer is a staunch Republican; has served as Pathmaster and School Director a number of terms each. Zenas B. Dryer, the subject's youngest brother, enlisted in 1861 in the Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and now sleeps in a soldier's grave at New Orleans.

PETER ENGLERT, one of the leading farmers of the township, is a German by birth, and came to this country with his parents, Peter and Katharine Englert, in 1838, and located in Seneca County, Ohio, removing to this township in 1852, where his parents have since died. The subject was born December 24, 1830, and at the age of twenty-two started in life with \$200, and was married November 12, 1853, to Mrs. Katharine Englert, widow of George Englert. She was a daughter of Abraham Rinebold, native of Pennsylvania, of German descent, and was born April 14, 1833, in Seneca County, Ohio. When Mr. Englert first located on his farm it numbered 80 acres of uncleared land; it is now twice that size, and log cabin and trees have disappeared, giving way to the modern improvements, and a fine brick residence; entire property valued at about \$10,000. He is impartial in politics, always upholding the best man. He and wife are parents of six children—George W., Abraham, Lovina and Jacob F., deceased, and Barbara A. and John P., living. They are members of the Evangelical Church, and have always been hard-working and industrious people.

WELTON FRANCIS is a son of Samuel and Sarah A. Francis, and was born in this county, April 25, 1843. His parents, natives of New York, came West in 1840, and in 1853 to this township, where they lived until 1874, when they moved to Kendallville, where Mr. Francis is still living; Mrs. Francis died October 17, 1877. Welton Francis went in the army as a substitute for John Reed, who was drafted in the fall of 1862, from whom he received \$200. Substitutes of that draft had the privilege of serving the nine months' call, or enlisting for three years, with \$100 bounty. Our subject chose the latter, and October 25, 1862, enlisted in the Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Roy, but was transferred in May to the First Indiana Heavy Artillery, and was immediately called into service at the battle of Port Hudson. He participated in six other active engagements: Sabine Pass, Pleasant Hill, Cane River, Marksville, Schapalier and Franklin. He was wounded twice, on the 27th of May, 1862, but not seriously. He saved \$1,000 of his army funds, receiving \$360 back pay at the time of his discharge, and upon returning to La Grange, in 1865, received from A. Ellison, with whom he had left his \$200, a deed for 80 acres in Section 14; this land he afterward disposed of for \$600. In 1866, he purchased a farm of 120 acres, in this township. Mr. Francis was married in March, 1868, to Mary J. Ackley, daughter of Lyman Ackley, of Whitley County, Ind. They have had three children—Ada M., Franklin, deceased, and Mary E. In 1878, he be-

gan the sale of farming implements, at Kendallville, and in the spring of 1881 moved from his farm to South Milford. He has served the people in various ways, though never seeking official prominence.

DAVID FIANDT, one of the enterprising self-made men for which this county is noted, was born in Ohio December 19, 1835. In 1833, his father, Martin Fiantd, began farming in Ohio, which occupation he followed in Wayne and Seneca Counties, moving to Wood County in 1868, where he died in 1877; his widow is now living with her second son, the subject, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. David Fiantd, one of four children, began learning the trade of a carpenter at the age of twenty, and made that his business until about ten years ago, when he began the practice of farming. He came here with his family in 1869, and has accumulated property worth \$5,000; his farm of seventy-five acres is in a flourishing condition. In the fall of 1862, he was drafted in the army, and paid \$300 to be exempted. Mr. Fiantd at one time was School Director and Pathmaster, and has been a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge. He is a Republican. September 9, 1858, he was married to Susanna Longnecker, daughter of Michael Longnecker, of German descent; they have had seven children—Ephraim, Harvey and Viola, deceased; Lando, Eliza E., Heward and Hattie.

VALENTINE FREY, the youngest son of Adam H. and Anna C. (Fleck) Frey, was born in Rhine Province, Provelia. He came to America in 1839, and was followed by his parents in 1840. The subject was apprenticed three years at the shoemaker's trade in New York, and worked two years over that time, then went to Cleveland; thence to Wooster on foot, and engaged to work for his brother-in-law, the following year, for \$75. Valentine Frey, in 1847, entered eighty acres of land where he is living, and now has 280 acres valued at \$14,000. His time has been principally spent in clearing and grubbing land. Mr. Frey was drafted for the nine months' service, but, after nine days in camp at Indianapolis, he hired a substitute and returned home. Mr. Frey was married, January 17, 1855, to Isabel Cravatt, a native of Ohio, of German parentage; she died in August, 1865, and the following December Mr. Frey married Maria A. Vesey, who was born in Vermont, of English ancestry. By his first wife, Mr. Frey had seven children, three of whom are living—Franklin H., Mary A. and Marshall. Mr. Frey has served a number of terms as Pathmaster.

A. GETTINGS, a reliable farmer of Milford Township, is a native of Cumberland County, Penn., born October 10, 1823; his parents were natives of Ireland; his father, Thomas Gettings, was a farmer, and was killed in Pennsylvania by a falling limb, after which event the mother, Sarah Gettings, moved to Richland County, Ohio, with the family, to a place her husband had purchased previously. She lived there until her death, and was the mother of seven children, among them our subject, who, at the age of seventeen, began an apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade, which he followed about five years, then purchased a farm of 120 acres in Lucas County, Ohio; began farming in 1845, and, February 10, 1847, was married to Sarah Pricket, of New Jersey, by whom he had three children—Thomas J. (deceased), Ella, and William W. (deceased). His wife died September 23, 1857, and within a year afterward he married Lovina Repine, born June 25, 1825, daughter of John Repine, a native of Scotland. They have three children—Franklin V., born January 17, 1859; James D., born June 2, 1860, and Alma, born July 20, 1868. Mr. Gettings came to Wayne Township, Noble County, in 1848, and for some time

was engaged in the grocery trade at Kendallville while still farming, but traded his stock for the Air-Line Hotel; then sold his farm and went into the livery business; continued about four years; sold out in 1869, and purchased the farm of 160 acres where he is now living. It is excellently improved and ably managed. When in Wayne Township, Mr. Gettings served as Trustee, and was a member of the I. O. O. F. at Kendallville.

M. GOODSSELL is the only son of Capt. Stiles and Lucinda (Bostwick) Goodsell, of English-Scotch descent, who changed from their native State, Connecticut, to Pennsylvania, April, 1833, and is the second oldest settler in this township, locating here in October, 1835. The subject was born in Litchfield, Conn., May 29, 1818, and came here with his parents, reaching Lima on the 26th of October; they lived in a log house for some time, and found sufficient wild game for meat, and went to Toledo, Ohio, with an ox team, to procure groceries, a twenty-one days' trip, until the canal was completed, when supplies were received from Fort Wayne. Stiles Goodsell died February 22, 1850, aged eighty-three years, and his wife February 28, 1858, aged seventy-six. The subject took charge of his father's farm when they first arrived here, and was married March 3, 1840, to Ellen Dier, daughter of Norman Dier, who came to this county in 1836. They had seven children—Marshall, Josephine, Mills, Eugene, Ida, Augusta and Frederick. Marshall and Eugene are living. His wife died August 24, 1856, and November 22, 1857, Mr. Goodsell was married to Nancy Johnson, who was born in Ohio February 15, 1840, daughter of John and Eliza Johnson. They have five children—Jennie, Ella, George, Imogene and Theodore M. Mr. Goodsell owns 450 acres of excellent land, and is worth about \$30,000. He is a temperance man and served his township sixteen years as Trustee and Justice of the Peace. His first experience in clearing was in 1836, and he chopped ten acres in twenty-six days.

ELI GUNN, son of Ralzamond and Betsy (Osband) Gunn, was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., July 23, 1827. His father, a native of Connecticut, was a farmer, and came to Seneca County, Ohio, and located on the Indian Reserve; then, in the spring of 1856, came to this township, where for a number of years he ran the Milford hotel, but is now living in retirement, at the age of eighty-one. His mother was born in New York, and both parents were of English descent. The subject, when seven years of age, hired out by the month, and his school advantages were limited. He located in this township in October, 1854; after making some improvements on his farm, sold it and bought the place where he now lives. For two years he was engaged in running the hotel at Milford; then returned to his farm, and lived three years in an old log house, but has since built a fine frame residence. He is a Republican, and has served as Pathmaster and School Director several terms each. He was an active worker among the Regulators, and at one time was away from home four weeks. He was married, August 4, 1850, to Mary J. Dawsen, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, May 29, 1827. Her parents, John and Lydia (Huddle) Dawsen, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and of Irish and German descent, came to this township in 1853, where they lived until within a few years of John's death, which occurred August 27, 1871; his widow is now living in Kendallville, at the advanced age of seventy-seven. Mr. Dawsen, at the age of sixty-six, enlisted in the army of the rebellion in October, 1861, but was honorably discharged in February, 1862. Mrs. Gunn is an active member of the Methodist Church.



GEORGE E. GUNN, son of Ralzamond and Betsy (Osband) Gunn, was born March 1, 1837, in Huron County, Ohio. Having learned the carpenter trade, he came to this township in 1858, but did not permanently locate until about two years later, having returned to his home in Ohio in the meantime. Before buying his present farm of eighty acres, in Section 35, he purchased land in Section 29, which he afterward sold. The year of 1864 Mr. Gunn spent in California, and was in Huron County, Ohio, in 1871 and 1872; since has worked at his trade in connection with farming. Mr. Gunn and Katharine A. Ridley were married on the 8th of February, 1866. She was born September 6, 1841; her parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Ridley, were natives of Pennsylvania, from where they went to Ohio, and are yet residing in Sandusky County. Mr. Gunn is a Republican. There are two children in Mr. Gunn's family—Emma A., born June 19, 1876, and Anna A., born February 8, 1867.

WILLIAM HAYWARD is the youngest of thirteen children in the family of Isaac and Ann (Shepard) Hayward. His parents were natives of England, and emigrated to this country in 1833; resided in Pennsylvania about five years; then moved to Marion County, Ohio, where the subject was born June 30, 1838, and in 1848 came to this township to the farm now owned by William Hayward, our subject, who was poorly educated, and when of age commenced with nothing, and in three years had saved \$500. In partnership with his brother, he purchased the homestead farm at a consideration of \$5,000, then, in the following January, bought his brother's interest, agreeing to maintain his father as long as he lived; his death occurred February 27, 1881; he willed \$100 to each of his grandchildren, and the remainder of his property divided equally between his children. Two years previous to his death, all settlements had been made. Subject's mother died May 4, 1860. William Hayward has been successful in nearly all of his undertakings, and is now one of Milford's best and influential farmers. Of the 640 acres of his land, 400 are in good farming condition, and yield good crops annually. The wheat crop alone in 1879, was 2,600 bushels; clover seed crop, 175 bushels, and the proceeds of the farm that year were \$4,000; for the years of 1880 and 1881 were \$3,000 for each year. His property is free from incumbrance, and is valued at about \$32,000. He was married April 26, 1859, to Louise H. Chaffee, and by her had nine children—Walter, John B., Dora, Stella, two infants, Cora M., Olive and Ida. She died March 21, 1873, and he was again married November 27, 1873, to Mrs. Caroline Drecher, widow of George P. Drecher. They have four children—Mary, Willie C., Arthur F. and Frank E. Mr. Hayward is an active Republican, first voting for Lincoln, and has served several terms as School Director and Pathmaster.

IRA S. HELMER, son of Peter and Esther Helmer, was born September 23, 1849. His parents were natives of New York, and in 1846 traded property there for the farm where their youngest son is now living with his mother, who is sixty-two years old. Peter Helmer experienced all the hardships of pioneer life, but lived to see his farm cleared and well improved. He died November 9, 1873, aged seventy-two years seven months and nine days. By his third wife he had two children, Angelia, wife of John K. Spears, of Steuben County, and Ira S., who is a native of this county. He was united in marriage October 9, 1879, to Mary L. James, whose father, George W. James, was an early settler of this township. Mr. Helmer is a scrupulous farmer, and is now serving his first term as Justice of the Peace. He is liberal in his views, votes the Democratic ticket, and has been an active worker in the Sabbath

Schools. His father, Peter Helmer, was born June 27, 1801, and his mother, Esther Helmer, July 24, 1818.

JAMES M. HESLIP, M. D., is a native of Scotland, where he was born March 26, 1826. His father, Samuel Heslip, was a Methodist clergyman, and died in Glasgow in 1829. James Heslip came to America in 1845, and for two years occupied a position as prescription clerk in New York, and after that he followed teaching four years in Pennsylvania, then entered the office of Dr. James Drew, at Mifflin, Penn., where he studied and practiced his profession two years; he next proceeded to Philadelphia, and after a thorough course at the Medical College there, began his practice at Flat Rock, Ohio, where he remained two years, and in 1860 came to this township, where he has since resided, and has an active practice. Mr. Heslip has dealt in real estate to some extent, and for the past year has been engaged in the mercantile business. He was drafted in the army, but went out as an enlisted soldier with the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but was rejected owing to disability. When in Pennsylvania, Mr. Heslip was married in 1855 to Mrs. Elizabeth Albright, widow of Samuel Albright, and a native of Pennsylvania. His second marriage occurred January 10, 1871, to Mrs. Maria Westbay, widow of William Westbay, and daughter of George M. Butts, who came to this township in 1842, and died here in 1859. She was born December 29, 1832, and by her first husband had six children, five living, viz.: Martha, born April 19, 1850; Nellie, June 17, 1852; Sarah, March 30, 1854; George W., May 3, 1856; and James, May 16, 1859; Henrietta, deceased, was born January 10, 1861.

GEORGE W. JAMES, one of five children in the family of William and Rebecca (Hodges) James, was born in Tymochtee Township, Wyandot County, Ohio, in October, 1824. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, were married in Wyandot County, and died in Ottawa County, Ohio, where they had previously moved and cleared a farm. The subject was the eldest son, and after the death of his mother went to live with his uncle William Hodges, at the age of eight years, and came with him to this county in 1835, but after three years was compelled to return to Ohio in search of health. After six years he came again to this State, and worked by the month, making his home with his uncle until he was married, April 20, 1851, to Rachael Carpenter, daughter of William Carpenter, born July 23, 1827. He had previously purchased forty acres of his present farm, and now owns 290 acres, finely cultivated, and with other property is worth about \$22,000. The proceeds of his farm for 1879 were \$1,700, for the year following \$1,800, and \$1,200 for 1881. Besides his extended farm practice, Mr. James raises considerable live-stock. He was an active worker among the Regulators, and was a follower of the Whig party during the time of its existence. Mr. James was among the first comers to the county, and has served several terms as Pathmaster. Mr. and Mrs. James are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have had four children, William A. (deceased), Mary L. (now Mrs. Ira Helmer), Isaac W. and Rebecca (deceased).

MICHAEL KIMMEL, one of nine children, was born in Somerset County, Penn., February 16, 1827; his parents, Jacob M. and Elizabeth (Mowery) Kimmel, of German descent, moved to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1832, and from there went to Seneca County, Ohio, where the father died in August, 1872. Michael Kimmel enlisted in the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry August 16, 1862, but his health failed and he was discharged April 29, 1863. He has never entirely recovered, and is afflicted in

other ways; he has had three strokes of paralysis, and is badly disabled besides, having some impediment in his speech. He was married in 1856, May 8, to Rebecca Logenecker, and soon after came to Milford Township, and located. Their family consists of seven children—Alva J. (who married Luella Cox), Harriet C. (who married Augustus J. Kent), Celia A. (deceased), Emma J. (married to John Duboise), Noah E., Mary A. and Charles W. Mr. Kimmel has served two terms as Township Trustee, and had previously been Director of Schools and Pathmaster. His farm numbers 100 acres, well improved, and is valued at about \$8,000. He is a Republican.

ELDER F. KOMP is a native of Germany, where he was born in Hesse-Darmstadt April 13, 1828, and was brought to America by his parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Deetz) Komp, in 1831. They lived three years in Pennsylvania, then moved to Clark County, Ohio, and came to Whitley County, Ind., in 1843; cleared two farms and lived near Columbiana City until their deaths. The subject, when twenty-two years old, began his calling as a minister in the Church of God. In early times he had many difficulties to contend with, and received but slight remuneration for his services among the pioneers as a missionary minister, and frequently, to keep appointments, made ten trips of 300 miles each annually. For the year of 1856, he received \$17.50 for his continual services, and for several succeeding years was rewarded with \$50 annually. In the fall of 1863, Mr. Komp was drafted and went in the army with Company F, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In September, 1864, he was honorably discharged, and after his return, while engaged in farming, preached locally until 1871, when he came to his farm of eighty-one acres in this township, where he now lives. For two years he was engaged in the ministry, and since then has given his attention to farming, preaching when occasion requires. Mr. Komp is an anti-secret society man, a believer in divine inspiration and total abstinence, and entertains the views of the Republican party. He was married, in 1856, May 22, to Elizabeth Parker, daughter of Isaac and Margaret Parker, natives of Pennsylvania. She was born June 22, 1832, in Armstrong County, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Komp have had eight children, five now living—George E., Margaret D., Lodema L., Eva R. and Freddie.

GEORGE T. LOVETT was born in Stark County, Ohio, December 24, 1831. His parents, R. and Katharine (Martin) Lovett, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Stark County, Ohio, in the fall of 1830, and resided until after her death, August 18, 1851, when the father came to Indiana and located in this township in 1856. George Lovett is the eldest of nine children, and began working for himself when twenty-two years old. The first year he lost only two days' work, and in the fall of 1854 came to Milford Township. He has one brother who is a minister, and one brother went to the war and received fatal wounds in the battle of Murfreesboro. The subject was married, March 13, 1856, to Katharine Brady, daughter of David and Elizabeth Brady. Their children are Mary F. and George R., living, and Laura E., deceased. Upon his arrival in Milford Township, Mr. Lovett had only \$6, and started by running a threshing machine and farming. He now owns one of the finest farms in the township—155 acres under excellent cultivation, and supplied with every convenience. He is a Republican, and for the past twenty-six years, with the exception of two summers, has been Superintendent of the Sunday school, and with his wife is a member of the Church of God.

DAVID LOWER was born in Northumberland County, Penn., September 12, 1816, the son of Conrad and Hannah (Cramer) Lower, of German de-

scent and natives of Pennsylvania, whose grandfathers served in the Revolutionary war. Conrad Lower served under Gen. Jackson in the war of 1812. He came to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1829, where he died in 1860. David Lower's first vote was cast for Gen. Harrison, and he has since been a strong party man. Previous to his marriage, in 1843, September 28, to Annie M. Showalter, daughter of John Showalter, he spent about three years in the Southern States. In 1853, they settled in Paulding County, Ohio. They had six children—John, Isaac and Hannah, and three deceased—Ephraim, Conrad and William. After his wife's death, April 29, 1856, Mr. Lower came to this township. His present wife was Mrs. Catharine Menely, daughter of Melchoir Fordney, of French descent. She was first married to Alexander Menely, December 3, 1835, by whom she had five children—two living. Mr. Lower owns 125 acres of land, well improved. In 1860, he erected a barn at the cost of about \$2,000. He is prominent in the township and always assists in beneficial enterprises. His annual income is about \$1,000. Mr. and Mrs. Lower are both active members of the Church of God. John Lower, eldest son of the subject, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, October 11, 1844. At the age of seventeen he enlisted in the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Company D, in the fall of 1861. During the battle of Shiloh he was absent on sick leave, but joined the regiment at the siege of Corinth, and was foremost in the fight at the battles of Stone River and Mission Ridge. He served as teamster three months during the autumn of the battle of Lookout Mountain; then returned to his company and followed them closely until he was discharged, in October, 1865, receiving two flesh wounds during his service. March 11, 1866, he was married to Rebecca M. Martin. She was born January 4, 1843. They have three children; two are living—John D. and William I. John owns ninety-four acres of good land and has been a member of the Masonic Lodge, No. 380.

EMANUEL R. MARTIN is a native of Lancaster City, Penn., and son of George and Katharine (Croft) Martin, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His father was a shoemaker and died in 1825; his wife maintained the family, and, when they were about grown, came West to Stark County, Ohio, where she kept house for the subject until her death in February, 1848. He was born April 7, 1823, and married in 1848, November 6, to Mary Smith, of Stark County, Ohio, and by her had three children—Belinda, John and George. After her death, Mr. Martin married Harriet Clayman, daughter of Henry and Henrietta Clayman, who came from Germany to Stark County in 1834, where they resided until they died. They have five children—Alice, Cora, Hattie, William and Francis. The subject, when sixteen years old, began working at \$2.50 per month, turning the wheel for a rope-maker six months, then worked at blacksmithing five months, after which he resumed rope-making. He saved all his earnings, and after setting type three years, accumulated enough to buy a small farm in Stark County, Ohio, which he sold in 1862, removing to this township where he has lived since. His farm of 110 acres is located on Section 28, and his property is valued at about \$9,000. He is an active Democrat, and, before coming to Indiana, was quite prominent in political matters. During the war he paid \$532 for exemption of the draft of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are both members of the church.

DAVID W. MILLER is a native of Highland County, Ohio, where he was born January 4, 1831, his parents, Henry and Christina (Fisher) Miller, having settled there in 1815. Thence they moved, in 1837, to Johnson Town-



ship, this county, where they resided till 1855, when they removed to this township, where Mr. Miller died in 1861. David Miller in his youth helped to raise the flax with which to make clothing, and this, together with the wool obtained from a few sheep, furnished the required material. When twenty-one years old, David Miller rented his father's farm, and after harvesting one crop and selling his cattle he went to Iowa, and entered land near Des Moines. He soon returned, and for four years drove a team for Northam & Barber, and traded his Iowa land for forty acres in this township. This land, with forty acres more given him by his father, made his home until in 1862, when he sold out and went to Michigan and resided three years; came to Noble County and traded for his present property of 100 acres. Mr. Miller was chosen Justice of the Peace and re-elected to a second term; has served also as Pathmaster and School Director. He is a Democrat, and a charter member of the Regulators. In the fall of 1861, he was married to Aceneth Day, who was born in Huron County, Ohio, December 31, 1841, and is the daughter of David R. and Orilla (Blackman) Day, who came to this township in 1843, and are now residents of Wolcottville. They have had seven children—Francis H., Mary R., Charles W., Nellie C., Ida E., Flora U., and John C., deceased.

FRANCIS A. NEWNAM was born in Springfield Township, La Grange County, July 14, 1838. January 17, 1861, he married Eunice Kellogg, the daughter of Joseph and Adeline (Cory) Kellogg; she was born October 15, 1840, and, by her union with Mr. Newnam, has one child—Ora P., whose birth occurred on the 6th of August, 1873. Mr. Newnam is one in a family of fifteen, eight now living—Nicholas B., Rebecca, George W., Rachel A., Francis A., Samuel H., Sarah A. and Harriet. Francis, having attained the age of twenty-one, made a venture with \$100, with which he partially paid for 120 acres in Springfield Township in Section 33, and sold the same eight years subsequently, when he bought his farm in this township, 200 acres, for \$11,000. Mr. Newnam raises live stock, that affords another source of profit. The proceeds of his farm for 1879, were \$3,000; for 1880, \$3,000, and for 1881, \$2,000. Mr. Newnam is a Republican; charter member of the Regulator Society at Brushy Prairie, and has served as County Commissioner. His parents were Nicholas B. and Mary (Pickeron) Newnam. Mrs. Newnam's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kellogg, came from their native State, New York, to Steuben County, in 1845, and resided until the dates of their death, respectively, 1876 and 1880.

GEORGE W. NEWNAM was born in Talbot County, Md., May 20, 1832, and is the son of N. B. and Mary (Pickeron) Newnam, who came to this county in November, 1836, and located in Section 16, Greenfield Township, where they erected a pole shanty, and lived that winter; then, in the summer of 1837, built a good log house, lived in that until 1850; then built a frame house, in which his son now lives and where he died December, 1877, aged seventy-five years nine months and nine days; his wife died June 10, 1840, aged thirty-three years. George W. started out empty-handed when he reached his majority, and spent about five years in various pursuits. He well remembers following an Indian trail through the woods that led to a log schoolhouse, where he acquired a moderate education. He married, April 25, 1858, Eliza Ann Lucas, of Noble County, daughter of George Lucas, an early settler. In the fall of 1858, Mr. Newnam went to Steuben County, where he lived seven years; then returned and settled on his present farm. He has dealt in stock to some extent, buying and shipping large numbers of hogs and sheep from this and adjoining counties. In the fall of 1880, he bought 150 head of sheep, kept

them four months, then sold them at a net profit of \$440. Mr. Newnam is a member of the Freemason Lodge, No. 380. There are three children—John B., George E. and Nicholas C.

I. B. NEWNAM, son of G. P. and Clarissa (Sturgis) Newnam, was born in this township, January 4, 1841. His father was a native of Talbot County, Md., born March 3, 1806, and his mother May 19, 1818. They were parents of three children—Julia A. (deceased), I. B., and Mary J., who is now the wife of George W. Sturgis and lives in Topeka, Kan. The father of the subject being very much averse to slavery, at the age of thirty left Maryland and came to this township in 1836, in company with three brothers, and entered land in Section 33, where he resided until his death, November 21, 1878. His wife is still living with her son, the subject. He made a start in life with half of an old threshing machine; and after running it about two seasons, he traded it for a span of horses. He then farmed for his father on shares, and traded his team for the northeast quarter of Section 35, and came out \$1,100 in debt. He is now a leading farmer, owns 200 acres of finely improved land, valued at about \$15,000, and has put about \$5,000 into buildings. His wind engine supplies four tanks and a hydrant with water. His education has been principally self-acquired. He married Katie J. Childs February 7, 1860. She was born February 15, 1839, and is the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Likes) Childs, who were of English descent and natives of Wayne County, Ohio. They have three children—Harmer M., Mary J. and Clemma.

JOHN B. NICHOLS, son of Samuel and Rachael (Shepardson) Nichols, was born in Vermont, November 2, 1805. Samuel Nichols, after farming a few years in New York, went to Ohio, where he died in 1870. Mrs. Nichols then went to Wisconsin with her daughter, where she died within a year. The subject had three brothers and two sisters, and went from New York to Monroe County, Mich., in 1833, where he purchased sixty acres of land for \$150, subsequently selling it for \$1,100. Through one of the wild-cat banks that was organized about that time he lost nearly all his property. In 1840, Mr. Nichols located permanently in this township, paying \$4.50 per acre for his land, and sold pork at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound and wheat at  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents per bushel to pay for it. Mr. Nichols was married, October 7, 1838, to Adeline M. Bartlett, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., who moved to Monroe County, Mich., with her parents, in 1831. They came to this township in 1841, and both died here, Mr. Bartlett in 1847 and Mrs. Bartlett in 1856. In 1853, Mr. Nichols adopted an infant child, Eugene Sprague. Mr. Nichols was one of the active Regulators and ever upholds the cause of the just. He owns 440 acres of land, is worth about \$32,000 and pays \$150 taxes, quite in contrast with, although as easily paid, as his \$3 tax in 1840. In 1851, Mr. Nichols invested \$200 in the old plank road, and subsequently \$400 in the G. R. & I. road.

L. C. NICHOLS was born June 4, 1811, in Chenango County, N. Y., a son of Samuel and Rachael (Shepardson) Nichols, natives of Vermont. They lived a few years in New York State and then moved to Ohio, where the senior Nichols died in 1870. Mrs. Nichols then moved to Wisconsin with her daughter, where she died the same year. L. C. Nichols began life for himself at the age of twenty by purchasing the old homestead farm, in company with his brother-in-law. By reason of failing health, he sold out to his partner, and soon after commenced raising thoroughbred sheep on rented land. In about 1835, he rented a dairy farm, conducting that business for a time. This he found unprofitable. About this time, the United States, or "Nick Biddle's

Bank," as it was called, was refused a recharter by the United States Government. It was run by English capital and had become a power in the land. The country was flooded with paper currency, which so depreciated in value that it carried financial ruin to a large number of the people, our subject among the rest. Becoming disgusted with his failure and the East, he started, in 1842, for Wisconsin, but found his brother, John B., in Toledo, whom he joined and came to this township, where he has 120 acres of land and owns property valued at \$10,000. July 4, 1849, he married Rebecca Sage. She died, in 1858, in Wisconsin. Four children were born to them—William S., Henry R., Ulilla and Anna B., the latter deceased. November 29, 1862, Mr. Nichols married Mrs. Harriet Cook, daughter of Samuel Fowler, of New York. Mrs. Nichols and the daughter are members of the Baptist Church.

J. PYATT owns 200 acres of well-improved land in Section 33, of this township. He is a native of Ohio, born in Seneca County, March 5, 1829, and first came to this county with his parents, Moses and Elizabeth (Parker) Pyatt, who were of French and Irish descent, in the fall of 1839, where they remained three years; then went to Kendall County, Ill., resided three years and returned. The mother died May 9, 1866; her husband the 24th of the following June. Both were members of the Disciples' Church. The subject began working in the saw-mill at Milford at the age of twenty-one, receiving from \$13 to \$20 per month, and by the strictest economy he purchased a farm of eighty acres at \$5 per acre, built a good frame house, and in the fall of 1855 was free from debt. January 1, 1856, he married Julia Swogger, daughter of Isaac and Susannah Swogger, natives of Ohio, of German descent. They have three children—Ada, who married Eugene Nichols December 26, 1875; Amanda and Charles W. For a period of about twenty years, he was never more than twenty-five miles away from home; but October 30, 1876, he saw his neighbor, Mr. Acton, starting out, *en route* for the Centennial, and, without further ceremony, Mr. Pyatt concluded to accompany him, and did so, returning in time to vote for Tilden and Hendricks. Mr. Pyatt's property is estimated at about \$24,000.

AMIZIAH REED was born in Wayne County, Penn., August 17, 1817. His parents were David H. and Lydia (Bartlett) Reed, natives of Maine, of English descent; they went to Pennsylvania, in 1817, thence to Richland County, Ohio, in 1836; and, in 1852, came to this township, where the subject had located about two years previously. He was married October 14, 1849, to Elizabeth Reed, who was born in Richland County, Ohio, July 8, 1825, and soon after located on his farm of 122 acres in this township, which now presents an improved and thrifty appearance. His wife's parents were Bartholomew and Sylva Reed, natives of Maine, and of English descent. Mr. Reed has run a threshing machine for about fifteen years, and threshed the first clover seed in the county, that was raised on his farm in 1851. When at home, he worked at the carpenter's trade with his father, who was a carpenter and blacksmith, for about seven years, and his experiences have benefited him. He served satisfactorily as Township Treasurer, six years successively, and during the war, assisted in raising money to exempt the township draft. Their children are Albert, Amanda, Edward K., Christus C. (deceased) and George Dallas. The three oldest are married and living near home.

JACOB ROSER, son of George and Susan (Pontious) Roser, was born in Stark County, Ohio, March 22, 1832. The father, George Roser, who was engaged in farming in Stark and Summit Counties, Ohio, died in May, 1870;

his wife in December, 1872. They had seven children. The subject, at the age of twenty-one, came to Noble County, and commenced clearing a farm. He went back to Ohio, and in the following spring returned to make the West his permanent home. He located in Milford Township in the fall of 1862, where he now lives, and owns 105 acres of well improved land. He was married to Amelia Jane Ritter, March 23, 1868. She was born October 6, 1836; her parents, Isaac and Margaret (Kiser) Ritter, were of German descent, and her father was a cabinet maker. Mr. and Mrs. Roser have three children—George A., Cora S. and Dallas G. Mr. Roser's first vote was cast for James Buchanan.

JACOB SIGLER is the owner of 120 acres in the southeast quarter of Section 7, this township. He is a son of Michael and Mary (Soles) Sigler, of German and English descent, and natives of Pennsylvania. Michael Sigler was born April 13, 1790, and was the seventh son, and served in the war of 1812 as a cavalryman. In October, 1820, he moved to Ashland County, Ohio, and lived there until his death, April, 1866. Jacob Sigler is the eldest of sixteen children, nine of whom are now living, and when eighteen years old began working for himself, and at the age of twenty-one was able to purchase 80 acres of land in Wood County, Ohio. He was born February 19, 1813, at 8 o'clock A. M., and was married Thursday, February 20, 1834, to Miss Mary Clark, born March 7, 1808, in Indiana. Her parents, George and Mary Clark, came to America from Ireland. The subject, about a year after his marriage, built a log house on his farm, where they lived more than eighteen years. Mr. Sigler, while in Ohio, served as Township Trustee, two years; Clerk, two years, and School Director, twelve years. He came to this township and purchased his present farm June 2, 1853. His property is valued at about \$15,000. He filled the office of Justice of the Peace eight years, and School Director and Pathmaster several terms. He has visited eight States in his travels, is a Democrat, a member of the Masonic Order, No. 380, and with his wife a member of the Baptist Church. They have had seven children—Eliza A., born May 27, 1836; Mary J., June 26, 1838; and Margaret E., September 11, 1839, all deceased; David C., born December 26, 1840; Jasper N., May 11, 1842; Michael W., March 23, 1844, and Sarah M., April 17, 1843, all married and living in comfortable circumstances.

H. J. VESEY is a native of Vermont, as were also his parents, William and Adeline (Copland) Vesey, his birth occurring October 19, 1834. They came West to Geauga County, Ohio, in 1834; his father, in 1835, bought land in Elkhart County, Ind., and returned to Ohio; his five children, in the spring of 1836, accompanied by their uncle, came and located on the land, but the father was detained in Ohio by the illness of his wife, that resulted in her death. He then joined his family in Elkhart County, where he died in 1873. At the age of eighteen, H. J. Vesey paid \$150 for his time until twenty-one, and, in 1853, began attending school at Ontario, working at any available employment during the remainder of the time. He has paid special attention to grafting, and for thirty-four years has worked at that during the spring season, traveling through Canada and seventeen of the States. In 1858, Mr. Vesey traded land in Fillmore County, Minn., that he bought in 1851, for 120 acres of his farm in this township. He now owns 302 acres, which are improved with many fine buildings; property valued at \$20,000. In connection with farming, he raises live-stock, having, in the fall of 1881, 510 sheep for the spring market. August 6, 1857, Mr. Vesey and Helen E. Smith were united in marriage. She was born December 14, 1839, and is the daughter of Joseph H. and Margaret



(Robinson) Smith, natives of New York, who went to Michigan at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Vesey have four children—Maggie A., now Mrs. Charles Sears; Lottie E., now Mrs. George McKibben; Lydia C. and Sylvester T. Mr. Vesey has been a member of the Masonic Order.

DANIEL WERT was born in Stark County, Ohio, November 18, 1828. His father, Jacob Wert, was born in 1799 in Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio with his parents in 1804; thence to this State in 1852, where he has since lived. He is now with Daniel, his second son, and is eighty-two years old. His first wife, the subject's mother, died June 5, 1868; her maiden name was Susanna Baum; she was born in Ohio in 1807; his second wife—Elizabeth Walker, a native of Ohio—is now visiting in the West. Daniel Wert commenced working by the month when about twenty-one years old, and, after he had accumulated \$325, came to Indiana in 1853, and located in De Kalb County. He returned to Ohio the following spring, and was married March 19, 1854, to Eliza Miller; they then returned to Indiana, where Mr. Wert for about two years ran a saw-mill; then some eight months worked in a mill near Goshen in Elkhart County; then came to this township and settled on his fine farm of 340 acres, where he has remained, and has been operating the first saw-mill built in the township. He spent about twelve years dressing and fulling cloth. When only six years old, with his brother, aged eight, he took charge of a saw-mill, and of a carding-machine part of the time; he has property now, valued at about \$21,000. Mr. Wert is a Democrat, and a worthy and prosperous citizen. His wife was born in Green Town, Summit County, Ohio, July 16, 1835; her parents were Benjamin and Margaret A. (Diffenderfer) Miller, natives of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Wert have had seven children—Mary (deceased), Lucinda, Isaac, Emma (deceased), Horace (deceased), Carrie and Dallas. Lucinda married Cyrus Wright.

### CLAY TOWNSHIP.

JOHN H. APPLEMAN, son of Jacob and Jane (Harris) Appleman, was born in Washington County, Penn., August 10, 1815. Jacob Appleman was a tailor, and had a family of thirteen, eight boys and five girls. When John was still quite young, his parents moved to Wayne County, Ohio, where his father died about 1851. About the year 1827, he moved to Richland County, Ohio, with his mother, and lived with his uncle, William Pool, until twenty-one years old. September 20, 1836, he was married to Miss Mary A. Doe, who was born in Stillwater, N. Y., May 20, 1818. William and Anna (Hilton) Doe were her parents, the former a native of Bangor, Me., the latter of New York. By this marriage Mr. Appleman had six children, two of whom are living—Squire H. and John W. In 1849, October 11, Mrs. Appleman died, and January 7, 1851, Mr. A. married Miss Sarah J. Doe, a half-sister of his former wife. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, July 30, 1828, and was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Amsbaugh) Doe. They have six children—William E., Albert G., Ira R., Charles M., Julia E. and Elma S. Mr. Appleman located in Springfield Township, this county, in 1840, paying all he had—\$60—on eighty acres of land, and, by persistent energy, succeeded in making a home for himself and family, and increased his land to 700 acres. He removed to this township in April, 1875, and bought the farm where he

lives at the present writing. Mr. Appleman was a prominent member of the Regulators in this county.

MYRON ATWATER is the eldest of four children in the family of Thomas S. and Hannah (Enos) Atwater. The former, a native of New York, was a blacksmith by trade, and followed that occupation in early life. In the fall of 1855 he came to Lima Township, and purchased 200 acres of land, and died in 1872. Mrs. Hannah Atwater died at the same place in 1875; she was born in Pennsylvania, and both were members of the Free-Will Baptist Church. Myron Atwater bought the farm of 160 acres in this township in the spring of 1865, and, February 11, 1867, was married to Miss Ann Brinley. They have had seven children, of whom five are living—Nellie, Thomas, Mary, Jessie and Walter. Mrs. Atwater was born in Ashland County, Ohio, January 8, 1842, her husband's birth occurring the same year, on the 28th of October, in Luzerne County, Penn. Her mother, Elizabeth (Guysinger) Brinley, was born in Maryland, while her father was a native of Pennsylvania; in their family were ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Atwater are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church, and he is a Democrat, being one of the prominent and enterprising citizens of the township.

ROSWELL D. BABCOCK, born June 13, 1819, in Grand Isle, Vt., is the youngest of seven children of Elias and Lucy (Demery) Babcock, the former a native of Norwich, Conn., born February 2, 1777, the latter of Dartmouth, born May 22, same year. Elias Babcock served at the battle of Plattsburg, in the war of 1812, and the subject has in his possession a powder-horn carried by his father on that memorable occasion. Elias Babcock moved to Hunting-ton County, Quebec, in 1829, proceeding, in 1831, to St. John's, Canada, where he was employed in getting out ship timber. In 1833, he went to Geauga County, Ohio, purchased ninety acres, built a cabin and began clearing. Here his death occurred, July 2, 1859. Mrs. Lucy Babcock died there March 1, 1874. Roswell D. Babcock and Mrs. Hetty A. (Abramson) Hamblin were married in Geauga County, Ohio, April 24, 1845, and came to Bloomfield, this county, in 1846, where he worked by the day and farmed on shares until 1852, when he received eighty acres of the old Abramson homestead. He sold out and moved to La Grange in 1860, and has lived on his present farm since he bought it in 1863. Mr. Babcock, since 1853, has been a member of the A., F. & A. M. They have three children—Lucy J., now Mrs. Sanders; Francis W., and Charlotte F., now Mrs. Spidel. All belong to the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Babcock was born in Rockland County, N. Y., April 6, 1822, and her parents were natives of New York. Her father, Halstead Abramson, was born August 16, 1794, and her mother, Elizabeth Van Houten, November 8, 1796; the former was a soldier in the war of 1812, and came to Bloomfield Township, this county, in 1845; bought a farm of 240 acres, where he lived until his death, October 25, 1852; his wife died May 6, 1857, and both were buried on the old farm.

JOSIAH T. BOWEN is a native of Bedford County, Penn., born July 7, 1819. He went with his parents, Jacob W. and Rachel (Kiten) Bowen, to Stark County, Ohio, in 1820; they were both natives of Bedford County, Penn. Jacob W. Bowen was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was a carpenter and came to this township in 1851, where he lived until his death, in 1860. Mrs. Rachel Bowen died in 1870. Josiah T. Bowen learned the clothier's trade in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1839, and was there married, October 5, 1843, to Miss Catherine A. Garmire, a native of the same county. Mr. Bowen bought

eighty acres of wooded land in this township when he came here, in 1847. In 1852, he sold his farm and moved to Illinois but returned the same year and bought 160 acres, built a log cabin and commenced clearing. Mr. Bowen is living on this farm and has largely increased its value by numerous improvements; he takes especial pride in keeping good horses. In 1861, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and served four years; he also served as Trustee when three constituted the board. Mr. Bowen is a prominent Republican and was an active worker among the Regulators; he is a member of the Lutheran Church. Their family numbers nine children—Minerva A. (now Mrs. C. M. Barrows), Sarah R. (now Mrs. Benjamin Giggy), Lucinda E. (now Mrs. J. Slack), Alvin W., Mary E. (now Mrs. S. Roy), Mott A., Edith M., Morton E. and Frank B.

JAMES BOYD, JR., is the son of James and Mary (Yowler) Boyd, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Germany. James was born May 17, 1801, in Somerset County, Penn., and married on the 20th of March, 1831, to Catharine Engle, of the same nativity as her husband, her birth occurring on February 29, 1812. Her parents were Peter and Barbara (Garlets) Engle, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Boyd, in 1836, moved to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, immigrating to Elkhart Township, Noble County, Ind., where he cleared sixty acres of land for William Colt, receiving in return a deed for 120 acres of land in this township, where he built a cabin in October, 1854, and began clearing. It is yet the home of Mr. Boyd, and is well improved. Mrs. Catherine Boyd died February 6, 1881, in her sixty-ninth year. She, with Mr. Boyd, belonged to the German Baptist Church. They were the parents of eighteen children, fourteen of whom are yet living. One son, Arion, died about twelve years ago, leaving a wife and five children. Those living are Delilah (now Mrs. Frick), Easton, Harrison, Edward, John, James, Peter, Jacob, Douglass, Urias, Philip, Elizabeth (now Mrs. Cary Frisby), Mary (now Mrs. McBeth), and Corrida (now Mrs. Coager).

JOHN BOYD, son of James and Catharine (Engle) Boyd, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, June 24, 1838. His parents were natives of Somerset County, Penn. The subject, from the time he was twenty, worked on a salary until in August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was in the battle at Perryville, Ky., and served with his regiment until discharged for disability. After his marriage, March 2, 1865, at Albion, he farmed two years in Noble County, then came to where he is now living, in this township. He farmed two years, then worked at carpentering until 1875, when he took a contract of improving 700 acres of land in the northeast part of the township, returning to his farm in the spring of 1880. Mr. Boyd is one of the inventors of a patent buggy-top adjuster, and also invented a patent hay rack. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd are members of the German Baptist Church, and parents of seven children, viz., Estella, Alma, Dayton, Canton, Ann E., Clarence and Bessie E. Mrs. Amanda Boyd is the daughter of Michael and Mary (Colt) Landis, natives of Ohio, and parents of three children. She was born in Eden Township, this county, on the 15th of September, 1846.

HIRAM CARNAHAN is the son of Samuel and Mary A. (Marshone) Carnahan, natives of Pennsylvania and Greene County, Ohio; the birth of the former occurring April 15, 1813, and that of the latter May 14th of the same year. In 1835, Samuel Carnahan moved to Greene County, Ohio, where he was married. In his youth he worked several years on the Lower

Mississippi, near New Orleans. In 1841, came to Lima Township, where he was employed in the Grannis Mills, and bought 40 acres of unimproved land in Clay Township; built a house and began clearing. In this house Hiram Carnahan was born December 6, 1842. His father returned to the South, but made a brief sojourn. In 1845, he sold his farm and bought another of 100 acres in same township, where he died November 5, 1867, having increased his land to 340 acres. Mrs. Carnahan died at the same place January 18, 1878. Hiram Carnahan lived at home until after his father's death. November 13, 1869, he was married to Orvilla Tedrick, who was born September 18, 1847, in Bloomfield Township, this county. They had two children—Jacob S., who died September 25, 1873, and Carrie May. Mr. Carnahan bought the farm of 81 acres where he now lives, in 1870. It is part of the old homestead and is well improved. Mr. and Mrs. Carnahan belong to the M. P. Church. He has served as Assessor three years. Mrs. Carnahan's father, Jacob Tedrick, was born in Maryland; and her mother, Sarah (Rathburn) Tedrick, in Licking County, Ohio.

SAMUEL CARNAHAN, JR., was born in this township March 19, 1844, son of Samuel and Mary A. (Marshone) Carnahan, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Samuel Carnahan, Sr., came to Lima Township, this county, in 1841; bought land, then returned to the South, where he had previously worked near New Orleans, returning to this township; November 5, 1867, he died at his home; his wife followed him January 18, 1878. The subject, after attaining his majority, worked out for two years, and in 1868, bought 71 acres of land in this township, where he now lives. Mrs. Carnahan was born in Elkhart County, Ind., May 1, 1852, and was one of five children in the family of Costain and Andalusia (Gould) Rathburn, and was married to Samuel Carnahan, January 12, 1871. Her mother was a native of New York; her father, of Ohio. He came to Bloomfield Township, this county, in 1844, remained about seven years, then went into Elkhart County, but returned later to La Grange County, where he died November 19, 1875. Four children—Lester, Charles, Clara E. and Rachel A.—constitute the family of Mr. and Mrs. Carnahan. Mr. Carnahan is a stanch Republican, and he and wife are active members of the M. P. Church.

MRS. ELIZABETH DANSER was born in Fayette County, Penn., November 2, 1813, daughter of Joseph and Fannie (Shaw) Hindman, who came to the United States from Ireland when small children. They moved to Monongalia County, Va., when Elizabeth was about fourteen, and where Mr. Hindman died June 11, 1847, and Mrs. Hindman in 1864 or 1865. They were parents of two daughters. Elizabeth Hindman was married at Morgantown, Va., December 13, 1834, to Elijah Danser, who was born in New Jersey, May 8, 1808, and taken by his parents to Monongalia County, Va. He learned the wheelwright trade, carpentering and cabinet-making, and was employed in the manufacture and sale of pumps for some time. He also worked at contracting and building, and furnished a large part of the flagging for the city of Cleveland and stone for piers in Cleveland Harbor. He owned boats on the Ohio & Erie Canal, and shipped quantities of stone to Canada and Cleveland. Mr. Danser moved to Wayne County, Ohio, and then, in 1835, to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where he lived until he came to La Grange, in 1855. The fall following, he moved on the farm where Mrs. Danser now lives. He died, while engaged in clearing and improving his farm, August 13, 1860. Mr. Danser was a good citizen, respected by all who knew him. Mr. and Mrs. Danser had



two children. One—Joseph H.—was a soldier in the late war, and went out as First Lieutenant of Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in 1861. He was promoted to the Captaincy in November, 1862. At the battle of Stone River he was wounded in the hip, in consequence of which he resigned his commission and returned home in 1863. Previous to entering the army he had taught several terms of school and studied law with Dr. Kennedy, of La Grange. After returning, he was admitted to the bar, but was unable to practice his profession on account of ill-health, which finally resulted in his death, at the home of his mother, October 8, 1865. The other child—Sarah J.—became Mrs. J. B. Pratt on the 9th of December, 1858. She has two children—Willma C., now Mrs. William H. Selby, married May 26, 1880, and Robert L. B. Mrs. Selby has one child—Cora. All are living together on the homestead farm in this township.

FRANKLIN DAVIS is the son of Sylvester and Hannah (Daggett) Davis, of Massachusetts. Sylvester Davis served in the war of 1812, was married in New York, and had a family of five children. He lived a pioneer's life in the States of New York, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa and Kansas. In Geauga County, Ohio, Franklin Davis was born, June 16, 1827, and Mrs. Hannah Davis died in 1832. In 1844, the elder Mr. Davis came to this township, and bought the farm where the subject now lives. In 1850, he went to Iowa, and from there to Kansas, about the time of the breaking-out of the "Border Ruffian" war, in which he took an active part. At one time, while staying with his nephew, the house was attacked, and twenty-seven bullet-holes made in one door. No damage but a slight injury to his nephew. Mr. Davis returned to Iowa, where he died, in his seventy-ninth year. In politics, he was first a Whig, then an Abolitionist, and afterward a Republican. His religious views were as many as his politics, he being in turn a Universalist, Disciple and an Adventist. The subject lived with his Grandfather Daggett, in New York, from the age of seven to sixteen; then went to Ohio, and remained two years, coming to La Grange County in 1845, where he rented and operated a saw-mill for several years. In 1851, he bought the farm where he is now residing. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Elliott) Davis, is a native of Wayne County, Ohio, born October 25, 1826. They were married on the 1st of January, 1850, and seven of their children are living; three being deceased. Those living are William S., Clary L. (now Mrs. Barrows), Chloe (now Mrs. Sams), Caroline S. (now Mrs. Bullock), Frank S., Lizzie N. and Gusta A. Clary and Chloe are twins. They also have taken into their family a little niece—Mary M. Elliott. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the M. P. Church. Mrs. Davis' parents were William and Lydia A. (Spidle) Elliott, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Davis was Township Trustee two years, and for the twenty-seven past years has been class-leader in the church.

EMANUEL FLECK is a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and in his twenty-second year, in 1855, came to La Porte, Ind., and learned the carpenter's trade. In November, 1856, he returned to Ohio, with \$152. and purchased carpenter's tools. February 19, 1857, he married Miss Savillah Fisher, came to Indiana March 27, 1865, and bought a farm in Clay Township, on which was an old water-power saw-mill. He used this mill until October, 1866, when he built a new one on the same site. In 1870, he built a grist-mill, but the water proving insufficient, he put in an engine in 1871, and built a new circular saw-mill. He is the owner of the "Model Mills," known as Fleck's Mill, with a saw-mill containing planing, joining

and edging machines. He also owns the right of a patent hay-rack, for Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and all territory west of the Mississippi River, and is one of the inventors of a patent buggy-top attachment. His farm is well improved, and a new frame residence has just been completed. He introduced the cultivation of German prunes in the county, and is the inventor of a fruit-tree protector. The spring of 1867, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and held the office eight years; served as Trustee, and was re-elected in 1878. The following children were born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio; Henrietta, born April 30, 1858, died in March, 1880; Laura Ann, May 28, 1859; George Washington, August 4, 1860; Amanda Jane, October 7, 1861; Oliver Leander, June 7, 1863; and Israella, November 16, 1864; those born in La Grange County—Samuel Peter, December 20, 1866; Curtis Wise, September 21, 1869; Burt, January 16, 1872; Helen Izora, July 3, 1875; Harry B., January 29, 1877; Rollen, December 27, 1879, and an infant daughter, who died February 21, 1874.

SETH FORD came in 1856 to Clay Township with his parents, Jared Ford, a native of Massachusetts, born in September, 1808, and Rebecca (Ringer) Ford, who was born in December, 1810, in Maryland. They were parents of four boys and three girls; and, upon their arrival in this county, the elder Mr. Ford bought the farm that his son Seth now manages, and owns also property in La Grange. He took an active part in the Regulator movement of this county, and was a member of the M. E. Church in his younger days. He died at La Grange on the 3d of May, 1881, at which place Mrs. Rebecca Ford yet resides. The subject, Seth Ford, was united to Miss Catharine Selby in marriage May 3, 1860. Her parents were Luke and Mary A. (Kissinger) Selby. The former was a native of Ashland County, Ohio, where Catharine was born September 29, 1835. Mary Selby was a native of Maryland; Mr. Ford was born in Wayne County, N. Y., March 23, 1836. They are members in good standing of the Methodist Church. Mr. Ford bought the farm where he now lives in 1858. It has fine improvements and good buildings.

CARY R. FRISBEY came to Noble County with his parents in 1842, and in 1844 moved to Lima Township, this county. His father, John Frisbey, was born in Luzerne County, Penn.; he was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was married in June, 1817, to Mary A. Van Clief, a native of Morgan County, Ohio. She died at her home in Lima Township, in November, 1854; Mr. Frisbey then moved to this township, where he died in October, 1859. C. R. Frisbey was born February 2, 1836, in Morgan County, Ohio. He went to Wisconsin in 1855, returning to this county the following year; September 30, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in battle at Fort Donelson. Being unfit for service he was discharged July 17, 1862, at Battle Creek, Tenn., and returned to La Grange. September 30, 1864, Mr. Frisbey re-enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battle at Nashville. July 6, 1865, they were mustered out at Nashville, and Mr. Frisbey returned to Indiana. In 1864, April 2, he was married to Julia F. Osborn, who died September 22, 1864. He married Miss Elizabeth Boyd October 27, 1867, a native of Noble County, and bought the farm where he now lives, in February, 1868. They have two children—Erie S. and Minnie M. Mr. Frisbey is a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church, and Mrs. Frisbey of the German Baptist. He was Deputy County Treasurer for about nine years, and six years served as Assessor and Real Estate Appraiser; he now fulfills the duties as

Justice of the Peace, to which office he was elected in June, 1879. Mr. Frisbey has taught sixteen terms of school, and has conducted a singing school for twenty-three years; for five years he was local correspondent of the *La Grange Standard*, and has written two years for the *La Grange Register*.

SARAH S. (BOWEN) GARMIRE was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 11, 1826. Her parents were Jacob W. and Rachel (Oldem) Bowen, both born near Pittsburgh, Penn. They were parents of twelve children, six boys and six girls. The Bowens are of English descent; two brothers, William and David, came to America during Queen Anne's war, William settling in South Carolina and David in Pennsylvania; from the last named Mrs. Garmire is a descendant. Her marriage with Samuel Garmire took place in Stark County, Ohio, March 13, 1845, and they came to this township and settled in September, 1848. Mr. Garmire bought eighty acres of land, and set out an orchard on his first clearing the following spring, having bought sixteen apple trees in La Grange in the fall, and had them buried during the winter. They are still bearing. Mr. and Mrs. Garmire had six children. William S. died September 17, 1865; Jacob A. died April 3, 1854; Jonathan F.; Amanda J., now Mrs. George Slack; Mary E., now Mrs. Squire Beech, and Martha, who died in infancy. Mr. Garmire died at his home January 28, 1878, and had he lived until the 15th of the following June, would have completed his sixtieth year. He had been for many years a member of the Lutheran Church, of which he was also Deacon. Mr. and Mrs. Garmire were charter members when that society was organized at La Grange. Mr. Garmire was Township Assessor a number of terms, and was always a devoted husband and father.

JONATHAN GARMIRE, son of Samuel and Sarah (Bowen) Garmire, is a native of this township, born September 4, 1849. He married Miss Elizabeth Fuller August 24, 1875. Her father, Cyrus Fuller, was a native of Coldwater, Mich., and her mother, Mary A. (Rowe) Fuller, of Ohio; Elizabeth was their only child. Mr. and Mrs. Garmire belong to the Lutheran Church. Their only child, Earl C., was born August 24, 1876.

WILLIAM GARMIRE, JR., is the son of William Garmire, who was born May 12, 1788, near Hagerstown, Md. In his younger days, he followed flat-boating on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, from Pittsburgh to New Orleans. About 1812 or 1813, he was married at Greensburgh, Penn., to Sarah Addleman, a native of Greene County, born August 23, 1796. In 1825, they moved to Holmes County, Ohio, where Mr. Garmire, Sr., purchased a farm. In 1863, he came to this county, where he lived a farmer's life until the time of his demise, January 7, 1879. Mrs. Sarah Garmire died in same place March 6, 1870. They had nine children, and both were prominent members of the Lutheran Church. William Garmire, Jr., the subject, learned carpentering in Benton, Holmes Co., Ohio, beginning in 1834. He worked at his trade in Iowa from the spring to fall of 1837, continuing from that time in Holmes County, Ohio, until he moved to Seneca County in 1843. During the winter of 1844-45, he worked in the cabinet shop of John Miller, at Fort Wayne, Ind. In February, 1845, he came to La Grange, and, in company with his brother, ran a cabinet shop until 1847, when he began farming on eighty acres of unimproved land in this township. This he sold after five years, and bought another eighty, only to sell in the following year, 1853, when he went to Illinois with the intent to locate, but returned that same year, and has since farmed one hundred and thirty-five acres in this township. The present Mrs. Garmire was Barbara E. Stromen, whom he married on the 2d of April, 1872. She

was the daughter of Charles and Rebecca (Dukes) Stroman; born in Summit County, Ohio, February 23, 1837. The former Mrs. Garmire died in this township February 24, 1870, leaving four children, viz.: James M., William M., Elizabeth A., now Mrs. Holsinger; and Josiah F. She came to the United States with her parents, David and Catharine Shultz, from Wurtemberg, Germany, where their daughter Catharine was born July 24, 1824. She married Mr. Garmire October 13, 1842, in Holmes County, Ohio. Mr. Garmire was foreman of the Board of Township Trustees for six years, and Assessor six years. Himself and wife belong to the Lutheran Church. He is a native of Greene County, Penn.; born September 22, 1816.

BENJAMIN GIGGY came to the United States with his parents, Benedict and Christina Giggy, in 1852. He was born August 29, 1844, in Canton Berne, Switzerland, and was one of five children. In Boston, Summit Co., Ohio, during the year 1853, he worked for \$7 per month. Coming to this township in 1854, he was engaged in farm work for John Ray, and attended school until 1859. The three following years he worked at the stone mason's trade with his father. In August, 1863, he enlisted in Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but at Fort Wayne was taken down with lung fever, and was not able to report for six weeks. He was then furnished transportation to Louisville, Ky., where he was again attacked with lung fever, and in December returned home. In the spring of 1864, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the war closed. During his last three months of service he was detailed as clerk at Gen. Gillen's headquarters, District East Tennessee, and was mustered out at Nashville September 25, 1865. August 12, 1866, Mr. Giggy and Miss Sarah Bowen were united in marriage. She is a native of Holmes County, Ohio; born September 26, 1846. They have had seven children, viz.: May, Ella C., Alonzo B., Clara C., Clyde, Ray (died August 14, 1880), and Carl. Mr. Giggy purchased forty acres of his farm in 1864, and the other forty in 1871, and its improved condition is mainly due to his efforts.

CHRISTIAN GIGGY, one of the leading citizens of his township, came to America in the spring of 1851, in company with his sister Ellen, now Mrs. John Roy. He is a son of Benedict and Christina (Snyder) Giggy, who were parents of three boys and two girls, and was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, February 1, 1832. Mrs. Christian Giggy is also a native of the same place, born in July, 1818. She married Mr. Giggy in Summit County, Ohio, in August, 1851. She was Ellen Burkhalter, daughter of John and Barbary (Pfeifer) Burkhalter, parents of ten children. Mr. Giggy landed in New York, went to Cleveland, Ohio, remained a few days working in a foundry, then went to Peninsula, Summit County, Ohio, where he worked in a stone quarry for a time, then in a saw-mill, and farmed two years. He came to this township in 1855, and worked at the stone mason's trade in connection with farming. In 1859, he bought twenty acres of improved land, that he sold in 1862, and bought the farm of one hundred and fifteen, where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Giggy are members of the Lutheran Church, and have a family of five children—Mary E., Rosanna (now Mrs. Hart), Charles W., Oscar L. and Sarah R.

JOHN GIGGY is a native of Canton Berne, Switzerland, where he was born May 14, 1838. He came to America with his parents, Benedict and Christina (Snyder) Giggy, in December, 1852. Benedict Giggy was a soldier in Switzerland for twenty-one years. John Giggy worked in a cotton factory at



Pittsburgh, Penn., for three months, immediately after his arrival, receiving \$5 per week; he then went to Summit County, Ohio, where he worked as a stonemason, and farmed two years; wages from \$15 to \$17 per month. In 1854, Mr. Giggy came to this township, and worked for \$10 per month, until he was married, October 11, 1858, to Samantha Hart. He then bought a small farm near South Milford, which he sold in 1861, and returned to this township. August 28, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and in December, crossed the Ohio into Kentucky; was at the battle of Fort Donelson, and was wounded at Shiloh, and was sent to the hospital at Evansville, Ind., then home on a discharge furlough. In June, 1862, he reported at Indianapolis, but was ordered back home; he returned again in July, however, remained three or four weeks at the soldiers' home, then started South and rejoined his regiment at Murfreesboro, and in the battle at Chickamauga was wounded in the hip, September 19, 1863, after which he walked back to Bridgeport, Ala., using a bed slat for a crutch, being three days on the road, and having nothing to eat all that time but three crackers. From there he was sent to the hospital at Nashville; remained about one month, then came home on a furlough. December 31, 1863, he again rejoined his regiment at Chattanooga, and re-enlisted in the same company as a veteran, participating in all the marches and engagements until they were mustered out at Indianapolis in October, 1865. Mr. Giggy then returned to his farm that he purchased in 1862, and worked as a stone mason in connection with farming. In 1872, he sold his farm, and in 1873, purchased the old homestead, where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Giggy have a family of nine children—Ellen J. (now Mrs. Rowen), John H., Anna B., Emma R., Agnes, George F., Fred C., William M., and an infant unnamed.

JAMES GREEN is a native of the city of New York, and went to Columbiana County, Ohio, in about 1833, where he was married, May 28, 1842, to Miss Ann Brown, a native of Loudoun County, Va. In 1848 or 1849, he came to Clay Township, and bought 120 acres of timbered land, which he afterward cleared. The log cabin which he occupied when he first came to the county is still standing. In 1851, he built the first steam saw-mill in the township. This was burned in 1866, and rebuilt that year on the same site, a circular saw being substituted for the muley saw in the other mill. During the first year after coming here, they suffered a great deal from chills and fever, in getting acclimated, and experienced the other trials during the early history of the county. Of a family of nine children, only three are living, viz., Lucinda J., now Mrs. Cherry; Mary W., now Mrs. Doney; and Icey V. Mr. Green owns 200 acres of land, and is a man of sterling abilities, and a first-class farmer in all respects.

GEORGE W. HOFF was born in Johnson Township, this county, March 3, 1849. In 1873, he purchased the farm in this township where he is now living. Mr. Hoff has taught ten terms of school in this county, teaching his first term in Greenfield Township, in 1868. He was married to Miss Anna C. Lampman in 1876. They have a family of two children—Nellie R. and Festus E. Mr. Hoff is a member of the Methodist Church, and, in 1874, he was appointed to the distinction of Deputy Appraiser.

JONAS KAUFFMAN owns a farm of 140 acres in Clay, that he purchased in 1864, after selling a 200-acre farm in this same township, where he had lived in a little log cabin ten years. Previous to making his first purchase here, in 1854, Mr. Kauffman, in company with three others, was operating a

saw-mill, built by them in Newbury Township, this county. Mr. Kauffman is the son of Stephen and Martha (Miller) Kauffman, who immigrated to Indiana in 1844, and cleared forty acres of land in Elkhart County. Here Mrs. Kauffman died in 1854, and her husband four years later. Both were natives of Pennsylvania. They had a family of four girls and four boys. Jonas Kauffman married Mary J. Schermerhorn March 28, 1852. She is a native of Stark County and her husband of Holmes County, Ohio. He was born August 10, 1826. They have eight children—Julia A., Mary M. (now Mrs. Sheldon Robbins), Laura A., Sarah A., Ada I., Chancey M., Gusta J. and Luther J. Mrs. Kauffman's father, Michael Schermerhorn, was born in Germany, and his wife, Elizabeth (McKibbin), in Ireland. Mr. Kauffman worked at the carpenter's trade from the time he was eighteen years old until 1850. He is a member of the German Baptist Church.

EDWARD M. KEASEY is a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and the son of Christian and Elizabeth (Rhodes) Keasey, the former a native of Maine, the latter of Maryland. They were married in Fairfield County, Ohio, and were parents of nine children. In the fall of 1841, they made preparations to start for Indiana, but on the eve of their departure Christian Keasey was stricken with an attack of pleurisy, and lived but two weeks. About three months afterward, his widow came to Newbury Township, this county, with her family, and bought eighty acres of land, where they built a log cabin and commenced clearing. Ten years later, Mrs. Keasey sold this place and bought a farm in this township, where she lived ten years, then removed to Lima Township with her son Ezra, who cared for her until her death, November 14, 1872, and inherited her property. Christian Keasey and wife were members of the Presbyterian Church in Ohio, but, after coming to Indiana, she united with the M. P. Church. In 1855, Edward M. Keasey bought eighty acres of unimproved land in this township; sold same ten years later and purchased another eighty; then sold again and went to Iowa, prospecting, but soon returned to this county and bought a seventy-acre farm in Lima Township. In the spring of 1866, he disposed of that and returned to Clay Township where he has remained. November 2, 1855, the subject was united in matrimony to Miss Lucinda A. Merrifield, one of eight children in the family of Louis and Mary (Kyes) Merrifield, of New York. Mrs. Keasey was born in Huron County, Ohio, February 24, 1838. Mr. and Mrs. Keasey are members of the M. P. Church and have a family of six, viz., Orpha H. (now Mrs. Preston), Lillie M. (now Mrs. Yergin), Carrie L. (now Mrs. Davis), Nellie I. and Mary B.

GEORGE KENNEDY is a son of Barnett and Mary (Stouffer) Kennedy, natives of Pennsylvania, and accompanied them to Wood County, Ohio, when fifteen years of age. George Kennedy, in 1849, went to Lenawee County, Mich., where he worked on the Michigan Southern Railroad until he went to Jonesville, Hillsdale County, Mich., and there had a position as baggage and warehouse master. In September, 1854, Mr. Kennedy severed his connection with Jonesville, and the following six years was engaged in farming in Lenawee County, but rented his farm in 1860 and returned to Wood County, Ohio, to assist in caring for his aged parents. In 1869, Mr. Kennedy came to the town of La Grange and bought property—having disposed of his farm in Michigan. Since 1874, has lived on his farm in this township. His wife was Armenia Mason, native of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., born May 24, 1833. He was born in Cumberland County, Penn., November 16, 1821. They were united in marriage September 4, 1853, and have had eight children—James

M., William P., Frances L., Emma J., Charles H. (died July 23, 1863), Irwin G., John E. and Bertha W. Mrs. Kennedy's father was Seneca Mason, native of Massachusetts, born January 22, 1797; her mother, Betsey (Dukes) Mason, was born December 24, 1802, near Rochester, N. Y. They were parents of eleven children. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy belong to the Methodist Church.

JAMES KENNEDY, son of Barnett and Mary (Stouffer) Kennedy, moved with them to Wood County, Ohio, in April, 1836, and when about twenty-four years of age, learned the carpenter's trade at Maumee City, Lucas County, Ohio. He came to this county in 1847, landing in Bloomfield Township on the 1st of December, having walked the entire distance from Wood County, Ohio. In the spring of 1851, he bought a town lot in La Grange, at that time a village of about twelve houses, and the land was uncleared. He here erected the first balloon frame built in the county, that he sold when he removed to the farm in 1856, where he now lives. This farm was willed to Mrs. Kennedy and her children by an uncle of the subject. Mrs. Kennedy's parents, Nicholas and Margaret (Clark) Allman, were natives of Virginia; her father was a Methodist minister. She married Mr. Kennedy December 25, 1850; they have four children—Helen S., Charles E., Henry H. and Louisa J. Mrs. Kennedy formerly belonged to the Methodist Church, and Mr. Kennedy to the Presbyterian. The latter served as Justice of the Peace eight years, and has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1855; he followed carpentering until about a year ago. His father was born at Warm Springs, Perry Co., Penn., March 3, 1796; died December 2, 1866; his mother was born December 8, 1797, near Sulphur Springs, Cumberland County, Penn., and died February 22, 1863; they were early pioneers of Wood County, Ohio.

MICHAEL B. and JOHN W. KIME were born in Marion County, Ohio, the former March 13, 1830, and the latter April 24, 1845. Their parents, Benjamin H. and Mary E. (Baughman) Kime, natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania, came to this county in 1846, having traded land in Wood County, Ohio, for eighty acres of land in this township, where he built a double log house, and spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred May 13, 1863, and three days later he was followed to the grave by his faithful wife and companion. Michael B. Kime has made his home in this county since coming here with his parents in 1846, and is now living with his brother John W. He is the oldest and most experienced hunter in the county; in the fall of 1851, he killed forty-six deer, two wolves, and a large number of turkeys, and for a number of years has made annual hunting expeditions to Michigan and Iowa. John W. Kime went to Iowa in 1855, returning to this county in 1862. He was married to Frances M. Donaphan, the 15th of March, 1864. She was born in March, 1846, in this county, and was one of twelve children in the family of John and Nancy Donaphan, of Ohio. She died August 29, 1873, having borne Mr. Kime five children, two of whom are living, Thomas J. and John W. He was married again in 1873, December 17, to Laura Donaphan, a native of this county, and she died June 26, 1879. They had three children, one now living, Frances M. In politics, both Michael and John Kime are Democrats.

HENRY KLINE was born near Strasbourg, Lorraine, France, May 8, 1813, and is the son of George and Sarah (Reed) Kline, natives of France. The subject came to America in 1838, and worked five years in Utica, N. Y., for \$10 per month. In 1843, he went to Stark County, Ohio, and worked one

year in a stone quarry at Massillon, then moved to Carroll County, Ohio, where he was employed five years in a grist-mill. In 1850, Mr. Kline returned to Stark County, and remained about six months, then for a period of two years worked in a grist-mill at Wooster, in Wayne County, Ohio. Finally, in 1853, he came to this township and bought forty acres of wooded land, moved into a plank shanty, and began the laborious task of clearing land. Mr. Kline has now a snug little farm, well improved, of 110 acres. He was married January 2, 1842, to Miss Virginia White. Six children have been born to them—Henry, deceased June 14, 1878; Margaret, deceased September 13, 1876; Louisa, now Mrs. Blough; Caroline; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Beaty, and Maria.

EPHRAIM LATTA is a native of Richland County, Ohio, and son of Silas and Sarah (Franks) Latta, of Pennsylvania and Virginia, respectively. Silas Latta, after coming to this township, lived six years on a rented farm. He served as Trustee and Justice of the Peace. After the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he became a Republican; previous to that he had been a Democrat. He belonged to the M. P. Church, and died at his home, March 2, 1860, owning at that time 160 acres of partially improved land, a part of which is now owned by his widow, Sarah Latta. She is also a member of the M. P. Church, and bore her husband eight children. Ephraim Latta enlisted August 12, 1863, and served with his regiment, Seventh Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, Company H, until they were mustered out, at Austin, Texas, February 18, 1866. He was married to Miss Jane A. Gammill March 26, 1868. Her parents, William A. and Sarah A. (Stuckman) Gammill, were both natives of Pennsylvania. They had four children. In 1851, Mr. Gammill went to California, overland, with a company of sixty persons, and died there September 27, 1853. Mrs. Sarah Gammill came to Indiana in 1856, where her death occurred in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Latta are members of the M. P. Church, and have had six children—Silas W., Lou S., John F., George A., Mary P., and Freddie, who died December 25, 1881.

ALONZO McNUTT is a native of Van Buren, Onondaga Co., N. Y., where he was born December 22, 1823, and when about fifteen years old, went with his parents, Ira and Harriet (Nelson) McNutt, to Detroit, Mich., where his father worked at the coöper's trade. In 1838, Alonzo McNutt was engaged as cabin-boy on the brig "Illinois," and the following five years was in the employ of the American Fur Company, sailing on Lakes Erie and Superior, on the brig "Ramsey." He steadily advanced from cabin-boy to able seaman, pilot, and master of a vessel. In 1844 or 1845, he piloted the "Julia Palmer," the first side-wheel steamer ever launched on Lake Superior. From 1855 to 1859, he was master of the following vessels: the propellers "Dart," "Old Concord," and "Mohawk." In 1859, Mr. McNutt quit the lakes, came to this township, and bought the farm where he now lives. He was married January 7, 1850, in Detroit, Mich., to Mary A. Fitzmorris, who was born in Clemmell, Ireland, April 25, 1832. They have no children. Mr. McNutt is quite prominent in his township as a leader among the Republicans. He has been a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge for the past eight years.

JONATHAN MILLER, M. D., is a native of Lawrence County, Penn., where he was born August 14, 1856. His parents, Jacob and Catherine (Lantz) Miller, were both natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Lancaster County in 1814, and the latter in Juniata County in 1819. They had a family of ten, seven boys and three girls, and moved to Noble County, Ind., in 1861, where Joseph Miller bought a farm of 80 acres in Elkhart Township;



he died on the 30th of April, 1870, and his wife March 24, 1874. Jonathan Miller's earliest recollections are associated with farm life. At the age of eighteen he entered the scientific and commercial course in the Northern Indiana Normal School and Business Institute, from which he graduated with the class of 1878. After this he taught school several terms, while reading medicine with Dr. J. F. Gard, of Ligonier. In 1881, Dr. Miller graduated from the Bennett Medical College, at Chicago, and engaged in the practice of his profession at Emma, where he is meeting with excellent success.

SAMUEL OLMSTED is a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and came to this county November 15, 1865, settling in Bloomfield Township, where he lived until October, 1875, when he removed with his family to Clay Township, where he now resides. During the ten years of his residence in Bloomfield Township, he was occupied in running an old-fashioned water-power saw-mill, and put in more hours per day during four months of the year than any other man in the township. He was married to Miss Mary Showalter, November 30, 1865, and has two children—Forest Foster and Allie Alma, aged respectively seven years and eight months. Mr. Olmsted owns a fine farm, consisting of eighty acres of enriched land. Mr. Olmsted is now fulfilling his duties as Township Trustee, to which office he was elected April 5, 1880.

CHRISTIAN PLANK is a native of Mifflin County, Penn., and was born August 27, 1825. His parents were Christian and Rebecca (Lapp) Plank, both natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in 1792 and the latter in 1794. Christian Plank, Sr., when on his way from Berks County, Penn., to Mifflin County, stopped at a hotel, where he was supposed to have been murdered. In 1837, the subject, with his mother, moved to Union County, Penn.; he was married, January 17, 1850, to Mary A. Reish. He returned to Mifflin County in 1853, and in 1854 moved to Logan County, Ohio; the following year, came to Elkhart County, Ind., and moved to Newbury Township, this county, the same year. While there, operated a rented saw-mill, and was one of the three Township Trustees. He moved to Eden Township in 1857, rented a saw-mill and remained two years; then went to St. Joseph County, Mich., returning to Noble County in 1861, where he bought and erected a circular saw-mill, which he moved to Clearspring Township in 1862. In 1865, he was burned out, sustaining a loss of over \$4,000, but rebuilt the same year. In 1866, he moved his mill to this township, where he had purchased twenty acres of land, and has since operated it, having added a handle factory and planing-mill. His mother made her home with him until about four years ago, when she went to live with his brother. Mr. Plank has a family of nine children—Elmira, now Mrs. Bingham; Lydia C., now Mrs. Lehmer; Michael S.; Susan R., now Mrs. Plank; Erie M., now Mrs. Harshberger; Daniel R., deceased at the age of seven; John E., Ada L. and George W. A. Mr. Plank was a member of the I. O. O. F., when in Pennsylvania, and although formerly a Republican, is now a Greenbacker. Mr. Plank owns an old wall clock that has been in the family seventy-seven years, and is prized as an heirloom.

WILLIAM A. POYNTER was born in Ohio, July 30, 1836. His parents, Alexander W. and Nancy (Whitley) Poynter, left Ohio for this county when William was but three weeks old. They made the journey overland, and reached Newbury Township in November, locating in Section 13, where Mr. Poynter had previously entered 160 acres of land. He was assisted in clearing by John Draper, a colored boy, who accompanied them to this State, and is now residing in Lima. Mr. Poynter served as Justice of the Peace of his

township eight or ten years; he learned surveying in Delaware, his native State, which he followed to some extent in this State. He died in June, 1855, and after the homestead farm was sold in 1864, Mrs. Nancy Poynter resided with her children until her death, in March, 1873, at the home of her daughter, Mary Schermerhorn. On the 6th of December, 1860, William Poynter and Elizabeth Schermerhorn were united in marriage. They have had five children, three of whom are living—Kirby S., Marion D. and Nancy A. Mr. Poynter farmed the old homestead until 1864, and afterward farmed on shares for others until he invested in his eighty acre farm in this township, in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Poynter belong to the German Baptist Church. She is a native of Stark County, Ohio, where her birth occurred September 19, 1839. Her parents were Michael and Elizabeth (McKibben) Schermerhorn, of Ohio and Ireland, respectively. They had a family of twelve children.

AARON SCHERMERHORN was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., January 2, 1830. Ernestus and Ann (Johnson) Schermerhorn were both natives of New York. Mr. Schermerhorn, Sr., worked in the salt works near Syracuse, N. Y., for twelve years. He came to this township in the fall of 1836, where he had entered 200 acres of land the preceding June, but until spring of 1838 rented a farm in Lima Township; then moved on his farm and commenced clearing it, but sold it in 1838, and purchased property in Clearspring Township, where he lived until his death, which occurred in February, 1876. Aaron Schermerhorn bought 100 acres of land in Clearspring Township, between 1853 and 1855, made some improvements and resided there until he sold it in April, 1866, and purchased 100 acres of the land entered by his father in 1836, in this township, upon which he now lives. Mr. Schermerhorn was married to Miss Maria Wetzel May 19, 1861. They have three children—George W., aged eighteen years; Frank A., thirteen years, and Bertha A., six years. Mr. Schermerhorn was active among the Regulators between the years of 1857 and 1859. His farm is well improved and ably managed.

MRS. MARY SCHERMERHORN is the daughter of Alexander W. and Nancy (Wheatley) Painter; was born in Delaware April 10, 1832. Her parents were natives of the same State, and had a family of ten children. They came to Newbury Township, this county, in 1834, where Mr. Painter entered 140 acres of land, and built a rude cabin. They had only two neighbors within a distance of five miles. With the aid of his boys, Mr. Painter had his land cleared and well improved at the time of his death, June 9, 1854. Mrs. Painter then lived with her daughter Mary until she died, April 18, 1873. The subject was married to Michael Schermerhorn June 25, 1854. He was born August 4, 1832, in Stark County, Ohio, and came to Newbury Township, this county, with his parents, Michael and Elizabeth (McKibben) Schermerhorn, natives of Germany and Ireland respectively, in 1845. In the spring of 1855, Mr. Schermerhorn, Jr., bought 80 acres of land in Newbury Township; this he sold in 1864, and bought land in this township, where Mrs. Schermerhorn is now living. He departed this life on the 28th of May, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Schermerhorn were both members of the Lutheran Church, and were parents of eleven children—Nancy J. (now Mrs. Tigert), Edgar, Harriet S., Leander, Mary E., Eunice I., Michael F., William J., Sarah A., Nettie B. and Levi.

Z. L. SCIDMORE, born in Steuben County, N. Y., September 17, 1814, came to this county in May, 1837. He was preceded by his father,

Solomon Scidmore, a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., who entered 160 acres of land in Bloomfield Township in December, 1835. His mother was Ruhannah (Bowles) Scidmore born in Washington County, Md. After coming to Indiana, Z. L. Scidmore worked at breaking land for \$20 to \$26 per month, and bought 40 acres of land in Noble County. In January, 1841, bought the land entered by his father in Bloomfield Township, where he lived until 1855, when he came to La Grange, having been elected County Sheriff in August, 1854, by the Free-Soil and Democratic parties. Mr. Scidmore was one of the first Free-Soilers in the county, and was the candidate of that party for Sheriff in 1844, receiving only fourteen votes. In 1857, he returned to Bloomfield Township, where he bought 240 acres of land, subsequently increasing it to 375 acres. In January, 1875, he bought the farm of 125 acres in Section 24, situated just outside the city limits of La Grange, where he now is living. Mr. Scidmore visited Colorado in 1872 for his health, and while there bought a coal mine near Cañon City. Mr. Scidmore was married April 28, 1853, to Miss Naoma Talmage, born in Tioga County, N. Y., in 1830, and when ten years old came with her parents to Springfield Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Scidmore had six children, viz., Mary R., died October 29, 1880; Julia S., died April 7, 1865; George W., died September 21, 1874; and Albert H., Maranda L. and Alice H., living. In 1857-58, Mr. Scidmore joined in the movements of the Regulators.

WILLIAM J. SLACK, of the same nativity as his parents—Northumberland County, Penn.—was born November 4, 1845. His mother was Anna F. (Sawyer) Slack; his father, Isaac Slack, in 1851, moved to Ohio and remained six months each in Marion and Morrow Counties. The next year he came to Van Buren Township, this county, and in 1854 bought a farm in this township, where he is yet a resident. In 1864, William J. Slack was in a hardware store at Lima in the employ of William Cathcart. After a siege of sickness, he taught school during the winter, sold books in the summer, and taught again the ensuing winter for \$25 per month. In 1867, he farmed for his father on shares, and October 15 of that year was married to Miss Lucy P. Preston, daughter of John and Philena (Waldo) Preston; the former a native of Beaver County, Penn., born November 19, 1807; the latter of Ohio, born in 1818. From February, 1868, to April, 1869, Mr. Slack clerked in the grocery of J. C. Brownell, of La Grange; in 1868, bought town lots and built a house in 1869. In the spring of 1870, he resumed his clerkship for Brownell, retaining it until October 10, 1871, when he became an employe of S. Rose & Co., dry goods merchants. From January 1, 1872, to October, 1877, he was variously employed as salesman, solicitor for the *Register*, book-agent, carpenter and insurance agent. In 1873, Mr. Slack bought 40 of his 85 acres of land in this township, to which he moved in October, 1877, and is succeeding as a farmer. Mrs. Slack has borne her husband four children—Charles W., Gracie M., Harry C. and Newton W. She was born October 27, 1848, in Aurora, Portage Co., Ohio. In religious matters, Mr. and Mrs. Slack are non-sectarian, believing rather in the practice than the profession of Christianity.

NELSON SLATER is one of ten children in the family of James and Amy (Evans) Slater. The parents were natives of Berkeley County, Va. James Slater was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was one of the pioneers of Ashland County, Ohio, where he entered land and cleared a farm, and where Nelson was born August 28, 1818. Nelson commenced teaching school in his



native county in 1837, and followed that profession exclusively until he moved to Defiance County, Ohio, in 1854, where he lived on a farm; but his principal employment was in the schoolroom. Coming to his farm in this township in 1866, he renounced teaching after one term, and has devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He has a fine vineyard and raises small fruit of all kinds. Mr. Slater held the office of Township Trustee one term and belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, of which his wife also is a member. Their marriage was celebrated in Ashland County, Ohio, April 27, 1843. She was Susan Spangler, a native of Adams County, Penn., where both her parents, Abram and Elizabeth (Fissel) Spangler, were born. They had ten children. Susan's birth occurred December 25, 1818, and by her marriage with Mr. Slater has had four children, viz.: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Preston; Mahala, now Mrs. Hoagland; James A. and Randolph N. James A. served in the late war, in the One Hundredth and Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

DAVID SMITH was a native of Sandusky County, Ohio, and came to Lima Township, this county, about 1842, when about twenty years of age, subsequently removing to Bloomfield Township, in about 1845. He assisted in clearing land on the present site of La Grange, and also helped build the first hotel and court house in that city, working for \$10 per month, and received goods as part payment. In 1848, he married Miss Elizabeth Ryarson, and after her death, which occurred about a year after their union, he went to California, in company with William Wigton and Alex Holmes, returning to this county in 1853. In June, 1856, he married Miss Eliza J. Bowen. He purchased a farm situated on the line dividing Bloomfield and Clay Townships, and lived until 1865 in the former township, when he bought Section 14, in Clay Township, and moved there, made numerous improvements and bought several other pieces of property, owning at the time of his death 767 acres of land. He died very suddenly at Fort Wayne, in June, 1878, and his funeral was one of the largest ever known in the county. He was one of the first citizens and wealthy farmers of the county, and was held in high esteem. He was the father of four children—Fannie M. Robinson, aged twenty-four years; Hattie L. Robinson, aged twenty-three years; Frank R., aged twenty years; and Mary E., twelve years. In February, 1882, his widow, Eliza J., married John F. Clugston, of La Grange.

DANIEL N. STOUGH, a native of Westmoreland County, Penn., was born July 25, 1837, the son of Daniel and Catherine (Hoenshell) Stough, both natives of Pennsylvania. They had a family of nine, eight now living. In 1852, Daniel Stough moved to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where he died in 1874, at the age of seventy-four. His wife died in the same county in 1872, aged seventy-two years. Daniel N. Stough went with his parents to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where, September 30, 1860, he was married to Susanna Showalter, a native of that county, born January 23, 1843. She was one of eight children in the family of Peter F. and Mary (Neff) Showalter, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio. While in the latter State, Mr. Stough followed farming and teaching. In August, 1864, he came to this township, having bought land the preceding spring. His farm is one of the best improved in the township. For some time past, Mr. Stough has taken a great interest in stock raising, and deals in that branch quite extensively. He has the distinction of being the statistical correspondent for the agricultural department at Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Stough are prominent members of the Lutheran Church and have a family of eight children, viz.: James A., John F., Alvin N., Mary S., Peter W., Dora B., Daniel F. and Elsie M.



MATTHEW STRICKLAND came to Clearspring Township, this county, with his parents, Mahlon and Martha (Williams) Strickland, in February, 1846. Here his father purchased 240 acres of land, and also 160 acres in Clay Township, and moved into a log cabin having an elbow-joint fire-place. Mahlon and Martha Strickland were both born in the year 1801, he in Sussex County, N. J., in December, and she in Stark County, Ohio, in September. They had eleven children. April 3, 1825, Matthew Strickland was born in Ashland County, Ohio. November 4, 1852, he married Mary Kitchen, who was born June 4, 1831, in Brant Co., Ontario, Canada. In 1836, she went with her parents, Richard and Jane (Johnson) Kitchen, natives of Sussex County, N. J., to Richland County, Ohio, and the following year to Clearspring Township, this county. They were parents of fourteen children, eight now living. Since August, 1853, Mr. Strickland has lived on his farm in this township; they lived thirteen years in a log cabin, and planted peach seeds in their door-yard, that three years later commenced bearing. An orchard they planted in 1857 is still bearing excellent fruit, and the farm is now improved well and has substantial buildings. Mr. Strickland and wife have no children; both are communicants of the Methodist Church. Richard Kitchen was born May 1, 1798, died June 11, 1855. Jane Kitchen was born January 22, 1803, died December 14, 1876. They lived in Canada twelve years, and while there united with the Regular Baptist Church.

CHARLES E. WEAVER, son of John M. and Mary A. (Charles) Weaver, was born December 25, 1849, in Ashland County, Ohio, where his mother also was born. John M. Weaver was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1827. Of the three children born to them, the subject only is living. John W. Weaver died in Saginaw County, Mich., June 13, 1871, in his twenty-second year. Harriet F. Weaver died in this township, March 13, 1871, in her 20th year. John M. Weaver came with his family to Clay Township in 1863, and bought the farm where Charles E. now lives. He died in La Grange, September 2, 1881; he was a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., having belonged to that order for more than thirty years; he was also a member of the Episcopal Church. Mary A. Weaver is still living in Ashland County, Ohio, and is a member of the Dunkard Church. Charles E. Weaver went to Loomis, Isabella Co., Mich., in 1865, where he was engineer in a large saw, shingle and extract factory, until 1877, when he returned to this township and moved on his farm. He was married January 14, 1871, to Miss Sarah E. Fancey, a native of Utica County, N. Y., born October 1, 1853. Her father, Joseph Fancey, was born in 1821, in Devonshire, England; her mother, Ann Leckenby was born in Yorkshire, England, August 17, 1833. They had three children. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver have had two children—Anna M., who died February 25, 1876, aged two years and nine months, and Stanley E. H., aged three and a half years. They have adopted a cousin of Mrs. Weaver's, Freeman (Wilcox) Weaver, whose mother died when he was but one day old. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver belong to the Lutheran Church.





NOBLE CO. COURT HOUSE.





## PART II.

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# HISTORY OF NOBLE COUNTY.

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### CHAPTER I.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY—NOBLE COUNTY DRIFT—PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION—CRANBERRY MARSHES—METEOROLOGY—CLASSIFICATION OF THE MOUND-BUILDERS' WORKS—PREHISTORIC OCCUPATION AND REMAINS OF NOBLE COUNTY—THE MOUNDS AND THEIR CONTENTS—THE MIAMIS AND POTTAWATOMIES DURING THE BORDER WARS—THE INDIAN RESERVATION—PERSONAL INCIDENTS—CUSTOMS OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN.

THERE is no subject more intimately connected with the interest of mankind than history. It is much more comprehensive, universal and vital than shallow thinkers are led to believe from imperfect study. Perhaps its most important feature is its exposition of its relations of man to his fellows, to the laws under which he lives and enjoys, and to past events. Comparative history is extremely instructive, as the lights and shades of human character are thrown in spectral relief for man's inspection. His hopes and fears, his ambitions and aspirations, his desires and passions, his frailties and accomplishments, and his conduct under an infinite variety of opposing influences are revealed and analysed. Knowing, as the race does, that the greatest study of mankind is man, it has become the universal judgment that he who discovers the means of doing the greatest good has crowned himself with the grandest distinction. Men in pursuit of fame and a name have ransacked the world for knowledge of the human race in a primitive state. Every subject has been scanned by Argus-eyed scholars, and a vast fund of perishing historic lore has been rescued from oblivion, and forced to serve the purposes of an advancing civilization. The secret chambers of nature have been unlocked by the skilled hands of genius and the invariable sequence of immutable law, and the plastic transformations of dumb matter have been held aloft for human inspection and guidance. No avenue, however solitary, if of value or interest to the race, has been left untraversed. The sciences have been the natural out-

growth of the evolution of thought, and have multiplied the sources of happiness and the knowledge of human character.

Since the dawn of intelligence, no field of research has been more fruitful in affording bountiful evidences of the origin of animate and inanimate creation than the testimony of the rocky structure of the earth and a knowledge of the natural laws which control the movements of the universe. Written indelibly on the bright page of nature is the wonderful progress of evolution from the simplest combination of effects to the sublime mechanism that guides the circling spheres. The phenomena of nature are everywhere found to be under the control of unchangeable laws, many of which have been discovered and utilized by scientific men. The earth and its various surroundings are found to be a vast storehouse of knowledge. The theory is (and no intelligent man at present questions its correctness) that the surface of the earth through long and successive ages has been alternately above and below the waters of the sea, and that during the periods of submergence strata of earth have been deposited from the water. When the land was raised above the water, it became covered with various kinds of vegetation, and afterward again submerged, and the vegetable remains were transformed into coal. Many of the plants which grew on the earth ages ago, have been named and classified from the remains found in coal-beds. As the strata were formed under water, various marine animals, such as mollusks and fishes, were also thrown down, and casts of these are found at all depths where the spade has gone, to show the character of the animals that were living at different epochs or ages on the earth.

While the geological features of Noble County are not unusual or striking, yet, in some important particulars, they differ essentially from those in other neighboring counties of Indiana. The subject of geology is ordinarily considered of but little practical value or interest, though the reverse of this is the case when it gives rise to sanitary or economic questions, as it often does. No extended nor instructive examination has been made in the county, as, so far, excavations have not reached sufficient depth to pass through the heavy glacial and drift deposit which covers all Northern Indiana, sometimes to so great a depth that even wells bored several hundred feet have failed to pass through to the underlying rock. It must be understood that Indiana, in common with all this part of the continent, was alternately above and below the sea during the geological ages prior to the glacial epoch, and that during these ages strata of sand, clay, slate and various varieties of rocks were superimposed upon other strata, until a thickness of thousands of feet had been reached. Through these ages, the lot of Indiana was almost identical with that of all the surrounding States, and, consequently, when the earth in this State is penetrated to the proper depth, the same, or nearly the same, strata are found as in neighboring localities. They are not precisely the same, because it is found that while the sea was depositing sand or clay at one place, perhaps but a comparatively few miles distant the conditions were such that limestone, sandstone

or other stone could be formed. Yet even in a case of this character, the period was the same, as has been proved by fossiliferous evidences that are above reasonable doubt.

Before entering upon a more specific description of the glacial drift in the county, a few points will be considered concerning the underlying rock. Of course, it cannot be known with absolute certainty, without actual experiment, what strata would be met with in going downward in Noble County, after having passed through the drift. The only conclusion to be reached is an approximate one, from a knowledge of what rocks are found in neighboring localities. Geologists throughout the State agree in saying that the first rocks found in Northern Indiana, after passing through the drift, are, with few exceptions in localities, those of the Niagara group. The exceptions are perhaps some of the Hamilton or Corniferous limestones of the Devonian age. Excavations, such as wells, in various portions of Northern Indiana have established these facts beyond doubt. It will therefore be seen that all the formations *above* the Niagara group are lacking in this locality, with perhaps the exceptions above noted and probably all or a portion of the formations of the Quaternary period. Passing downward through the Niagara group, which is a member of the Upper Silurian era, the Hudson and Trenton limestones and the Potsdam sandstone, members of the Lower Silurian era, would probably be found. Next would appear metamorphic rock, which was formed by crystallization some time after its deposition from water, but usually from the cooling of the primitive surface of the earth or before the formation of strata was possible. To account for the absence of rocks above the Upper Silurian is not an easy task, if exact statements are required. All such rocks were formed from soil deposited while the surface was under water. This view leads to the conclusion that Northern Indiana, at least, was above the sea after the Silurian age, but was again submerged, probably in fresh water, during the Cenozoic time. There was then a long interval of ages, during which Northern Indiana, with the Niagara group on the surface, was above the water. The strata below the Niagara group found in Indiana present no unusual features where excavations have penetrated them, and therefore that branch of the subject will be dropped to await future revelations.

We come now to a consideration of the Drift deposit. Geologists suppose that during a period called glacial, all the earth's surface, north of about  $40^{\circ}$  of north latitude, was covered sometimes to the tops of the highest mountains with a vast body of ice, that is thought to have been formed during a period of some 12,000 years, when the north pole was turned farthest from the sun, owing to a peculiar variation in the direction of the earth's axis, through a period of about 24,000 years. At least, all the evidences show that the earth's surface north of  $40^{\circ}$  of north latitude was once, and for a long period, covered with vast fields of ice, and at other periods with heavy vegetation, even as far north as the 82d degree of north latitude. The southern portions of the ice field

melted away under the heat of a tropical sun, and the result was that the ice farther north was forced gradually southward, pushing down the elevations of land, and slowly but surely grinding the rock into powder and gravel, and transporting them to latitudes further south. Glacial markings are found everywhere, and all indicate that the movements of the glaciers were southerly. In their movement south, the glaciers took or scooped up vast quantities of soil in northern localities, which became frozen in until the ice had reached the warmer sections and had thawed, when such soil was dropped upon the earth. This soil is now known as the "Drift" or "Boulder deposit," and covers all Northern Indiana, including Noble County, to a depth of several hundred feet. Some entertain the idea that this soil in Northern Indiana was deposited directly upon the Niagara group, while others think that, inasmuch as just above the Niagara group are found several strata of clay, shale and sand, the northern part of the State was under the surface either of salt or fresh water, at stages succeeding the formation of the Niagara rocks. Animal and vegetable casts, found in these strata, will prove the character of the water from which they were deposited. Some geologists maintain that the "Drift" was not deposited by *glaciers* but by *icebergs*, which floated south, carrying large quantities of northern soil, and grinding over the rocks at the bottom of the shallow seas, thus forming the *striæ* or "glacial markings." All, however, agree that the "Drift" was brought from northern regions through the agency of ice. No doubt both glaciers and icebergs were the means of transporting the soil south. The lowest formation of the Drift deposit is the "Boulder clay," which varies in thickness from ten to one hundred feet. It is usually yellow or brown above, and blue below, and is underlaid by a water-bearing sheet of gravel and sand, cemented into an almost impenetrable hardpan. The pebbles contained in the Boulder clay are generally small, sub-angular, scratched and planed fragments, either of indigenous or of exotic rocks, the former largely preponderating. Prof. J. S. Newberry, of Ohio, thinks that the blue and the yellow Boulder clays were originally the same color, and that the latter is the leached and oxidized portion of the former. He also says: "The boulder clay of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, etc., may be said to be the entire grist ground by the glacier, which, never having been screened or sorted, contains both the bran and the flour, the latter being the clay, and the former the sand, gravel and boulders." After the deposition of the boulder clay came a period when the surface was above the water, and when a forest of arborescent and herbaceous plants sprang into life. The piece of sound wood found a short time ago about three miles northeast of Albion, was found in drift soil, about ninety feet deep, which answers the description of the "inter-glacial forest-bed," and was no doubt brought there from some forest farther north. It is supposed that these plants grew during an inter-glacial mild period, and their remains are not usually found as far south, in any quantity, as Noble County. This inter-glacial forest period was the time when the mammoth, mastodon, giant beaver and doubtless





*Albion Prentiss*

ALBION



many other animals, appeared upon the earth. Above these deposits, come various layers of sand, clay or gravel, intermingled with bowlders of various shapes, sizes and compositions. Geologists differ regarding the causes of the billowy appearance of the surface soil of Northern Indiana. Perhaps the most reasonable conclusion is, that such soil remains in much the same condition as when it was first deposited by the melting glaciers or icebergs. Such process would heap the soil in some places, while in others great cavities would be left unfilled, which afterward becoming filled with water would form the numerous lakes. The best authorities agree in saying that the great mass of the drift was deposited principally from indigenous rocks by means of glaciers; but that icebergs also, more especially at the close of the glacial period, transported from the Canadian highlands a considerable quantity of soil, and large numbers of bowlders, which lie *above* the laminated clays, deposited previously by glaciers.

This brings us to the more specific description of the physical features of the county. The number of depressed portions covered with water seems fabulous, and the quantity of swamp land is much greater than supposed, though both are being decreased rapidly by natural and artificial means. The effect of so much stagnant water and decaying vegetation is perceptible to those, more especially, who have not become acclimated to the influences of malaria and its kindred ailments, as engendered in the county and vicinity. Extra effort has been made from the earliest time to drain the water from the swamps, to fell the timber, and to let in the healthful and cheerful light and heat of the sun. The proceeding has been met with marked effect, as large numbers of the drier swamps have not only been thoroughly drained, but have been subjected to cultivation, and there is found no better farming land in the county.

From the following statement may be learned, by townships, the number of lakes and large permanent ponds in Noble County: Perry, 4; Elkhart, 6; Orange, 13; Wayne 21; Sparta, 15; York, 14; Jefferson, 7; Allen, 3; Albion, 1; Washington, 16; Noble, 22; Green, 20; Swan, 3; total, 145.

It is very difficult to correctly estimate the quantity of swamp land in the county. Some have placed it as high as 15 per cent of the county lands, but probably 10 per cent would come nearer the truth. Many of the smaller and shallower lakes are slowly filling by means of mosses, rushes, weeds, lily-stocks, etc., and undoubtedly some, which now are simply low lands, have been subjected to this fate. In several places in the county, some of which have been cultivated, there is found quite a dry soil for several feet on top, while underneath the earth is an impure vegetable mold, and, in some cases, farther down there is found water, often in a considerable quantity, proving that the spot was once a lake or pond, which had been overgrown with a heavy and springy vegetation, which had likewise become covered with the surface soil by washings through long periods of years. Every lake that has been examined in the county is underlaid with a more or less perfect stratum of bog iron ore, some being so rich in metal as to be of no trifling commercial value. None of these

beds, with few exceptions, one being in York Township, has been worked. Iron can be obtained cheaper. Many curious natural formations are found, some of which have been incorrectly referred to the Mound-Builders. There are also many places in the county where beavers have thrown up embankments of surprising extent and appearance. Some lakes in the county are in the first stage after being filled with vegetation, one of these being beautifully situated near the residence of Michael Bouse, Washington Township. It is about six acres in extent, and has no known outlet, and over the surface the marsh moss, *Spagnum*, has become so heavily matted that persons find no trouble in walking over the marsh to gather the cranberries which usually grow there in profusion. There are many places in the county where these excellent berries are found, but they seem to grow most abundantly in the southern part—in the Tippecanoe swamps. This berry is a member of the Heath Family, and is known to botanists as *Oxycoccus macrocarpus*. The plant is a creeper, or trailer, with slender, hardy, woody stems and small evergreen leaves, more or less white underneath, with single flowers borne on slender erect pedicles, and having a pale rose corolla. The berries, which get ripe in autumn, are red, with some yellow, and are very acid. The stems are from one to three feet long, and the flowers are lateral, rendering easy the gathering of the berries. The conditions for the possible life of the plant are being slowly destroyed, and the berries are becoming less numerous. The moss, the name of which is given above, has the property of slowly dying at the extremities of the roots, thus making it possible for deep lakes to become filled with it.

It seems proper in this connection to notice a few circumstances regarding the meteorological condition of this part of Indiana. The prevailing direction of the wind is from the southwest, and from that direction the greater number of heavy storms come. The annual mean barometer is close to 30 inches, and the annual mean temperature is not far from fifty-four degrees. The annual mean relative humidity is about sixty-seven degrees, and the total annual rainfall, including melted snow, will exceed forty inches. The quantity of rainfall depends upon the direction of the wind, and upon the relative humidity of the air. A heated atmosphere will contain more moisture than a cold one, and is therefore more likely to precipitate rain, owing to the probability of meeting condensing currents; while a cold atmosphere is likely to be dry, from the fact that it has probably passed through the state requiring a discharge of rain or snow. As the atmosphere in any locality becomes warm, the probability of rainfall is increased, for the wind containing rain-clouds is likely to set in toward that quarter. If the atmosphere is cold and growing colder, the probability of rain is decreased, as clouds bearing rain must leave for warmer places. These facts are all relative, depending upon the season of the year. Of course in winter, the atmosphere being cold everywhere, will contain an amount of moisture which would be immediately precipitated in heavy rain in summer,



and *vice versa*. Every farmer should have the means of telling the probable condition of future weather.

Before entering upon the description of the ancient earth and stone works in Noble County, it seems proper to take a general and summary view of the evidences of a pre-historic people, who undoubtedly inhabited all this country in times which antedate all known records. According to the prevailing opinion among archæologists, the Mound-Builders\* were a race of people who occupied more or less of this continent prior to the advent of the Indian. The latter knew nothing of the Mound-Builder, save what few evidences were derived from his works, and, in consequence, his time is placed back, perhaps several thousand years, or contemporaneous with that of the ancient Assyrian and Egyptian nations. Several eminent writers maintain that the Mound-Builders were the descendants of Asiatics, who found their way to this country when civilization was yet in its infancy. This could easily have been done, either in boats or on the ice across Behring's Strait. Perhaps this view is as rational as any. The truth will probably never be known, as all we have from which to judge of their history, habits, modes of life, degree of civilization, knowledge of the arts of peace and war, mental and moral progress, etc., are the numerous earthworks and implements which have been found.

The earthen structures or mounds have been divided and subdivided as follows :

EARTHWORKS.	{	MOUNDS PROPER.	{	Sepulchral.
			{	Scrificial.
			{	Templar.
			{	Memorial.
			{	Monumental.
			{	Observatory.
			{	Animal.
			{	Emblematic.
			{	Symbolical.
			{	Military.
			{	Defensive.
			{	Covered.
			{	Sacred.
			{	Festival.

The greater number of these earthworks are found constructed of earth, a few of stone, and fewer still of earth and stone combined. Sepulchral mounds are usually conical, and some of them, notwithstanding the lapse of time, are seventy feet in height. The prevailing altitude is from three to eight feet. This class is most numerous, and was undoubtedly erected in which to bury the dead. They always contain one or more skeletons, often with implements or ornaments, supposed to have been placed there when the individual was buried for use in the spirit land. It has been conjectured that the magnitude of these

\* Of course the natural name of these people is unknown. That such a race once inhabited this country was first made manifest by the large number of earthworks or mounds, and, since then, scientists have united in calling such people Mound-Builders.

mounds bears some relation to the prominence of the persons, in whose honor they were erected. Ashes and charcoal are often found in proximity to the skeletons under conditions which render it probable that fires were used in the burial ceremony. With the skeletons are often found specimens of mica, pottery, bone and copper beads and animal bones. Ordinarily but one skeleton is found, though in one case in Hardin County, Ohio, three hundred crumbling skeletons were taken out, and the mound opened by the writer in Elkhart Township contained twenty-eight, and the one in Washington sixteen. Templar mounds are few in number, and are ordinarily circular. They are invariably truncated, and are often surrounded with embankments, inclined planes or spiral pathways or steps leading to the summit. They are found round, square, oblong, oval and octangular, and rest generally upon a large base, but have a limited altitude. It is supposed that these elevations were surmounted with wooden temples, all traces of which have been removed by the ravages of time. They are thought to have been erected for religious purposes. Sacrificial mounds are ordinarily stratified, with convex layers of clay and loam above a stratum of sand. They generally contain ashes, charcoal, igneous stones, calcined animal bones, beads, stone implements, pottery and specimens of rude sculpture. Altars of igneous clay or stone are often found. Evidences of fire upon the altars yet remain, showing that various animals and probably human beings were immolated to secure the favor of the Great Spirit. These mounds infrequently contain skeletons, together with implements of war; mica from the Alleghanies; shells from the Gulf of Mexico; differently colored varieties of obsidian; red, purple and green specimens of porphery, and silver, copper and other metallic ornaments and utensils. Memorial or monumental mounds are of that class of *tumuli* intended to commemorate some important event, or to perpetuate the memory of some distinguished character. Most of the stone mounds belong to this class, and usually contain no bones, for the supposed reason that they were not used for sepulchers. They were similar in design to the Bunker Hill Monument. Mounds of observation were apparently designed for alarm towers or signal stations. Some writers have fancied that they "occur in chains or regular systems, and that many of them still bear traces of the beacon fires that were once burning upon them." They are often found built like towers from the summits of embankments surrounding inclosures.

Effigies are elevations of earth in the form of men, beasts, birds, reptiles, and occasionally of inanimate objects, varying in height from one foot to six feet above the surrounding soil, and often covering many acres of land. Mr. Schoolcraft expresses the belief that this class of mounds was designed for "totems" or "tribular symbols;" while Prof. Daniel Wilson and other writers of distinction hold that they were erected in accordance with the religious belief of the various tribes of Mound-Builders, who worshiped or in some way venerated the animals or objects represented by the elevations.

Military or defensive inclosures are irregular in form, and are always on

high ground, in positions difficult of approach by a savage foe. "The walls," says the American Cyclopaedia, "generally wind around the borders of the elevations they occupy, and when the nature of the ground renders some points more accessible than others, the height of the wall and the depth of the ditch at these weak points are proportionally increased. The gateways are narrow and few in number, and well guarded by embankments of earth placed a few yards inside the openings or gateways, but parallel with them and projecting somewhat beyond them at each end, thus fully covering the entrances, which, in some cases, are still further protected by projecting walls on either side. These works are somewhat numerous, and indicate a clear appreciation of at least the elements of fortification, and unmistakably point out the purpose for which they were constructed. A large number of these defensive works consists of a line of ditches and embankments, or several lines carried across the neck of peninsulas or bluff headlands formed within the bends of streams—an easy and obvious mode of fortification to all rude peoples." Sometimes the embankments are miles in extent, reaching an altitude of more than twenty feet in some places. Covered ways or parallel walls are often found, either connecting different inclosures or portions of the same. They were undoubtedly designed to protect those passing back and forth within. There are large numbers of sacred inclosures in the form of circles, squares, hexagons, octagons, ellipses, parallelograms and others, many of which were designed with surprising geometrical accuracy. They are sometimes found within military inclosures, and very likely were connected with the religious rites and ceremonies of the people, as small elevations are found within them, which were evidently used for altars upon which sacrifices of various kinds were offered. Some archæologists maintain that many of the so-called sacred inclosures were intended and used for national games and celebrations, and it is probable that those without the altar were used as such.

The mounds and their contents afford abundant opportunity to speculate as to the character and customs of the ancient people, of whom nothing is left save their crumbling habitations. They were a numerous people, as is clearly proved by the magnitude and elaboration of their works. Their presence here, beyond question, antedates the coming of Columbus, and very probably extends back a thousand years or more. Many interesting and important considerations, too lengthy to be narrated here, have been discovered in comparing the customs of the Mound-Builders with those of ancient people in the East. The Mound-Builders were unquestionably subservient to rulers or superiors, who had power to enforce the erection of gigantic structures, which, considering the semi-barbarous condition of the people, their lack of suitable implements of labor and their imperfect and insufficient knowledge of mechanical principles, are surprisingly vast in extent and ingenious in design. Their works indicate that the people were warlike; that they were familiar with many mathematical and mechanical principles; that they were religious and probably idolatrous; that they were skilled in the manufacture of bone and metallic ornaments and

pottery; that they had attained no little degree of perfection in the working of metals, and that they were essentially homogeneous in customs, pursuits, religion and government. They, of necessity, were an agricultural people, being too numerous to live by the chase alone. They offered burnt and other sacrifices and oblations to both good and bad spirits. Dr. Foster says they worshiped the elements, such as fire, air and water, also the sun, moon and stars, and offered human sacrifices to the gods they worshiped. Yet many of these considerations are speculative, and have but little substantial evidence upon which to rest, and authorities are widely at variance in their views. But little can ever be known of the history of these people; yet throughout all the future the civilized world will look with awe upon the decaying remnants of their works and weave the bright fabric of romance about their mysterious lives.

This much has been given on the authority of Schoolcraft, Wilson, Pidgeon, Smucker, Foster and the American Cyclopedia, to prepare the way for the classification and detailed description of the ancient earth and stone works in this county. No effort has been made in past years to gather together the pre-historic history of Noble County. No importance or value has been attached to disclosures of skeletons, the majority of citizens throughout the county regarding them as belonging to the Indians, and, consequently, the mounds which have been opened in years past in different parts of the county were not carefully examined, and no doubt much interesting, and, perhaps, valuable, information has been hopelessly lost. The works and their contents cannot be too closely scrutinized, as very often nothing short of careful inspection will avoid overlooking important facts. About twenty-five years ago, a large mound situated on the old Jones farm, in northeastern Elkhart Township, was leveled down, or nearly so, as it was in the way, and several bones were found, which the owner supposed to belong to animals. Nothing further was discovered. They were, beyond doubt, the bones of Mound-Builders. On Section 2, Elkhart Township, on what is called Sanford's Point, there are several mounds, one of which was opened some eight or ten years ago by the neighbors, who expected to unearth some valuable trinkets. Quite a number of bones were found, and these were scattered around on the surface of the ground, where they were left. No trinkets were found. An inferior maxillary bone found is said to have been remarkably large and sound. The reader must remember that these are the bones of Mound-Builders, not Indians, and were certainly placed there at least five hundred years ago, and very likely longer.

On the farm of Jeremiah Noel, Section 1, Elkhart Township, three mounds were found situated so as to form the corners of a triangle, whose sides were 55, 42 and 30 yards, respectively. They were on the summit near the center of a semi-circular elevation that bounded a low marshy tract of land situated some forty feet lower, the concave face of the elevation lying toward the north. Two of the mounds were apparently about the same size, while the third was noticeably larger, having a basal diameter of some sixty feet, and an altitude which,

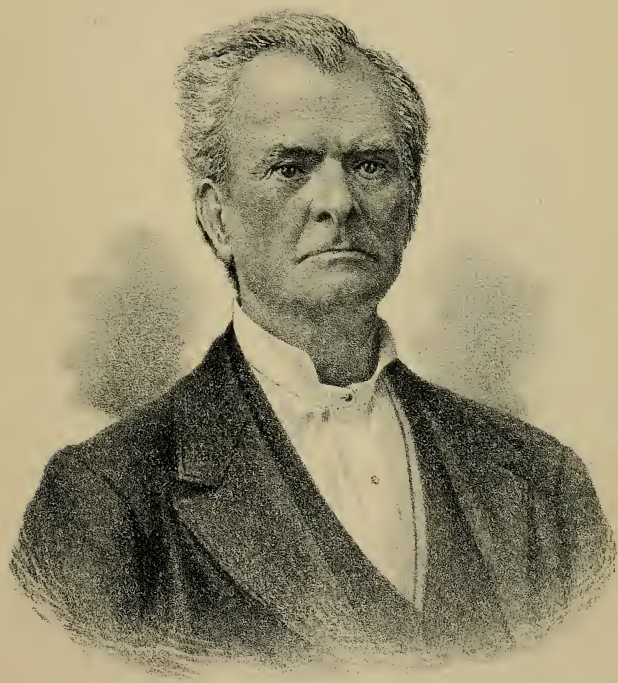


notwithstanding that the road had once passed within a few feet of it, and that it had also been cultivated over many years, was some three and a half feet above the general level of the elevation. As nearly as possible, the summit of this mound was found, and an excavation about a yard square was made, care being taken that all important disclosures should be noticed. The soil was a light, sandy loam with some gravel, and did not appear to be in layers. At the depth of about two feet, a small quantity of charcoal was found scattered through the soil, although no distinct layer of this material could be distinguished. Finally, at the depth of about three feet, unmistakable evidences of bone were disclosed. The shovel had struck through what afterward proved to be a human skull, and the thigh-bone—the femur—was broken, and a portion thrown up. The diameter of the excavation was considerably enlarged, and the work was continued with great care. The covering of earth was removed, and a number of the heavier bones of a human skeleton were taken out in a brittle and decomposed state. Not more than a third of the bones of this skeleton could be found, the others, no doubt, having long since returned to dust. In the meantime, portions of other skeletons had been thrown out, and, in order to get at the work better, the excavation was enlarged until it measured about seven feet in diameter. The work was continued, and, at the expiration of about ten hours, *twenty-eight* crumbling skeletons had been taken out. Some few of the skeletons were in a fair state of preservation, while the majority were ready to fall to pieces, and actually did. The skulls were usually found resting upon the vertebræ, ribs and pelvis, while the extremities were distinct from these. The evidences satisfied those present that the bodies had been buried in a sitting posture, and they must have been packed in like sardines, as they were all found within a circle whose diameter was about seven feet. No skeleton was found entire, or, at least, it could not be distinguished from other bones with which it was mingled. The skulls were the only means of ascertaining the number of individuals buried, and this in a few instances was not absolutely reliable, as some evidences of additional skulls were found. Eight or ten bodies, in addition to those counted, might have been buried in the mound, all traces of which had been removed by Time, the destroyer. Beyond question, the skeletons of three or four children were unearthed, as the small fragile skulls and diminutive bones clearly indicated. While many of the larger bones were almost wholly decayed, many of the smaller were in an excellent state of preservation. Many of the metatarsal and metacarpal bones were almost as sound as when first buried. The cuneiform, pisiform, trapezium, patella, scaphoid, os calcis, were found. The vertebræ, ribs and skulls of children were found. The skeletons of at least two women were among the number, one of the skulls being carried away by the writer. Not half the necessary number of bones could be found to complete the osseous structure of *twenty-eight* individuals. The teeth were generally sound, yet some of these were found badly decomposed. One bone—a femur—had undoubtedly been fractured or broken during the life of the individual, as around it about five inches above the knee joint was quite an enlargement. No trinkets nor

implements of any kind were found. Growing upon this mound a few years ago was a yellow oak about fifteen inches in diameter, but this had been removed before the mound was opened. Those present at the opening were satisfied that the skeletons of men, women and children were taken out. One of the skulls and a few bones traced as belonging to it differed materially from all the others, both in point of preservation and development, it having but little of that dark intermarking that precedes decay. It was much higher than either of the others, having a splendid development at the organs of veneration and benevolence, and a noticeable lack of the animal developments at the base of the skull. All the bones of the skeleton were very thick and sound. This skeleton undoubtedly belonged to an important personage, and probably those buried with him were members of his own family, or his servants, or both. It was in truth a fine looking head for a savage—too fine a one to belong to a *savage*, or phrenology is at fault. The frontal development was not large; it was rather small compared with the general formation of the cranium. He was probably the "Medicine Man" (if the Mound Builders had such a humbug). This skull may be seen among Mr. Watts P. Denny's collection at Albion.

Three mounds, situated about half a mile south of Rome City, on the farm of John W. Teal, were also opened. They were also arranged to form the corners of a triangle, the sides being seventy, forty-three and thirty-five yards respectively. The first and largest mound was found to contain no evidences whatever—not even charcoal. It was probably a memorial mound, having been constructed to commemorate some important tribal event. Each of the other mounds was found to contain at least one skeleton, and one of them probably contained two, as bones were found at such a distance apart as to lead to this conclusion. Perhaps nine-tenths of each skeleton had entirely disappeared, as but a few small fragments were found. A sufficient quantity was found, however, to prove its bony character, and to establish the fact beyond cavil that the bones were human. In each of the mounds containing skeletons was found charcoal, noticeably so in one of them, where a heavy stratum, including ashes and well preserved pieces of half-charred wood resembling ash, was found entirely covering the spot where the skeleton reposed. From this mound, in close proximity to the few crumbling bones, were found two small trinkets.

One of the other mounds was opened, and about a peck of charcoal was found, from which was taken a small piece of charred bone, possibly being a portion of the tibia, but more probably belonging to some animal. In this mound distinct layers of clay and loam, alternating with those of sand, were clearly distinguishable. The charcoal was in a stratum which extended over some two or three square yards of surface, and was resting upon a hardpan of half-burned clay, which seemed to have been built in the form of a small truncated mound, a foot and a half high and some four feet square. Resting upon this was the charcoal and a few charred stones and the piece of charred bone.



W. W. Clapp





This mound belonged to the sacrificial class. One was a piece of mica, about two inches square, and a third of an inch thick, which after a few hours split into thin transparent layers. The other was a slate ornament, nearly four inches long and about half an inch wide, the edges being straight and one side smooth, while the other was oval, thus varying the thickness from a quarter of an inch at the ends to a half at the middle. Quite a large boulder was taken from one of these mounds, and around its lower edge a small quantity of decayed bone-dust was found.

A large mound in a cultivated field on Section 4, York Township, was opened, and portions of three skeletons were taken out. The skulls were well preserved, as were the ribs and some other parts. The customary charcoal was found, but no trinkets nor implements. The teeth were sound, and the bony base of the skull in two cases was taken out entire. Appearances seemed to indicate that the bodies had been buried either on the back or the side, as the vertebræ extended out in the sand some distance from the skull. The fragments of bone found in the mounds at Rome City were upright, and portions of the cranium found were some distance, perhaps a foot or more, above the bones of the lower extremities. The reverse was the case in northern Elkhart and York. No females' nor children's heads were found at Rome City or in York. Two large mounds were opened in the woods on Section 1, Sparta Township, but no bones, charcoal, nor ashes were found. The soil here was not as dry and mellow as is usually found constituting the mounds. It was a heavy sand and clay, there being a sufficient quantity of the latter to retain considerable water. If skeletons had been buried in such a soil, they would have decayed in a comparatively short space of time. The soil at the Noel mound was quite dry and mellow, more like the dust of the road. The members of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, discussing this question, say that "bones are often thrown into conditions that remain constant, and so will last for ages." They cite several cases coming under their observation to prove this, and even go so far as to mention the case of a mound opened in Louisa County, Iowa, where the stench was almost unendurable, showing that the fleshy portions had but just decayed. The mound in this case was undoubtedly pre-historic.

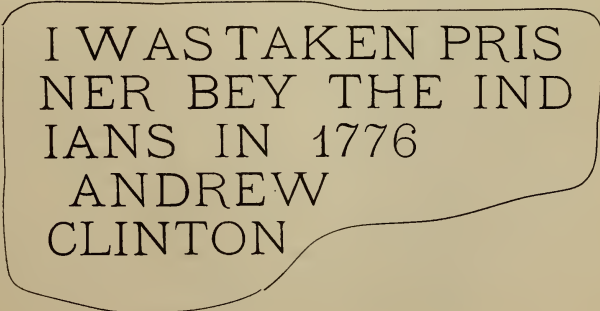
On Section 1, Sparta Township, on a low piece of land which extended into a marsh which was still lower, evidences of what might be pottery were discovered. No pieces larger than some four inches square have been found. The land is in a cultivated field, and at every fresh plowing many small fragments are thrown out. The fragments are composed of a dark clay, and seem to have been pressed into the desired form and thickness of one-fourth of an inch, and then partially baked. Large quantities of small stones, discolored by fire and smoke, are found scattered over the ground. The writer at first thought that some old cabin had been built on the site, and that the stones and burnt clay might have composed the chimney; but there are some strong objections to this view of the case. The oldest settlers who have lived in the

vicinity since the county was first organized knew nothing of such a cabin, and state that the earth and stone at the point were in early years much as they are at present. One thing is certain : The earth comprising the so-called pottery is totally dissimilar to that composing the land where it is found, and must have been transported there, either from the adjacent marsh or from some distant lowland where such clay is found. These and other facts lead the writer to believe that the spot was used as a site for the manufacture of pottery, and the portions found are the cast-away fragments. This spot is situated about half a mile southeast of the mounds above referred to that were opened. Directly east from the spot, distant perhaps ten rods, and on the same knoll, was found an ancient mound which was opened, but nothing noteworthy was unearthed.

On the northwest corner on the farm of Jacob Weigel, Washington Township, and within twenty rods of the residence of Michael Bouse, a large mound in a corn-field was opened by the writer. This was opened in the usual way by making a perpendicular excavation at the summit. Great care was taken to notice everything. The soil and surroundings were very similar to those of the large Elkhart mound. A half dozen small pieces of charcoal were found about six inches above the skeletons, but no implements were found, save a fragment of pottery about three by four inches, one side evidently being the rim of an earthen vessel. This fragment did not seem to be among the bones, but was at least six inches above them. It is the opinion of the writer that it was a cast-away portion of some vessel, and got mingled with the earth when the mound was built. It resembles, in every respect, the fragments found in northeastern Sparta Township. Portions of sixteen skeletons were unearthed, as was proved by the skulls, though their preservation was less perfect than those of the Elkhart mound. In other respects they were very much the same. There was at least the skeleton of one child present, as was proved by the vertebrae. If female skeletons were present, such fact was not disclosed. The bones of the extremities were best preserved. The teeth were also quite sound, some being found where the maxillary bones had entirely decayed, save a small quantity of powder. Standing upon this mound was the stump of an oak about fifteen inches in diameter; a small distance southeast of this a small sacrificial mound was opened, and as much as a bushel of charcoal was thrown out; nothing else of importance was seen. A member of the historical force opened a mound in the Salem Church Cemetery, Washington Township, but discovered nothing save a considerable quantity of charcoal. Mr. Denney opened two mounds on the farm of Samuel Myers, Orange Township, both containing nothing but charcoal; he also opened three more near there, on the farm of Otis Grannis, one of them being eight feet in height and about eighty feet in diameter at the base. Three quite well-preserved skeletons were taken from this mound, one of the skulls being almost entire, and having a much better frontal development than the average. On this mound was an oak tree four feet in diameter, and probably more than three hundred years old. This mound

is probably the largest in the county. Two other mounds near it, of average size, contained a bed of charcoal each. Mr. Denny, assisted by his brother Orville, opened three more on the bank of Skinner's Lake, Jefferson Township, and took from one a quantity of human bones; but this mound had been opened a number of years ago by novices in the neighborhood, who used no particular care either to observe or preserve, and the number of individuals buried there is unknown, though there were several. The other two mounds contained charcoal. The most important mound opened was one west of Indian Village, and as it is just across the line in Kosciusko County, but little will be said of it here; it was undoubtedly a sacrificial mound, as, besides a bed of charcoal, there were found many fragments of *charred human bones*, as pieces of half-burned skulls and other prominent bones of human beings clearly proved. Turtle skulls and various other bones belonging to that animal and others were found among the remains, and perhaps half a peck of these half-burned fragments were unearthed. It has been told the writer, on very good authority, that a mound in Washington Township was opened a number of years ago, from which were taken, besides skeletons, a number of copper ornaments or trinkets. It is unfortunate that no careful and extended examination was made of this mound, if the above report is true. Too many mounds are opened by inexperienced persons, for often the *structure* of the mound itself shows to which class it belongs.

Noble County has an interesting Indian history, though unfortunately but little of it is known. The tribes living in the northern part of Indiana during the last half of the last century were more or less actively engaged in all the border wars with the pioneers in Eastern Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and Northern Kentucky. Beyond question, white prisoners who were captured were often brought, not only to Fort Wayne, but to the Indian village in Sparta Township. One of the settlers living in Sparta Township picked up, many years ago, a stone having the shape represented below, and the indicated inscription cut into the stone:



I WAS TAKEN PRIS  
NER BEY THE IND  
IANS IN 1776  
ANDREW  
CLINTON

The stone is undoubtedly genuine, and, so far as known, Clinton was the first white man in the county. Some other evidences of the early presence of white men have been found, one being an inscription on a tree. There is no township in the county in which temporary Indian villages did not exist in early times, either before or after the appearance of the first white settlers. Every stream and lake has its legend of the red men of the woods, which will live in song and story as long as romance and mystery are admired. J. Fennimore Cooper has woven a crown of beauty about the dark brow of the Indian, that will become more heavily jeweled with gems of fancy as time passes. By his pure images of manly character, and his vast knowledge of the native American, he has blended every redeeming trait of the Indian race in a living type that will bear the criticism of ages. Longfellow has rendered into immortal song the life and legends of the Indian tribes. Is there anything sweeter than the following description?

“ ‘After many years of warfare,  
Many years of strife and bloodshed,  
There is peace between the Ojibways  
And the tribe of the Dacotahs.’  
Thus continued Hiawatha,  
And then added, speaking slowly,  
‘That this peace may last forever  
And our hands be clasped more closely,  
And our hearts be more united,  
Give me, as my wife, this maiden,  
Minnehaha, Laughing Water,  
Loveliest of Dacotah women!’

“ And the ancient arrow-maker  
Paused a moment ere he answered,  
Smoked a little while in silence,  
Looked at Hiawatha proudly,  
Fondly looked at Laughing Water,  
And made answer very gravely:  
‘Yes, if Minnehaha wishes;  
Let your heart speak, Minnehaha!’  
And the lovely Laughing Water  
Seemed more lovely as she stood there,  
Neither willing nor reluctant,  
As she went to Hiawatha,  
Softly took the seat beside him,  
While she said, and blushed to say it,  
‘I will follow you, my husband!’

“ This was Hiawatha’s wooing!  
Thus it was he won the daughter  
Of the ancient arrow-maker  
In the land of the Dacotahs!

“ From the wigwam he departed,  
Leading with him Laughing Water;  
Hand in hand they went together,  
Through the woodland and the meadow;



Left the old man standing lonely  
In the doorway of his wigwam,  
Heard the Falls of Minnehaha,  
Calling to them from the distance,  
Crying to them from afar off,  
'Fare thee well, O Minnehaha!'

"And the ancient arrow-maker  
Turned again unto his labor,  
Sat down by his sunny doorway,  
Murmuring to himself, and saying,  
'Thus it is our daughters leave us,  
Those we love, and those who love us;  
Just when they have learned to help us,  
When we are old and lean upon them,  
Comes a youth with flaunting feathers,  
With his flute of reeds, a stranger  
Wanders piping through the village,  
Beckons to the fairest maiden,  
And she follows where he leads her,  
Leaving all things for the stranger!'"

The tribes with which Noble County has to deal in history are those of the Miamis and Pottawatomies. As far back as the records extend—to the time when the French missionaries and explorers were extending their chain of missions and settlements along the great lakes and downward toward the Mississippi—these tribes occupied much or all of Northern Indiana. Here they were found by the French, and here they were found by early traders and captive white men. While perhaps these tribes were not so actively engaged in the border wars in Eastern Ohio as those living in that vicinity, yet many warriors, thirsting for war and ambitious of distinction, made incursions toward the East, and joined the hostile bands that were laying waste the frontier settlements. This state of affairs continued until the war of 1812, at which time the Indians here were badly defeated, and at the point of the bayonet were compelled to lay down the weapons of war, and sue for peace in the most abject manner. Their lands were ceded to the victorious whites, and they were confined to their reservations and to peace. A trading station had been early established at Fort Wayne, and this became a central point, where the Indians obtained their supplies and disposed of their furs, etc. In 1810, Tecumseh, one of the bravest, ablest and craftiest savages that ever lived, whose tribe had been given a tract of land by the Indians living on the Wabash, began visiting all the Western tribes with the secret purpose of inciting them to a concerted attack on all the frontier settlements. At the same time, when approached on the subject, he repeatedly avowed his friendship for the whites, and professed his desire for peace. But Gen. Harrison, then Governor of Indiana Territory, had no faith in the wily chieftain's professions, and continued his careful policy of handling the Indian question. Meantime, Tecumseh traveled among the various tribes, and by his craft and eloquence kindled them to the heat of war.

At last, unknown to Tecumseh, and in direct opposition to his intentions, his brother, the prophet, attacked Gen. Harrison on the 7th of November, 1810, and was badly defeated at the battle of Tippecanoe. This immature movement on the part of the Indians was bitterly lamented by Tecumseh, who became terribly exasperated at his brother for the rash act, and threatened to kill him for thus foiling his schemes. But the Indian power was hopelessly broken, and the Miamis and Pottawatomies, who had taken an active part at Tippecanoe, buried the hatchet, and immured themselves within their assigned reservations. The writer has been unable to ascertain when the old reservation, which included a portion of Sparta and Washington Township, was assigned the above tribes; but it was probably soon after the war of 1812, and prior to 1821. By the terms of agreement between the Indians and the Government, a large, square brick-house was erected at Indian Village on the reservation, to be used as the residence of the chief, Wawaassa, or "Flat Belly," as he was more generally known. This building, after being used several years as a combined council-house and residence, was blown down by a great wind, and was not afterward rebuilt. The early settlers utilized the brick in their chimneys, etc. The tribes mentioned occupied the reservation until the year 1839, when they were transferred to the Wabash, and afterward no Indians visited the county save occasional stragglers. The lands of the reservation were not thrown into market until the autumn of 1842, at which time many squatters were living thereon, some of them having made extensive improvements with the view of purchasing the land when it became marketable. Knowing that great hardships would be wrought the squatters unless something was done to protect them, the State Legislature made provision, that if their farms were entered by other parties, the improvements that had been made must be paid for by those who entered the land. This measure had in general the effect of deterring speculators and sharpers from their usual nefarious practices, though, in several instances where improvements made were insignificant, the squatter was obliged to leave his farm. The land of the reservation belonged to the State, and Logansport was the point where the entry had to be made.

In 1837, "Flat Belly" died, and was succeeded by Mushquaw, who, the following year, got very "squibby" on poor whisky, and, while in that condition, attempted to cross a small lake near the Indian village; but, as the effects of the alcohol rushed to his brain, he leaped up and began dancing in the canoe, but immediately upset it and was precipitated into the water, and being unable to help himself, was drowned. Matchagen was at this time Medicine Man at the reservation, and was called upon, after the manner of the whites, to pay a tribute to the memory of the deceased. He roughly pictured the condition of the drunken chief, and admonished his auditors to beware of the saddening effects of fire-water. He addressed the spirit of the dead Indian, and advised it not to get "squibby" while crossing the river of death to the spirit land, as it might fall into the water, where it would have to remain forever. Kymotee

was elected chief after the death of Mushquaw, but he was killed soon afterward under the following circumstances: Ashcum, a powerful young Indian, the son of a sub-chief, became enraged at a squaw, who was a relative of Kymotee, and, in a paroxysm of anger, gave her a mortal wound with his knife. But her death was immediately avenged by Kymotee, who shot Ashcum, killing him instantly. Ashcum had a very large brother, named Nagget, who was roused to vengeance by the death of his relative, whereupon he slew the brave Kymotee, but was himself immediately shot by another, who caught Nagget off his guard, and, with cocked rifle, said fiercely, with wrathful eyes, "*Meanet Nagget, kinapoo*" (very bad Nagget, me kill). The doomed Indian raised both arms above his head, turned his left side to the front and quietly waited for the fatal bullet. It came, and the brave chief fell dead upon the sod. Thus ended the chain of tragedies.

There were about forty bark wigwams at Indian Village, Sparta Township, and just about the time the Pottawatomies left for the Wabash, and while they were temporarily absent from their town, a number of heartless settlers applied the torch and burned all their wigwams. These rude houses were standing where the cemetery now is. Prior to the time of their leaving the reservation, the Indians traveled on hunting excursions all over the county, mingling freely with the whites, and no trouble of note transpired. They would approach the settlers' cabins to beg, and in this important particular they rivaled the modern tramp in skill and expediency. They brought forward furs, game and trinkets to be traded for provisions, ammunition, etc. They established one or more temporary villages in almost every township in the county, and were thus brought in close proximity to the settlers. Many interesting anecdotes are narrated concerning them, which will be found in the chapters on the townships. The red man is gone, but he cannot be forgotten. His life will long be told as a bright romance of the past.

"Ye say they all have passed away,  
 That noble race and brave;  
 That their light canoes have vanished  
 From off the crested wave;  
 That 'mid the forest where they roamed  
 There rings no hunter's shout;  
 But their name is on your waters,  
 Ye may not wash it out."

—Mrs. Sigourney.

## CHAPTER II.

BY NELSON PRENTISS.

EARLY ORGANIZATION AND STATISTICS—GENERAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT—  
DROUGHT OF 1838—THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT BILL AND THE STATE  
CANAL—CREATION OF THE FIRST COURT—TRIAL AND EXECUTION OF JOHN  
LECHNER—THE COUNTY SEAT QUESTION—PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND COUNTY  
OFFICIALS—THE BENCH AND BAR—ANECDOTES—THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

FIFTY years ago almost the whole of Northern Indiana, of which Noble County forms a part, was an unbroken wilderness. Its wide and tangled forests and its blooming prairies were the haunts of wild beasts and the home of roving tribes of Indians. Only here and there were to be seen any traces of civilization. At Fort Wayne, there was a trading-post where a few whites were gathered, and at South Bend a similar station. Little was then known of the country, save that it was considered as one of the Far West frontiers, on the outer verge of civilization, with only here and there a "cabin," whose inmates were destined to battle with the dangers and privations of frontier life. The early French trader or the zealous missionary, as he urged his "pirogue" through the waters of the St. Joseph, the Wabash or Maumee, could sometimes see peering through the forest a few log cabins, and here and there a clearing, but these were mostly along the banks of the rivers, while back only a few miles was the vast wilderness interior, still occupied by its forest lords, whose hostile attacks were yet dreaded by the defenseless settlers. Bold and determined was the adventurer who at that early day made this Western wild his home. But those were found whose daring was equal to the emergency and who were well qualified for the task. Of such were the pioneers of Noble County. Kentucky and Ohio, which had recently been settled, amid all the hardships of border life and the alarms of savage warfare, were now prepared to furnish recruits for another crusade against barbarism, while from the sterile hills of New England the thrifty Yankee took his way westward, in the hope of finding a home where his honest toil should be repaid by better returns. But it was chiefly those who were inured to perils, and who had met the wily savage in his ambuscade, who first penetrated the wilds of Northern Indiana, and thus laid the foundation for the present happiness and prosperity of the citizens of Noble County.

When Indiana was admitted into the Union as a State in 1816, the whole of Northeastern Indiana was included in Knox County, with the county seat at Vincennes. In 1818, the county of Randolph was created, including the county of Noble, with the county seat at Winchester. In 1823 or 1824 (both dates being given), Allen County was organized, taking in Noble County, with the county seat at Fort Wayne, and this continued until 1832, when the county of





*Hiram S. Fousley*

JUDGE CIRCUIT COURT



La Grange was organized by act of the General Assembly, the present county of Noble being included in the new county, the seat of justice being at Lima. The county of Noble was organized in 1836, by act of the Legislature, and an election was ordered to take place on the first Monday of June of that year. In consequence of the destruction of the records in the Clerk's office in 1858, it is impossible to give the number of votes cast at the first election, but we feel sure that there were but few, for, in 1838, according to the returns on the duplicate for that year, there were only eighty-two polls in the county. At this election the following officers were elected: Clerk and Recorder, Isaac Spencer; Sheriff, James Hostetter; Associate Judges, Elisha Blackman and James Latta; Coroner, Henry Engle; County Commissioners—Joel Bristol, Henry Hostetter, Sr., and Abraham Pancake.

At this election two of the Commissioners elected lived in the same township, why, I do not know. It may have been that there was no one in the Middle District qualified to hold the office. However, Hostetter only held the office for a short time before he resigned, and Zenas Wright, of York Township, was elected. The county of Noble as organized was eighteen miles in extent from north to south, and twenty-four from east to west, containing 432 square miles. In 1860, upon petition of the citizens residing thereon, a strip two miles in width across the south side of Township 33, Range 8 (Washington Township), was attached to Whitley County, leaving in Noble 420 square miles. At the first session of the Board of Commissioners the county was divided into civil townships, corresponding to the Congressional townships, and were by the Commissioners named, which names they still retain. The record of this action by the Commissioners was destroyed at the burning of the court house at Augusta in 1843, but the fact remains. Commencing at the southwest corner of the county, they numbered and named the townships as follows: No. 1, Washington; No. 2, Sparta; No. 3, Perry; No. 4, Elkhart; No. 5, York; No. 6, Noble; No. 7, Jefferson; No. 8, Orange; No. 10, Wayne; No. 11, Allen; No. 12, Swan. Each of these townships was six miles square, and all remain so at present, except that two sections (18 and 19) were taken from Jefferson, and two sections (13 and 24) were taken from York, and these four sections were made Albion Township, No. 13. Before the organization of Noble County, and while it was a part of La Grange, there was but one township organization, and this included a part of what is now La Grange. This township was called Perry, and, at an election held at the house of John Hostetter in April, 1833, Jacob Wolf was elected Justice of the Peace, he being the first officer elected within the limits of Noble County. Mr. Wolf is still living where he located fifty years ago, advanced in life, but still in the enjoyment of a reasonable degree of health, and a fine representative of that spirit of genuine hospitality so common at that early date.

The first settlement made in Noble County by white people was that made by Joel Bristol in April, 1827, in Noble Township. The family consisted of

Mr. Bristol and his wife, and the orphan children of Mrs. Bristol's sister, six in number. The name of these children was Tibbott, and two of them, Isaac Tibbott, Esq., of Wawaka, and Mrs. A. G. Gibson, are still residents of Noble County, and are both in comfortable circumstances, and are respected by all good citizens. Bristol and his wife have long since passed away. For several years after the settlement of Bristol, but few settlers stopped in Noble County, as the beautiful prairies lying to the north and west presented greater attractions. John Knight settled in the county in 1829, and, in 1830, Isaiah Dungan, Levi Perry and Richard Stone came, and the next year the population was further increased by the arrival of Jacob Wolf, Henry Hostetter, Sr., and his family, Adam Engle and family, Jacob Shobe and family, and Henry Miller and wife, Joseph Smalley and family, Leonard Danner, and perhaps some few others whose names may have been forgotten. A few continued to come, and all were heartily welcomed by the settlers, and, at the time the county was organized, there were probably less than one hundred families in the county, more than half the number being within the present limits of Perry Township, where "Perry's Prairie" and the "Haw Patch" offered inducements not found in any other part of the county. The first land purchased of the Government in the county was in Perry, and was entered in 1831, and by an examination of the Tract Book it appears that the following lands were entered during that year:

NAME OF PURCHASER.	DATE.	DESCRIPTION.
Isaiah Dungan .....	June 11, 1831.....	Northeast quarter of Section 33.
Levi Perry .....	June 11, 1831.....	East half of southeast quarter of Section 33.
Jacob Shobe .....	July 29, 1831.....	Northeast quarter of Section 31.
Jacob Shobe .....	July 29, 1831.....	West half of northwest quarter of Section 32.
Jacob Shobe .....	July 29, 1831.....	West half of northwest quarter of Section 33.
Susanna Hagan .....	August 2, 1831.....	West half of northwest quarter of Section 34.
Adam Engle.....	August 12, 1831.....	Southeast quarter of Section 28.
Adam Engle.....	August 12, 1831.....	East half of southwest quarter of Section 27.
Henry Engle .....	August 20, 1831.....	West half of southwest quarter of Section 27.
Jacob Wolf .....	August 20, 1831 .....	Northeast quarter of Section 28.
John Iles .....	August 20, 1831.....	East half of northwest quarter of Section 28.
William Engle .....	August 20, 1831.....	East half of northwest quarter of Section 34.
Daniel Harsh.....	August 22, 1831.....	West half of southeast quarter of Section 33.
Joseph Smalley .....	September 13, 1831.....	Southwest quarter of Section 28.
Joseph Smalley .....	September 14, 1831.....	Northeast quarter of Section 32.
Joseph Smalley .....	September 14, 1831.....	East half of southwest quarter of Section 33.
Joseph Smalley .....	September 14, 1831.....	West half of southwest quarter of Section 34.
H. Hostetter.....	November 1, 1831 .....	East half of northwest quarter of Section 34.
L. Danner.....	November 21, 1831 .....	Southeast quarter of Section 18.
Henry Miller.....	November 25, 1831 .....	East half of southwest quarter of Section 34.

All of said land being in Township 35 north, Range 8 east, in Perry Township. The foregoing entries embrace all the land entered in Noble County in 1831, and amount to 2,120 acres. In 1832, the entries amounted to 3,320; in 1833, 2,820; in 1834, 5,860; in 1835, 18,222; and in 1836, before the county was organized, which was in March, 1,006 acres, making in all, of



land entered before the county was organized, 33,048 acres, or about one-ninth of all the land embraced within the limits of the county. There was, without doubt, more land entered in 1836 than in all the years that preceded it, for this was the time of the great rush to Northern Indiana. During all the season land buyers thronged the country, and all the talk was of section corners and quarter sections. Most of those who came were looking for future homes, and were cordially welcomed by those who were already here, and to them the "latch-string" was always out and every assistance rendered to assist them in making good purchases. But there was another class of land buyers, who met with little encouragement from the settlers. I refer to those who came here for the purpose of buying large tracts of land, not for cultivation, but to hold for the purpose of speculation. Frequently large tracts were bought up by these men (land-sharks, the settlers called them), and held at prices that the poor man could not afford to pay, and hence the growth and development of the country was crippled. A system of swindling was also practiced extensively about the land office at Fort Wayne by a set of sharpers, which was at once dishonest and cruel. When some honest farmer, who had selected and would apply to purchase the land he wanted for a home, one of these thieves would look him up, and say that he wanted the same tract, and threaten to bid on the land unless a compromise was made. Frequently considerable sums were thus stolen from the settler, when the rascal who pocketed his ill-gotten gains had no intention of buying the land, and, in fact, had never seen it. But notwithstanding all the difficulties and drawbacks that beset the early settlers, much land was entered by men who at once took possession of it, erected their cabins, and, with willing hearts and strong hands, leveled the forests, cleared the land, and, as soon as possible, started some crop to furnish the means of living for themselves and their families. In those early days, a large family of children was the rule, a small family the exception. The rule seems to be reversed in these later days, owing, probably, to the fact that the soil is not as productive now as it was at that early day. If a small patch could be prepared in season, it was planted in corn; if too late for corn, then some potatoes were put out; if too late for potatoes, the pioneer would try turnips; and if too late for turnips, some of the ground would be sown for wheat in the fall. Most of the settlers of 1836 came too late in the season to raise anything for their support the first season, and had to depend upon buying from those who had been here long enough to raise a surplus. Their chief dependence was upon those who had settled on "Perry's Prairie," in this county, and upon the prairies of La Grange, Elkhart and Kosciusko Counties, where the settlers had found the land already cleared and where many of the farmers had large and productive farms under cultivation.

The lack of the settlers during this year to raise enough to supply their wants created an unusual demand for the necessities of life, and prices rose in proportion to the demand; and as most of the early settlers were men of lim-

ited means, and had invested all, or nearly all their means in the purchase of their land, it would not be strange if there occurred some cases of actual suffering for the necessities of life. Let us hope that if such cases did occur that they were few, for it is painful to contemplate the possibility of such a state of affairs. To make matters more trying on the new settlers, there was considerable suffering from fever and ague during the later part of the summer and the fall, and medicine and physicians were not to be had, and the only resource was such domestic remedies as were within reach of the settlers. Winter checked the ravages or the disease, and there was no difficulty in keeping the cabin warm and comfortable, for wood was about the only commodity that was plenty, and the greatest difficulty was to get it out of the way. The winter months were devoted to chopping and preparing to clear more land in the spring. Let it not be supposed that the settler of that day was selfish or unsocial; far from it. They had their social gatherings, their log-rollings, and their dances; and if the young people of that day did not "Trip the light fantastic toe," under the direction of the French dancing-master, and to the music of a full orchestra, yet they did *trip the toe*, and that frequently a bare one, on the puncheon floor, as they danced the "Square French-four," shuffled through the "Virginia reel," or threaded the mazes of "Hunt the Squirrel," to the inspiring strains of the "Devil's Dream," "Silver Creek," or "Sally Johnson," ground out by the ancient fiddler on the fiddle which was his grandfather's delight in his young days. Then the people met upon a level; they felt that all were equal; they had no high, no low; and to-day the old pioneers look back upon those days with feelings of regret and long for the days of "Lang Syne."

All through the summer of 1836 the white covers of the emigrants' wagons could be seen winding along the crooked paths that had been cut through the timber—for we had not then any laid-out roads; the first teamster cut out a track, and the others followed until the mud became too deep for travel, when another road was cut out, so that there were roads everywhere. This applies to the heavy timbered lands. On the openings, where the soil was sandy, the roads were generally good, and when a new track became necessary, you could drive anywhere without hindrance, for at that day the country presented a very different appearance from what we see at the present day. It was the custom of the Indians to burn the woods, marshes and prairies, each spring, and this annual burning kept down the under growth, so that on the openings nothing was left to obstruct the view, except the large trees scattered here and there. In many places, where to-day a second growth of timber completely covers the ground, the openings then were like an open prairie, with here and there a giant oak.

No more enchanting scene was ever presented to the human eye than these openings in the spring. As far as the eye could reach was spread out a scene of surpassing loveliness. The tender grass just springing up and spreading a

carpet of green over the whole landscape, which was further beautified by flowers of every hue, and as you survey the scene, a herd of deer appear in the distance, or the impudent prairie-wolf approaches just near enough to be out of range of the trusty rifle—our inseparable companion in these rambles. Nor should we forget to bring upon the stage as a part of the picture the native, who once held undisputed control over all this land, nor dreamed that the day would come when he would be driven from these scenes of his youth, and leave to desecration the graves of his fathers. Talk of your flower-gardens or your parks, or anything that man has made in his weak efforts to imitate nature! To one who has seen the oak openings of Noble County, in all their pristine glory and loveliness, man's imitations are tame and insipid. The year of 1837 was not marked by anything peculiar, except that more settlers came than during any previous year. Many who entered land in 1836 returned to their former homes to settle their business, and in the spring of 1837 returned with their families to this county—their future home.

The year of 1838 will be remembered by the early settlers as long as one is left; many settled here in 1837, and others came in the early part of 1838. The spring opened wet, and the season continued so until about the middle of June, when the rain ceased and no more fell during the remainder of the summer and fall, and some wheat sown that fall did not germinate until after snow fell. The swamps and marshes were filled with water, and the heat of the summer was intense. As a consequence, the water in the swamps was rapidly evaporated, and the atmosphere became contaminated and poisoned by the noxious exhalations, and the whole country was transformed into one vast hospital, filled with suffering patients, but destitute of physicians, medicines or nurses. Never before or since has such a time been experienced in Noble County. There was scarcely a house in the whole county where all were well, and in many all were prostrated by disease. Physicians were scarce and difficult to obtain; nor were they exempt from the ravages of disease. Medicines could not be obtained, and the sufferings then endured will never be known. Many of the early settlers died during this season, and it is sad to think that probably some perished from lack of proper treatment. But let no one for a moment suppose that this lack arose from any willful neglect on the part of the settlers. A woman has been known to walk several miles along an Indian trail to wait upon a sick neighbor, and frequently she was compelled to carry a child in her arms. And this was no unusual occurrence. The people were kind and sympathetic, and warm and tender hearts throbbed beneath the buckskin hunting shirt and the linsey dress. But there was a point *they* could not pass. Strong though they were, they must succumb to disease, and they could not attend to others when they needed the same attention themselves. In one house at Rochester, thirteen persons lay sick, and in the whole village only two people were able to go from house to house, and these two were busy day and night ministering to the necessities of the suffering with the most unselfish

devotion. Their names deserve to be held in grateful remembrance as long as a pioneer or any of his descendants survive. They were Mr. Dorus Swift and Miss Achsah Kent. The frosts of autumn checked the ravages of disease, and health once more visited the settlers, although the effects of the season remained with some, and during the following fall and winter several old persons died. At the session of the General Assembly for 1836-37, a bill was passed called "The Internal Improvement Bill." By the provisions of this act, the State undertook a scheme of digging canals all over the land, and among the works contemplated was a canal from Fort Wayne to Michigan City. This was to enter Noble County in Swan Township, thence in a northwesterly direction through Swan, Green, York and Perry Townships, passing through Port Mitchell; and between Augusta and Albion, and into the Elkhart River west of the present residence of James J. Knox, in Elkhart Township. Here it was to enter the backwater of a seven-foot dam, to be built across the Elkhart River at Rochester. Thence it was to pass through Rochester and Ligonier, and follow the river to the west line of the county. Near the place where the canal was to enter the river, it was to be intersected by a navigable feeder from Northport, where a dam was to be erected to form a reservoir. There was also a reservoir to be made in Green Township to feed the canal at the Summit, which is in this township. Work was commenced in Noble County in Green, and also at Northport, the work on the summit which divides the waters flowing north into the Elkhart River and the waters flowing south into the Tippecanoe. Here the greatest amount of work was done, but there was considerable done in the vicinity of Northport, where the feeder dam was erected, and some of the canal excavated, and now, in passing from Albion to Rome City, the traveler passes along the bed of what was intended to be the navigable feeder, had this grand scheme ever been completed. But the State soon found that she had undertaken too much, and, being unable to meet her obligations, the work was suspended, and the amount expended became a total loss. The dam at Northport was built, but was subsequently washed out, and three persons who were on the dam at the time were drowned. Subsequently one of the bodies was found floating in a small pond below, but the others were never found. The State afterward rebuilt the dam, and donated the water-power to Noble County for the benefit of common schools, making the Board of Commissioners the custodians of the property. The Commissioners leased the water-power for a term of ninety-nine years, at an annual rental of \$30. A grist-mill, a saw-mill, and quite an extensive woolen factory were erected and propelled by the water-power created by the dam. The factory was destroyed by fire, since which only the mills before referred to are run by the water from the reservoir. The affairs of the canal were closed up in the spring of 1840, and all that is now left of this magnificent enterprise is the dam, and some excavations here and there to mar the face of the country. Probably nearly \$200,000 was expended by the State.



From the first settlement of Northern Indiana the country was infested with a gang of desperadoes, and of these Noble County had her full share. These men were engaged in theft, robbery and passing counterfeit money, and it was at times darkly hinted that even murder was committed by them. Among them there appeared to be a passion for horses, and so far did this prevail that it made little difference to whom the horse belonged, and the settler frequently found his log stable empty in the morning, when it had the evening before been occupied by his horse. Horses were at this time (1839) scarce, and the loss of one a great calamity, as on the team depended to a great extent the support of the family. Hence, it is not surprising that curses deep and sincere were breathed by the settlers against these rascals, and it is probable that, had any of them been caught in the act, retribution swift and certain would have followed without waiting for due process of law. So many confederates were scattered through the county that pursuit was generally useless, for they had a regular organization, and stations where stolen property could be secreted in such a manner as to elude all search. Late in the fall of 1838, one of the gang, who had partaken too freely of "dead shot" or "tangle foot," became very communicative and confidential, and made propositions to one of the citizens who kept a small store to join them, urging, as an inducement, that he would have superior advantages for passing counterfeit money. The citizen, after consulting with neighbors, agreed to the proposition, intending to act the part of a spy, and when he had learned all he could to make it public, and try to break up the gang. To say the least, the undertaking was a hazardous one, and rendered doubly so by the desperate character of the men he sought to entrap, but before he had made any progress in the matter, two horse-thieves were arrested in the Haw Patch, and a stolen horse found in the neighborhood, where they had turned it loose, having stolen a blind horse by mistake. The news soon spread that horse-thieves had been captured, and were at Stone's, on the Fort Wayne & Goshen road. The whole country was aroused, and the men from far and near gathered at the place, and it required all the efforts of the officers, backed by the conservative element among the citizens, to save their lives. Nor is this to be thought strange. The settlers had suffered so much from their depredations, and had seen them escape so easily when arrested, that they determined to take the law into their own hands and mete out condign punishment upon the heads of the offenders. Being assured that the thieves should be dealt with according to law, they desisted from further hostile demonstrations, and assisted the officers in executing the process of the court. Warrants were issued for about twenty persons, many of whom were arrested, but some having had warning left the county and never returned. The trials were held at Stone's tavern, three miles south of Ligonier, before Nelson Prentiss, a Justice of the Peace of Sparta Township, and lasted ten days. There were present at these examinations all the settlers for a circuit of many miles, many of whom remained all night to prevent any attempt at a rescue of the

prisoners. No such attempt was made, and the trials proceeded in an orderly manner. There were no attorneys in Noble County at that time; hence counsel had to be procured elsewhere. The prisoners were defended by Hon. Charles W. Ewing and Robert Breckenridge, Jr., of Fort Wayne; and an attorney from Piqua, Ohio, happening to be passing that way was employed by the people to prosecute. The cases were ably prosecuted, and the accused properly defended. Nine were held to appear at the next term of the Circuit Court, and all failing to find bail, seven of the number were sent to Fort Wayne and two to Goshen to be imprisoned, there being at the time no jail in Noble County. The two sent to Goshen were released upon a writ of *habeas corpus* for some pretended irregularity in the papers, while the seven sent to Fort Wayne released themselves by breaking out of the old jail at that place, and thus ended the first raid on the blacklegs of Noble County, but the people had rest for a season. But few settlers came to the county in 1839. The sad experiences of 1838 sent many back to their former homes, and the reports of the hardships that they had endured so alarmed others that few had the courage to risk the chances of a home in Indiana. There is little of general interest to write concerning 1839 more than what has already been said. During the year of 1840, more settlers came than in the previous year. It began to be ascertained that people could live in Noble County, and several who had remained began to gather about them not only the necessities, but also some of the conveniences of life, and the settler who had battled manfully with adverse circumstances began to look forward to a time of greater enjoyment, when he could sit beneath "his own vine and fig-tree," and enjoy the fruit of his honest toil.

During this year there was perpetrated in the county a brutal murder. On the 16th day of May, 1840, at the village of Rochester, a number of persons were engaged in drinking poor whisky and shooting at a mark, a pastime quite common in those days. The natural consequences followed; some became drunk and quarrelsome, and fit for any act of violence. Among the number were John Lechner, a German, and John Farley, an Irishman. Both were under the influence of liquor, and Lechner, when drunk, was quarrelsome and abusive. A dispute arose, angry words passed and blows were exchanged; but Farley, who was a small man, was not able to cope with his burly antagonist. Farley escaped from Lechner and started to run, when Lechner seized his rifle and fired at Farley, missing him; Farley ran a short distance when he climbed upon a fence, when a few words passed between them; Lechner then took a gun from the hands of his nephew, and taking deliberate aim shot Farley dead upon the spot. He then attempted to escape but was arrested and brought before Esquire Daniel Harsh, and was by him committed to jail in Goshen, there being no jail in Noble County. At that time there were but two terms of the Circuit Court in each year, in September and March. The cause came up for trial at the September term, before John W. Wright, Presi-



*Saml E Alvord*

CLERK CIRCUIT COURT





dent Judge, and Thomas H. Wilson and Jacob Stage, Associate Judges. The prosecution was conducted by Lucien P. Ferry, Prosecuting Attorney, of Fort Wayne; and the court assigned as counsel for the prisoner Hon. Charles W. Ewing and Robert Breckenridge, Jr. The records of the courts of that date having been destroyed by fire, some matters in connection with the trial cannot be given, and the names of the jurors who tried the case have been forgotten. The evidence was clear; in fact, there was not one extenuating or palliating circumstance. The guilt of the accused was established beyond a doubt, and although both Breckenridge and Ewing put forth their best efforts, they were of no avail. The speech of Judge Ewing on that occasion was probably the strongest appeal ever made to a jury in the county. Lechner was found guilty by the jury and the punishment fixed was death. He was sentenced to be hanged November 3, 1840. The sentence was executed on that day about half a mile west of Augusta, by Mason M. Meriam, Sheriff of the county. A large concourse of people were present, not only from Noble, but also from adjoining counties. This is the only judicial execution that has occurred in the county. After the sentence was executed, Lechner's body was taken in a wagon and driven rapidly to the western part of the county and privately buried, and few are now living who know the place. Farley, the murdered man, was buried in the old cemetery at Ligonier. The parties in the tragedy were both drunk, and the crime can be charged to nothing but alcohol. Perhaps it may not be out of place to remark that, up to this time, political differences had not disturbed the settlements. "At the first election, in 1836, men of both political parties were elected; Spencer, Bristol and Pancake were Democrats, while the two Hostetters and Engle were Whigs; and in 1838, when a convention was called to nominate officers, men of both participated in the same meeting, the chief object being to find good men willing to serve. But in 1840, things were changed, for the wave of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," struck Noble County. Political tricksters now make their appearance, and demagogues perambulate the county, anxious to sacrifice themselves for the good of the *dear* people, and communities which once moved and acted in concert are rent to fragments, and arrayed in hostility to each other. During all the preceding years, while the tide of emigration was pouring into the county, there existed among the people a strong sympathy with each other, and strife and contention were strangers. There was no dividing up into classes; all were friendly, *for all were poor*. And now the old pioneer of Noble looks back with regret to many things that were common at that early day, but have passed away never to return. The year 1841 was not marked by anything unusual in the development of the county, unless it be by increasing prosperity among the settlers. Emigrants continued to come and the country was fast filling up, better dwellings were erected, more land was cultivated, and better implements of husbandry were used, and it may be said that the most sanguine hopes of the settlers were realized.

During this year, there occurred a sad circumstance, that should not be passed over without notice, as it may be that in the future some light may be thrown upon what is now, and the last forty years has been, dark and mysterious. On the 2d day of June, Mr. Aaron Noe, who resided on the farm now owned and occupied by Charles Weade, about two and a half miles southeast from Cromwell, started with his team to Elkhart County to mill. He left home early in the morning, and when near home, having just started, he observed his son, about three years old, following the wagon. He stopped and directed the child to go back to the house, and then proceeded on his journey. No further notice seems to have been taken of the child's absence for some time. There were several children belonging to the family, and the mother probably supposed that it was with them. The other children returning to the house without the boy, Mrs. Noe commenced to search for him, but was unable to find him. Becoming now alarmed, she and the older children continued the search. They found the little tracks in the road where it was last seen and for a short distance beyond, going from the house and in the direction taken by the father with his wagon, when the nature of the ground prevented any further traces of foot-prints. Having searched for several hours in vain, the now distracted mother sent word to her nearest neighbors, and they, in turn, to others, and before night seventy-five or one hundred of the settlers were gathered, ready to render any assistance in their power. The woods along Solomon's Creek, where the child was lost, were swampy and afforded a retreat for the large timber-wolf, and there were many at that time in the county. There were droves of half-wild hogs, scarcely less savage and dangerous than wolves. The child had on only one garment, a loose slip or gown, and thus unprotected, if it should escape from the animals, it was probable that the insects, with which the woods were swarming at that season of the year, would torment it to death before another morning. It should be observed, that during the day a small body of Indians had passed the place, traveling in an easterly direction. It was surmised that they might have kidnaped the child, and it was determined to send some persons after them to learn whether such was the fact. Accordingly, Mitchell McClintock, Oliver Wright and Harvey McKinney, all old frontiersmen, were selected for this service. They left Noe's a little before sunset, and, following the trail, found the Indians encamped on the bank of Bowen's Lake, in Green Township. On coming in sight of the encampment, they concluded to take the camp by surprise, lest they should escape with the child, if they had it. Mounting their horses, they dashed at full speed into the midst of the sleeping Indians. Amidst the confusion, some of the Indians escaped to the woods, but they returned in a short time, and all denied having had or even seen the child. In this, it is probable, they told the truth, for they had been seen by several persons during the day, after they passed Noe's place, and no white child was seen with them. The party sent out returned the same night and reported their failure, and it was

then agreed to make thorough search and, if possible, find the little one alive, or if dead, to discover some traces that should disclose the fact of when, where and how it died. The next morning the search commenced. Lines were formed, the men walking within a few feet of each other, and traveling the country in every direction for several miles, and this was continued for eight or ten days. The search was made as thorough and complete as possible. Every swamp was explored, every pool of water was dragged, every hollow log found was torn to pieces. All business was suspended and the great heart of the community went out as the heart of one man, in sympathy with the bereaved ones; but it was all in vain. No trace of the missing one was ever found. Whether, indeed, the little wanderer was picked up by Indians and brought up among them as one of their tribe; whether it met its death from some savage beast, or died from the more lingering torments of hunger and fatigue, are subjects upon which we may speculate, but which we shall probably never know.

From this time forth, the growth of the county has continued until the present. The first census taken in Noble County was in 1840, when the population was 2,702. This census was taken by Isaac Spencer. In 1850, Hiram S. Tousley took the census, which was now 7,946. In 1860, John C. Richmond was Deputy Marshal, and found 14,915. In 1870, the population was 20,389, and in 1880 it was 22,804. When the first census was taken, in 1840, Noble County, in population, was the seventieth; in 1850, it was the fifty-ninth; in 1860, the forty-first, and in 1870, the twenty-eighth, a position that she still holds.

During the time that the steady stream of population was pouring into the county good prices were obtained for all agricultural products, but when the settlers had so improved their lands that a surplus began to accumulate, prices began to decline, and, for several years, all products raised by the farmer were very cheap. Wheat, after being hauled to Fort Wayne, was worth about 40 cents; corn,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; pork from \$1 to \$1.25 per 100 pounds. Labor was correspondingly cheap, and day laborers' wages from 31 to 40 cents per day. This was in consequence of a lack of transportation to the sea-board. Railroads were then unknown, and, for a time, all produce had to reach the lakes, either at Toledo or Michigan City. In 1843, the Wabash & Erie Canal was opened from Fort Wayne to Toledo, and this had a tendency to give better prices, though wheat was then worth only about 60 cents at the most favorable times, but the construction of railroads has created a good market, and now the farmers of Noble County are receiving good prices near home for all their surplus products.

The records of the Auditor's office having been destroyed in 1843, it is impossible to ascertain the valuation of property in the county prior to that time or the total amount of taxes paid each year; but from the Auditor of State the taxes paid to the State prior to that time have been ascertained, and

by computation we may reach very nearly the number of polls in the county for each year. There appears to have been no taxes paid to the State until 1838, and that year Noble County paid \$301.35. In 1839, \$385.50; in 1840, \$381.72; in 1841, \$870.59, and, in 1842, \$1,515.44. This only includes the State taxes, and we can only approximate the total taxes for all purposes, but it is safe to say that three times the State tax would make the entire duplicate. Again the number of polls is not given prior to 1843, but we arrive at a result that is nearly correct by calculation, and find the following:

In 1838, we had eighty-one polls, and the duplicate was.....	\$ 904 05
In 1839, we had ninety-nine polls, and the duplicate was.....	1,150 50
In 1840, we had ninety-nine polls, and the duplicate was.....	1,145 16
In 1841, we had two hundred and ninety-seven polls, and the duplicate was.....	2,611 77
In 1842, we had five hundred and twenty-two polls, and the duplicate was.....	4,546 32

The effects of the scourge of 1838 are plainly seen in the two years that follow it. The following table is from the records:

YEAR.	VALUATION.	DUPPLICATE.	POLLS.	YEAR.	VALUATION.	DUPPLICATE.	POLLS.
1843.....	\$ 558,386	\$ 7,477 22	611	1863.....	\$3,088,978	\$ 49,640 72	2,491
1844.....	564,718	9,320 01	699	1864.....	3,709,157	63,193 28	2,457
1845.....	582,828	7,500 99	848	1865.....	4,108,295	173,828 82	2,314
1846.....	732,080	17,415 24	949	1866.....	4,558,495	67,500 97	3,013
1847.....	649,822	13,049 40	1,027	1867.....	4,643,428	68,129 28	3,270
1848.....	656,478	13,959 57	1,024	1868.....	4,910,492	72,138 50	3,334
1849.....	706,085	8,633 76	1,236	1869.....	5,767,630	81,486 87	3,324
1850.....	733,572	13,073 30	1,313	1870.....	5,702,445	69,486 06	3,318
1851.....	1,381,913	17,333 31	1,475	1871.....	5,747,295	82,191 64	3,398
1852.....	1,391,329	16,560 73	1,512	1872.....	5,731,695	101,539 11	3,199
1853.....	1,656,515	16,576 04	1,560	1873.....	8,948,432	163,967 73	3,239
1854.....	1,758,778	25,833 31	1,638	1874.....	8,323,026	113,485 15	3,359
1855.....	1,901,190	25,019 55	1,790	1875.....	8,959,098	114,882 05	3,365
1856.....	1,893,474	25,155 99	1,840	1876.....	9,027,103	118,830 54	3,588
1857.....	1,832,375	25,973 75	1,998	1877.....	7,903,424	106,255 68	3,681
1858.....	1,995,678	26,799 54	2,132	1878.....	8,984,795	105,917 50	3,728
1859.....	2,809,335	36,395 35	2,372	1879.....	8,877,715	113,680 80	3,704
1860.....	2,881,594	37,720 43	2,362	1880.....	8,295,625	114,775 62	3,750
1861.....	2,847,979	39,041 82	2,517	1881.....	9,027,103	not comp'd	3,778
1862.....	2,874,874	41,018 36	2,620				

Thus, from the insignificant amount of about \$1,000, the total amount of taxes paid in 1838, there is now collected over \$100,000. And in consequence of the increased wealth, the taxes are now paid with less trouble than in early times. The railroad corporations in the county pay taxes on over \$1,000,000 valuation, thus paying one-ninth of the entire taxes paid. The increase in the material wealth is amazing. In 1843, there was but one man in the whole county that was assessed with personal property to the amount of \$500. In that year, Joseph Galloway, of Washington Township, returned that amount, and now a farmer who has not that amount, or more, is considered poor, while many of the tax-payers are assessed with over \$100,000 of personal property, and this assessment as a general thing is not more than one-half the real value. In 1843, the entire school tax collected in the county was \$8.50; in 1844,



\$125.54 ; in 1845, \$139.51 ; in 1846, \$204.80. There is now expended annually in the county over \$50,000, a large part of which is raised by taxation, which the people pay willingly, being convinced that intelligence is essential to the best interests of the State.

In the matter of county seats, Noble has had her full share. At the session of the Legislature in March, 1836, George A. Fate, R. McDonald and Eli Penwell, were appointed Commissioners to permanently locate the seat of justice for Noble County, and on the 3d day of May, 1836, reported as follows :

*To the Honorable the Commissioners of Noble County, and State of Indiana :*

The undersigned Commissioners, appointed by the Legislature of this State to fix the permanent seat of justice of the county of Noble aforesaid, have, after being duly sworn as the law directs, fixed the permanent seat of justice and *drove the stake* for the same on Section Twenty-four in Township numbered Thirty-four north, of Range numbered eight east, in said county, on the land of Isaac Spencer and Reuben Jackson Dawson. And beg leave to submit the foregoing report with the donation bond for \$3,000, payable A. D. 1839.

GEORGE A. FATE,  
R. McDONALD,  
ELI PENWELL.

NOBLE, May 3, 1836.

The bonds of Spencer and Dawson, with Simpson Cummings as surety, was filed the same day, and was approved by the Locating Commissioners, the Commissioners of Noble County not having been elected, nor were there any until the June following. This location was in Sparta Township, on the old Fort Wayne and Goshen trail, and on the farm now owned by Nary Fry. Although this was near the western part of the county, yet at the time it was probably very nearly central as to the population. No public buildings were ever erected at Sparta, and the county seat remained there only a short time. Other parts of the county began to be settled and the people objected to the erection of buildings at a point so far from the center of the county ; and which, although a very desirable location in some respects, yet had no water-power or other natural advantages. Hence, a petition was presented to the Legislature asking for a re-location, and an act was passed and approved February 4, 1837 appointing Oliver Crane, of Elkhart ; Levi L. Todd, of Cass ; John E. Hill, of Allen ; Samuel F. Clark, of Miami ; William Allen, of La Porte, and Greene T. Simpson, of Henry, County Commissioners to re-locate the seat of justice. On the 3d of July, 1837, all the Commissioners, except Allen and Simpson, met at the house of Patrick C. Miller, at Wolf Lake, and proceeded to examine the different points offered. Several ambitious towns which had been laid out were anxious for the distinction. Sparta was, of course, in the market, also Van Buren, near the Blackman farm in York ; Wolf Lake, the first town laid out in Noble County ; Augusta and Port Mitchell—all entered the race, and each made munificent offers to secure the coveted location. The Commissioners having looked over the ground and considered the offers of donations, agreed upon Augusta, a point two miles west of Albion. The people appeared to acquiesce in the location, and a court house and jail were built there, the county officers removed thither and the town gave considerable evidences of growth ; two hotels were built, several stores started and various

mechanical interests were represented. There is but little doubt that the county seat of Noble County would have been at Augusta now, had not the court house been accidentally destroyed by fire. This occurred early in the year of 1843, and by the burning of the building the books belonging to the offices of the Auditor and Treasurer were lost. This was a great calamity, and in endeavoring to prepare an authentic history of the county, we sadly miss those records. Port Mitchell had never been happy over the location at Augusta, and now made an effort for another *permanent* location. Another act of the Legislature was passed January 14, 1844, for a re-location, and Charles W. Heaton, of St. Joseph; Lot Day, also of the same county; Ephraim Seeley, of La Grange, and John Jackson and Allen Tibbitts, of Elkhart, were appointed Commissioners. They met at Augusta on the first Monday of March, 1844, and *drove the stake* and *permanently* located the seat of justice at Port Mitchell. Here brick offices were built and a temporary building was erected for a court house. The people of Port Mitchell were happy, and visions of the coming greatness of the town floated before them. But their triumph was of short duration. The seat of justice was a movable institution and neither a *permanent location* nor *driving the stake* could hold it.

Soon after, at the session of the Legislature for 1845-46, an act was passed providing for a re-location by a vote of the people. The act provided that an election should be held on the first Monday of April, 1846, at which the voters should write on their ballots the name of the place where they wished the county seat to be located. Another election was to be held the first Monday of June, at which time only three places should be voted for; that is, the three highest on the list voted for in April, and the final vote was to be taken between the two highest at the June election, on the first Monday of August in the same year. The contest was a spirited one, as there were several places in the county that were ambitious to be county seats. Speeches were made, and at least one campaign song was composed for the occasion, and a club of singers organized. At the election in April, votes were cast for Port Mitchell, Augusta, Rochester, Ligonier, Springfield, Lisbon, Northport, Wolf Lake, and the "Center," as Albion was then called. It may be that votes were cast for other places. At this election, the three highest on the list were Port Mitchell, Augusta and the Center. At the June election, Augusta fell two votes below Port Mitchell, and was left out. The contest was now between Port Mitchell and the Center. The friends of Augusta were indignant, and generally voted for the Center, and it received a majority and was declared the county seat. It has remained here since, although several efforts were made to remove it. The construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad through Albion, in 1874, has settled the question, and Albion will, without doubt, remain the county seat.

The first buildings erected by the county were at Augusta, where a frame court house was built, which was done by the proprietors of the town as a part

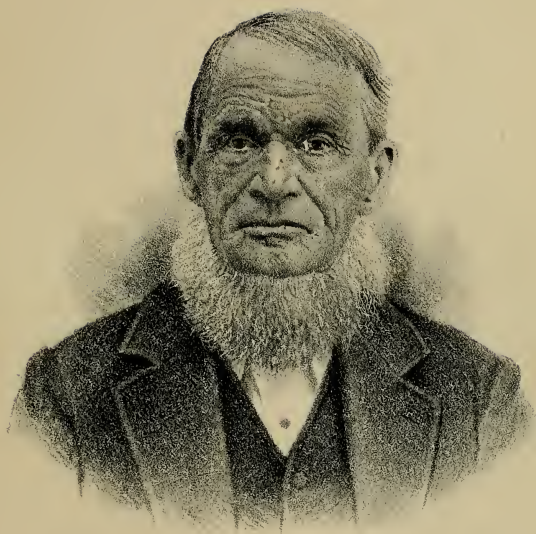
of the donation to the county, in consideration of the location of the county seat at that place. The building would be considered a cheap affair at this time, but when it was erected it was the pride of the people, as it was much better than any in the adjoining counties. This was completed in 1840, and the next year a wooden jail was built. There is still left a part of the cells of the old jail remaining, which is the only memento left to remind the traveler of the former greatness of Augusta. The temporary buildings erected at Port Mitchell have disappeared, and most of the town plat, as well as all of the town of Augusta, is now devoted to agricultural purposes. After the final vote on the location of the county seat, the Board of Commissioners, on the 14th day of October, 1846, made the following order: "Ordered, that James L. Worden, County Agent, proceed to advertise the letting of a court house at the new county seat of Noble County, and that he receive sealed proposals for the same until the second day of the next December term of the board, at 8 o'clock A. M." At the December term, James L. Worden reported that the lowest and best bid for the building was by Harrison Wood, William M. Clapp and David B. Herriman, and the job was accordingly let to them. They sublet to Samuel T. Clymer, of Goshen, who completed the building in 1847, and, on the 16th day of September of that year, the Commissioners ordered the removal of the offices and records to the new court house. A jail at Albion was built in 1849. The court house was built at a cost of \$4,045. The cost of the old jail at Albion was about \$1,300. This court house was burned in January, 1859, and the circumstances surrounding the catastrophe leave little room for doubt that it was the work of incendiaries. The present court house was built in 1861, at a cost of \$11,000, and was built by George Harvey, who now resides in Albion. In 1875, the present jail was built at a cost of over \$25,000, and is as safe as it could be made, and is doubtless the finest building in the county. It contains rooms for the jailer and his family; has twelve cells, the top, bottom and each side wall being composed of a single stone eight inches in thickness, all four securely fastened together. These cells are surrounded by a hall composed of stone similar to the cells, and it would seem to be a bootless undertaking to attempt to break out. The court house is a plain, substantial building, but large enough to accommodate our courts; but the day is not distant when better accommodations will be required for the county officers, and more room for the records.

For several years after the organization of the county, the poor were supported in the several townships, and those who were permanent paupers were sold out to the lowest bidder annually. This continued until finally the Commissioners purchased a farm one and a half miles east of Albion, upon which was a house which, with some additions, was used as an asylum for the poor, and here all the paupers of the county were collected, and a superintendent chosen by the Commissioners. This continued until at last the Commissioners exchanged this farm for 160 acres, to which they have since added ninety-eight

acres. In 1871, a brick building was erected on the farm capable of accommodating one hundred paupers. The contract price for the building was \$20,500, but a record of the allowances shows that the actual cost was several thousand in excess of the contract price. The Commissioners have been fortunate in the selection of superintendents, and at the present time the farm is self-sustaining. The building is over one hundred feet in length, and fifty-four feet wide, and is two stories above the basement, and has also considerable room above the second story under the mansard roof. The foregoing comprise all the public buildings belonging to the county. It has already been stated who were elected county officers at the first election. The following persons have held the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court by virtue of election: Isaac Spencer, Westley White, William F. Engle, Nelson Prentiss, Samuel E. Alvord, James Haxby, Hiram S. Tousley, Joseph S. Cox. And Horatio M. Slack, Fielding Prickett, Luther H. Green and George B. Teal have held the office by appointment. Of those who have held this office, Westley White, William F. Engle, James Haxby and Joseph S. Cox are dead. Mr. Alvord, who was first elected in 1855, has been re-elected twice since, and now holds the office.

The persons elected as Sheriff are: James Hostetter, John Humphreys, Mason M. Meriam, Harrison Wood, William E. Bowen, Isaac Swarthout, David S. Simons, Solomon Crossley, Robison Ramsby, Moses Kiser, David Hough, Nathaniel P. Eagles, Richard Williams and William W. Riddle, the present incumbent. Of these, Hostetter, Humphreys, Meriam, Simons and Bowen are dead; the rest, so far as is known, are living. Humphreys did not serve, but sold his claim on the office, after qualifying, to Mason M. Meriam for a shotgun. Let it be remembered that in 1838, the date of Humphrey's election, that offices were not as valuable as at the present time. And it may be that the consideration for the transfer was adequate. At the organization of the county, the Clerk was Recorder and Auditor as well as Clerk, and no Recorder was chosen until 1842, when Peter Becher was elected, who died before the expiration of his term. Since that time, Henry H. Hitchcock, Henry Heltzel, John P. McWilliams, David S. Simons, James Greenman, John Baughman and James J. Lash have been elected. All the above except Becher, Heltzel and Simons are living; and all except Hitchcock live in Noble County. He resides in Goshen, in Elkhart County, and is cashier of the First National Bank at the latter place. The first person to collect the taxes was Henry Heltzel, who was elected in 1839, and was called tax collector. He had no office at the county seat, but went through the county and called on each tax-payer. John A. Colerick, was the first person who was elected Treasurer by that title. Since that time the following persons have been elected and served as County Treasurers: John McMeans, William E. Bowen, Daniel S. Love, James M. Denny, Lewis Iddings, Isaac Mendenhall, James J. Lash, John D. Black, Daniel Keehne and Julius Lang. All these except Heltzel, Colerick and Bowen, who are dead, reside in the county. The office of Auditor has been held by the fol-





*John Bowman*

YORK TP



lowing persons, to wit: Anson Greenman, William M. Clapp, William E. Lovely, John Young, Horace W. Baldwin, Daniel S. Love, Eden H. Fisher, James C. Stewart and William S. Kiser. Of these, Greenman, Lovely, Baldwin and Clapp are dead, all having died in this county, and the rest are still living here.

The following is a list of Commissioners: Northern District—Abraham Pancake, Henry Hostetter, Sr., Jacob Wolf, John T. Brothwell, James Smalley, John Childs, J. W. Learned, Charles Law, Jacob Wolf (second election), William Imes, George W. Mummert. Southern District—Joel Bristol, Oliver L. Perry, John Fulk, Otis D. Allen, Rufus D. Keeney, H. C. Stanley, James W. Long, D. W. C. Denny (appointed), George Ott, James H. Gregory, J. C. Stewart, Samuel Broughton, John P. McWilliams. Middle District—Zenas Wright, Thomas H. Wilson, Vincent Lane, Elihu Wadsworth, Leonard Myers, F. A. Black, Samuel Ohlwine, Orlando Kimmell, F. A. Black (appointed), William Broughton, John A. Singrey—making in all thirty-three different persons who have held the office in the county. Of these, fourteen are dead, thirteen still reside in the county and three have left the county, to wit: Myers, Gregory and Long. Long is living in Whitley County. The residence of the others is unknown. The foregoing list contains the names of all the persons who have held the offices referred to. There were some other offices of minor importance that have not been referred to, such as Coroner, School Commissioner, etc., in which the public would feel little interest. There is, however, one other county office, which at an early date did not amount to much, but which has since become second in importance to none in the county, and that is what is now called "County Superintendent of Schools," but was formerly known as "School Examiner." The Examiner at the time the county was organized was appointed by the Circuit Judge, and this power remained with the Judge until the adoption of the present constitution in 1852. The first appointment was made in 1837, when Westley White, Justus C. Alvord and Nelson Prentiss were appointed School Examiners. The duties were not arduous and there was no compensation provided for. After that time, and up to 1852, various persons were appointed, but as the records of the court have been burned, it is not possible to get all the names, but the following other persons are remembered as having officiated in that office: Finley Stevens, G. W. Sheldon, Stephen Wildman, Samuel E. Alvord, T. P. Bicknell, D. W. C. Denny, Dr. O. J. Vincent and probably others. One thing is certain, and that is, Mr. Prentiss remained one of the Examiners from 1837 until 1868 continuously, and after retiring from the position in 1868 was again elected in 1879 and in 1881, and now holds the office, having held it for thirty-three years, and, at the age of sixty-eight years, is discharging his duties in an acceptable manner.

After the organization of the county in 1836, and after the first election, Hon. Samuel C. Sample, of South Bend, was sent to organize the Circuit

Court and start the machinery of justice. As all the records in the Clerk's office were destroyed by fire in January, 1859, it is impossible to gather any information from that source, and hence many things that would be interesting are necessarily omitted. Judge Sample informed the writer that this meeting was in September, 1836, and that a grand jury was impaneled, who met under a large oak tree and transacted some business. On the first grand jury were Seymour Moses, William Wilmeth, George Benner, George T. Ulmer, Isaac Tibbott, Abraham Pancake and William Caldwell, and on the petit jury were Asa Brown, Henry Hostetter, Andrew Humphreys, Richard Bray, John Knight and Gideon Schlotterback. There may be others known to the old settlers who were on one of these juries, but the fact has not been made known. The grand jury returned two bills of indictment, one against Hugh Allison for assault and battery and one against J—— and Mc—— for larceny. Allison being present, was placed on trial and a verdict of "not guilty" was returned, when Allison treated court, jury and attorneys. The other case was not tried at that term, nor was it tried until nearly a year after. David H. Colerick, of Fort Wayne, was employed by the defendants, and being gifted as an advocate and having the ability to shed the "briny tear" at the proper time, so wrought upon the feelings of the jury that a verdict of "not guilty" was returned. But let it be remembered that the charge was stealing hogs, and every one knew that a pioneer would not steal pork unless he was hungry. This was the only court presided over in this county by Judge Sample. He was flanked on the right hand and on the left by Hon. James Latta and Elisha Blackman, Associate Judges. Since that time the following persons have held the office of Circuit Judge: Charles W. Ewing, Judge Chase, John W. Wright, James W. Borden, E. A. McMahon, James L. Worden, E. R. Wilson, Robert Lowry, James I. Best and Hiram S. Tousley, and the Associate Judges have been Elisha Blackman, James Latta, Jacob Stage, Thomas H. Wilson, Edwin Randall and David S. Simons. The office of Associate Judge having been abolished, none have been elected for many years. The office of Probate Judge has been held by Henry R. Burnam, Horatio M. Slack and Harrison Wood, and our Judges of the Court of Common Pleas have been Stephen Wildman, James C. Bodley, Sanford J. Stoughton and William M. Clapp.

While upon the subject of the judiciary, it is proper to speak of the distinguished members of the bar who have been in former times, and are now, members of the bar in Noble County. Daniel E. Palmer, now residing in Angola, was the first practicing attorney who located in the county, and subsequently William M. Clapp, John W. Dawson, Horatio M. Slack and James L. Worden. Hon. Stephen Wildman located here soon after. Before any attorneys located in the county, the business was done by attorneys from La Grange, Allen and Elkhart Counties. John B. Howe, of La Grange, David H. Colerick, Henry Cooper, William H. Combs, Robert Breckenridge, L. P. Ferry and Hugh McCulloch, of Allen, and E. M. Chamberlain,



Joseph L. Jernegan and Thomas G. Harris, of Elkhart, were the principal practitioners in the court of the county prior to the year 1842. Among the distinguished attorneys who have practiced in the courts since 1842 may be mentioned ex-Gov. Samuel Bigger, Judges John Morris and Robert Lowry, of Fort Wayne; Hon. W. A. Woods, of Goshen, now one of the Judges of the Supreme Court; Hon. James I. Best, of De Kalb County; Hon. John B. Niles, now deceased, formerly of La Porte; Hon. John H. Baker, Member of Congress for six years from this district, and his partner, Capt. J. A. S. Mitchell, and many others. The present bar of Noble County is composed of the following gentlemen: Fielding Prickett, Henry G. Zimmerman, Thomas M. Bells, James M. Denny, James S. Campbell, L. W. Welker, Thomas B. Felkner, Frank Prickett, John C. Swett, Luke Wrigley and Nelson Prentiss, all of Albion; G. W. Best, D. C. Van Camp, Daniel W. Green, Frank P. Bothwell and Harry Reynolds, of Ligonier; and A. A. Chapin, Robert P. Barr, Lucius E. Goodwin, Vincent C. Mains and Thomas L. Graves, of Kendallville. Among the early Judges who served in this county are to be found marked ability and the strictest integrity. Charles W. Ewing, the first Circuit Judge for this circuit, was a brilliant lawyer. He had much more than the usual mental endowments, and a thorough education, supplemented by extensive reading and study, had so developed his powers that he was a star of the first magnitude in his profession. He died comparatively young, and under circumstances peculiarly painful, and by his own hands. What prompted the act is not known, but it is highly probable that under some severe mental strain his mind became alienated and he thus committed the act.

Judge Chase only served one or two terms, and was but little known in the county. John W. Wright, or, as he was familiarly called, "Jack," served several years, and was considered a good Judge. He was social and affable in his intercourse with all, and yet when on the Bench he maintained the dignity of the place, and some of our courts of to-day would be improved by following his example. When among the boys, he was as much of a boy as any. At a session of the court, a blackleg bought a horse of "Charley Murray," and paid for it in counterfeit coin. The word spread, and a squad was organized for pursuit. The Judge adjourned court, mounted his Indian pony, and joined in the chase, which lasted all night. The Elkhart River was crossed several times, but there were no bridges, and "Jack" was with the foremost. The counterfeiter was captured, his case given to the grand jury, and the Judge was ready to try the case. A man having imbibed too freely, and becoming boisterous, Jack ordered the Sheriff to stop the noise, but the offender would not desist. "Take that man to jail," said the Judge. "There is no jail," replied the Sheriff. "Then," said the Judge, "take him away so far that he will not disturb the court and tie him to a tree." The order was obeyed, and quiet was restored. Judge Wright, at the time he presided over our courts lived in Logansport, and at this time is engaged in some business connected

with the Government at Washington. Judge Borden presided here for several years, and gave general satisfaction. He was a politician, and has written several articles, which evince a thorough study of the principles upon which our institutions are founded. He now resides in Fort Wayne, and, during most of the time he has been a resident of Northern Indiana, has held some official position. Judge McMahon, who succeeded Borden, was at the time a resident of Fort Wayne, and discharged his duties acceptably. He was the very soul of probity and honor, and the judicial ermine was not soiled in his hands. He was a good lawyer and an impartial Judge. If living, he is in Minnesota, whither he emigrated many years ago.

Of Judge James L. Worden little need be said. He was one of the early resident attorneys of Noble County, and is well-known to most of our citizens. From the time he first pitched his tent here, until the present, his course has been steadily upward, and to-day he holds the position of the leader of the Supreme Court. His decisions are quoted wherever the principles of the common law prevail. He is quiet and unassuming in his manners, calm and deliberate in his judgment, and is generally correct in his conclusions.

E. R. Wilson, who succeeded Judge Worden, was a young man at the time of his election, residing at Bluffton. He was the reverse of Judge Worden in some respects; he was impulsive and quick to form his conclusions, and yet the fact that his decisions generally stood the test in the Supreme Court, is the best evidence that he was correct. He was a popular officer, and yet from his peculiar temperament, was liable to make warm friends or bitter enemies. He resides at present at Madison, in this State. Judge Lowry resides at Fort Wayne, and is at present Judge of the Superior Court. He commenced the practice of the law at Goshen at an early day, and has steadily progressed until he is now recognized as one of the best attorneys of the State. Judge Tousley is now, and has been since 1848, a resident of Albion, and is probably as well known as any one living here. He has been identified with the interests in the county. At the present time he is suffering from disease. James I. Best, of De Kalb County, was elected Judge of this circuit, and discharged the duties of the position in a manner at once creditable to himself and acceptable to the people. His business, however, required his attention at home, and he resigned the office. He was subsequently employed by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company, as attorney for that road, but was selected as one of the Commissioners to assist the Judges of the Supreme Court, which position he now holds. All who have held the office of Associate Judges are dead, all having died in this county. They were all good men, and their lives and influence have had their effect upon the community. Harrison Wood is the last of the Probate Judges living. He resides at Ligonier, and is justly esteemed as a good citizen and an honest man. Judge Wildman is the last left in the county of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Clapp and Bodley being dead, and Stoughton, if living, is probably in Kansas. It would be

pleasing to take up and give a brief pen-portrait of each of the early attorneys who practiced here, but space forbids. For the present, a few reminiscences of early days must suffice. We have before spoken of two indictments returned by the grand jury at the first court held in the county, one of which was disposed of; the other, for larceny, was continued, and a warrant issued for the defendants. The larceny charged was that of some hogs belonging to a Mr. Spangle. The defendants had been arrested before this time upon a warrant issued by Jacob Wolf, Esq., the first Justice of the Peace of the county, who discharged the prisoners, the evidence not being sufficient to sustain the charge, in the opinion of the Justice. Hence, the case was brought before the grand jury. At a subsequent term of the Noble Circuit Court, held at the house of Richard Stone, in Sparta Township, the case was tried before a jury, and David H. Colerick was employed by the defendants. Colerick, it is said, charged \$25, which, in 1837, was considered a large fee. It is true that he had to travel forty miles on horseback to attend court, and the condition of the roads made it a two days' journey. It was said that Colerick gave some instructions to the one defendant, who was considered most guilty, as to his conduct pending the trial, which was about one year after the indictment was returned. During this time, no razor was permitted to be used on his face, and before the trial came on, J—— had a most magnificent beard, giving him quite a patriarchal appearance. The case was called, the jury impaneled, and the evidence introduced, and the Prosecuting Attorney made his plea. Colerick made one of his best efforts; he was a good advocate, and if any man could enlist the sympathies of the jury, he could do it. Colerick presented the legal aspect of the case and claimed that, under the testimony, it was uncertain whether the offense, if any was committed, was in Noble or Kosciusko County. Having disposed of the legal question, "Uncle Dave" went in on sympathy. He drew a graphic picture of the anguish of the families of the prisoners, at the mere suspicion of the crime, and pointing to J——, who sat there the picture of injured innocence, he said: "Gentlemen of the jury, look at that honest old Dunker who sits before you—honesty written on every line of his face—and then say if you can that he is guilty of *hog stealing*." Tears flowed freely from Colerick's eyes, the jury were affected, and even J—— himself gave evidence that he began to think that he was innocent, and wiped his weeping eyes on the skirt of his buck-skin hunting shirt. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," and the defendants were happy. It is said that the case stood as follows: Spangle lost his hogs, found where they had been killed and skinned, followed the track of a sled to the cabins of the defendants, and under the puncheon floor found *skinned* pork, and upon these *slight* circumstances accused the defendants of the larceny of his hogs. But those days are past, and we now require *stronger* proof before making such grave charges.

Henry Cooper, also of Fort Wayne, was probably one of the best lawyers who came to this county. His books were his idols, and he came as near

mastering the elementary works as any one could, and yet he never boasted of his knowledge. A young man, who had just commenced the study, once asked Mr. Cooper how long it would require for him to master the law. "I do not know," said Mr. Cooper; "I have been hard at work upon it for about fifty years, and just begin to see how little I know about it." A character in the early days of the county was George Powers, or, as he was generally called, "Old Powers." He was a pettifogger of the most offensive type, and knew little about law, but was quite a talker. Cooper thoroughly despised anything like quackery, and hence had no respect for Powers. Cooper was not a ready or fluent speaker, but was a strong logician. Meeting Powers in the hall of the court house at Augusta, he was addressed by Powers in this language: "Cooper, if I had your head, or you had my tongue, what a man would be the result." Cooper replied, "Powers, if you had my head you would know enough to keep your abusive tongue silent." Cooper was at one time a partner of the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, and might have stood at the head of the legal profession, but he yielded to the seduction of strong drink, and died a sad wreck of his former self. He was kind-hearted, and, in his last days, did not lack friends. Samuel Bigger, whose name has been heretofore mentioned, died in Fort Wayne in 1847. In 1840, he was the candidate on the Whig ticket for Governor, and his competitor was Gen. Tilghman A. Howard. Both were gentlemen, and together they canvassed the State, and each treated the other with the greatest courtesy. When they visited Noble County, they spoke at the house of Adam Engle, on Perry's Prairie, and stayed there overnight. In the evening, Bigger discovered a fiddle, and, taking hold of it, drew forth some fine music, which highly pleased Mr. Engle. Bigger was elected, and, after serving the State during his term, located at Fort Wayne and practiced in the courts of Noble County. At a term held at Port Mitchell, in 1845 or 1846, as the Governor was passing along, he met Engle, whom he recognized, and, approaching him, extended his hand, saying, "How do you do, my old friend?" Engle, who was quite old, did not recognize him, and replied, "Who be you? I don't know you." "My name is Bigger," was the reply. "Bigger, Bigger; I don't know you," continued Engle. Bigger replied, "I stayed at your house in 1840, when I was a candidate for Governor. Do you not remember me?" A sudden light seemed to break in, and, grasping the outstretched hand, Engle said, "Oh, yes; I remember. You are that fiddler." The joke was too good for Bigger to keep, and so he told the story. One more particular mention must close these reminiscences of the legal profession. E. M. Chamberlain, of Elkhart County, was a regular attendant at our courts at an early day. He was a man of strong intellectual powers, and as stern and inflexible in his devotion to the interests of his clients as it was possible for any one to be. He respected true merit, but dishonest practices were his abhorrence, and woe to the man who should attempt, by bribes or threats, to lead him from the path of rectitude. In person, he was tall and commanding; his



countenance was stern, and reminded one of that old hero, Andrew Jackson. In the management of his cases, his comprehensive mind at once grasped the strong points, and to these he clung, and cunning or sophistry could not drive him from his position. All who were present at the time will remember his last appearance here. It was after the burning of the court house at Albion, and the court was held in the Lutheran Church. An old man had fallen into the hands of a set of sharpers, who had succeeded in swindling him out of over \$10,000. Chamberlain was employed to unearth the dark transaction. He spent much time in the preparation of the case, and had obtained a full history of the facts, which he had embodied in complaint. Two of the defendants were present when he commenced the presentation of the case to the court.

As he proceeded to expose the transaction, and as link after link of the chain was unfolded, and as Chamberlain, warming with his subject and aware of the righteousness of his cause, hurled against them his charges, couched in such words as only he could string together, though all felt that they deserved exposure and punishment, yet all felt pity for the trembling culprits who were his victims. As if aware of the fact that he had them securely in his grasp, like the cat who sports with her prey, he would for a time relax his coils, giving them a short respite, then again tightening his hold, until at last he broke forth in a torrent of invective, at once so withering and overwhelming, that one of the defendants, unable to endure the mental torture, left the church and did not return until Chamberlain had closed. He was at one time a member of Congress from this district, was for many years Judge of the Circuit in which he resided, and held many offices of trust, and no official corruption was ever laid to his charge. To his family he was kind and indulgent, and the tenderness and affection of woman were as much his characteristics at home as was sternness and inflexibility in the discharge of his public duties. He died at his home in Goshen in the spring of 1861.

It is not certain who was the first physician who settled in the county. This distinction lies between Dr. Victor M. Cole, who located at Wolf Lake, and Dr. Dudley C. Waller, who came to Rochester about the same time. Both came in 1837, but it is uncertain which was first in the county. They were both considered good doctors, were both men of good hearts, and when called to minister to the suffering never asked whether they were sure of their pay. In fact, much of the service rendered by them was never paid for, and both died poor many years ago. Waller left the county in 1839, and returned to his former home in Vermont, where he died soon after. Cole is buried at Augusta, and it is uncertain whether the place can be identified. Dr. W. H. Nimmon was also one of the early physicians, having settled at Rochester in the latter part of 1839. He died in 1879, at Wawaka. Before any physicians settled here, Dr. Johnston Latta, of Goshen, practiced in the county, and Dr. S. B. Kyler, of Benton, and Dr. E. W. H. Ellis, of Goshen, were frequently called.

Dr. John H. G. Shoe lived at the Indian village, and though some said he was not much of a doctor, yet it must be admitted that he was a good singer, and that he was careful not to give medicines that would injure any one, as he never kept any on hand.

Jacob Wolf, Esq., of Perry Township, who settled here in 1831, says that the first sermon preached in the county was in the summer of 1832, and that it was preached on Perry's Prairie, by a Presbyterian minister from South Bend, but is unable to give his name. Rev. Robinson, of the M. E. Church, and Rev. Plumstead and Christopher Cory, Presbyterians, preached here at a very early day, and a Presbyterian Church was organized as early as 1836 on the Haw Patch, but whether it was in Noble or La Grange is not settled. Members of the church lived in both counties, and services were held at the house of William McConnell, in La Grange, and also at Isaac Cavin's and Seymour Moses', in Noble. In 1837, Mr. Cavin and Mr. Moses built a log cabin near the place where the Salem Chapel now stands, which served the double purpose of a church and schoolhouse. This was the first building in the county used for these purposes aside from private houses. In this house, humble though it was, the fathers and mothers met to worship God, and with sincere hearts gave devout thanks that they had even such a temple. Here Seymour Moses taught a school. From this small beginning, what results are seen! From the log cabin, erected at a cost of only the labor of a few pious settlers, we have now within the limits of the county fifty-four churches, erected at a cost of over \$200,000. If genuine piety and religion have advanced in proportion, what a power for good would now go out from Noble County!

The first marriage in the county was that of Lewis Murphy to a sister of Isaac Tibbott. The bride was one of the children brought here by Joel Bristol in 1827, and at the time Noble County was attached to Allen, and the marriage license was procured at Fort Wayne. The next was that of Gideon Schlotterback to Miss Mary Engle, in 1833, when this county was called La Grange. After the organization of Noble County, the first marriage was that of Jacob Baker, who died last spring. Schlotterback is still living, and is hale and hearty. Murphy left the county a long time ago, and whether living or dead is not known to the writer.

There has been some conflict of opinion as to who was the first white child born within the limits of Noble County, but it seems to be settled now that it was a son of Henry Miller. Miller came to the county in November, 1831, and on the 31st of December of that year his wife gave birth to a son, who lived but a few days or weeks, this being, so far as is known, the first birth as well as the first death of a white person in the county. The father died three years ago; the mother is still living. On the 8th day of August, 1832, Simon Hostetter, son of John and Mahala Hostetter, was born on the Haw Patch, and he is still living, being the first white child born in the county that lived to maturity.



*Mary Bowman*

YORK TP.





The first post office in the county was established in 1833, and, at the suggestion of Jacob Wolf, was named "Good Hope." Henry Miller was the first Postmaster. The mail was carried from Fort Wayne to Niles once in two weeks. John G. Hall carried the "bag" on a spotted ox or some other kind of masculine bovine. The receipts of the office were from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per quarter, hence there was not much strife for the place. Miller became tired of handling the mails and resigned, and Jacob Shobe became Postmaster, and the office was kept at the old Shobe farm in the southwest part of Perry Township. Subsequently the office was removed to Stone's Tavern, and thence to Ligonier, and the name changed from Good Hope to Ligonier.

The first house for a residence was built by Joel Bristol in Noble Township, but there was a brick house erected by the Government on Section 30 in Sparta, the exact date of which is not certain, but was some time between 1816 and 1821. A fuller account of this house will appear in the history of Sparta. The first hewed log house was built by Jacob Shobe in 1833, and the first brick residence was built by Jacob Wolf.

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## CHAPTER III.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

EARLY ROADS—MANNER OF VIEWING, IMPROVING AND SUSTAINING THEM—MAIL ROUTES AND STAGE LINES—THE PLANK ROAD—RAILROADS AND COUNTY STOCK—NOBLE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—STOCK REARING—THE SEMINARY FUND—THE COUNTY PRESS—THE BLACKLEGS AND THE REGULATORS.

THE first traveled highways which extended across Noble County were the Fort Wayne and Goshen road and the Fort Wayne and Lima road, each having been surveyed prior to the organization of the county in 1836, pursuant to special acts of the State Legislature. The precise time when these enactments were approved cannot be learned, but was probably about the years 1832 or 1833, as, at that time, both the roads were quite well traveled by settlers who lived in the older localities, at the extremities of the road distant from Fort Wayne. At that time, there was quite a large settlement at Lima, in La Grange County, while few, if any, settlers had located along the road in Noble County. The same is true of the Goshen road, save one settlement a few miles southeast of Wolf Lake. Both roads, at that early day, were mere winding paths through the woods, twisting around on the higher lands and abounding in mud-holes that apparently (if the statements of old settlers are to be believed) went through to China. It is stated that, when the pioneers first began to locate along the main roads, they would often keep a team of oxen or horses, and the necessary rails, to assist in extricating unfortunates from mud-holes, charging the modest sum of 25 cents to \$1 for the trouble. Soon

the worst places were bridged over by rude log bridges, that were swept away by every freshet, and the long places of swampy road were corduroyed with rails, logs and brush. It was the custom, when a new road was petitioned for, to appoint competent "Viewers," who were to traverse the route, and report upon the practicability of opening the road. If the Viewers reported favorably, the State authorities ordered the clearing and working of the road, so as to make it passable for all sorts of teams. The Lima road, although surveyed about the year 1833, was not opened throughout its entire length until about 1837; but, if reports are correct, the Goshen road was opened about the time the county was organized. Previous to that time, neither had been worked, save here and there where some benevolent settler had seen proper to expend a few days to mend some bad break. Even after the roads had been opened, great trouble was experienced in keeping them in repair, and very often they were almost impassable. Probably, the third road in the county was the one branching from the Goshen road north of Cromwell and running north, through what is now Ligonier, to the State line, in the direction of White Pigeon. This was ordered surveyed not far from the year 1838, and perhaps a year or two earlier, and came into existence largely through the influence of citizens living on "Perry's Prairie," who had petitioned the Legislature for the road. In 1843, the State road, extending from Columbia City to Augusta, was ordered surveyed, and John Hively and Joel Bristol were appointed special Road Commissioners to establish this highway. They employed Thomas Washburn as Surveyor. The road was eighteen miles long, ten being in Noble County. The same year, another road was ordered built from Columbia City to a stake in the Goshen road, on the line between Townships 34 and 35 north, of Range 8 east, the whole road being twenty-two miles long. The special Road Commissioners were Stephen Martin, Ross Rowan and John Prickett. The following explains itself:

*To the Commissioners of Noble County:* In pursuance of an act of the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, appointing the undersigned Commissioners to locate a State road, from the forks of the roads near Isaac Tibbott's in Noble County to the county seat of La Grange County, said Commissioners hereby report that they met at the beginning point on the 12th of June, 1842, and after being sworn to faithfully discharge the duties of said appointment, and after employing the necessary number of hands, proceeded to survey and mark said road. We believe it will be a road of great public utility, and return it for public use. For a further description, we beg leave to refer you to the following field notes, all of which are respectfully submitted.

[Field notes subjoined.]

JOHN L. STIENBERGER,  
ABRAHAM BROWN,  
WILLIAM F. BEAVERS,

*Commissioners.*

This road was 33 miles in length, 12 $\frac{3}{10}$  miles being in Noble County, and 20 $\frac{9}{10}$  miles in La Grange County. In 1843, a State road was constructed from Kendallville to Perry's Prairie, the Commissioners being Mr. Trowbridge, Jacob Sparbeck and Daniel Bixler. Previous to about the year 1844, all roads which touched more than one county were built at the expense of the

State; but, at that time, this procedure was altered, and the counties were required to construct their own road, being authorized to levy, under stipulated conditions, the necessary tax for that purpose. Immediately after this, the Commissioners entered upon an active and much-needed system of constructing public highways, and the citizens were quite heavily taxed to secure the necessary funds. From that time until the present, scores of roads have come into existence.

Some time about the year 1847, a company of wealthy men at Fort Wayne, and along the Lima road, associated themselves together, with a capital stock of about \$70,000, for the purpose of transforming the old Fort Wayne and Lima road into a plank road. Pursuant to the law of the State, this road was leased\* by the company for a term of years, and saw-mills were erected all along the line to furnish three-inch oak plank, which was to be laid down on suitable sills, at right angles to the direction of the road. The planks were sawed and laid down in 1847 and 1848, and toll-gates were established from six to ten miles apart, and superintendents of sections, living along the line, were employed to keep the road in repair. The plank road was fifty miles long, and, in some places, deviated from the old Lima road. A few small dividends were struck, but the road failed to repay the stockholders for the outlay of construction, and the stock steadily depreciated in value. Many of the largest stockholders at Fort Wayne and along the road were wise enough to get rid of the stock to Eastern capitalists, upon whom much of the burden of failure fell when the enterprise collapsed. Toll was collected on portions of the road until about 1858, when the route was turned over to the County Commissioners.

There were well-established mail routes along the Lima road and the Goshen road several years before the county was organized, the mail being carried on horseback, or, as in the case of John Hall, the carrier along the Goshen road, on the back of a male bovine of gentle disposition. These continued to be the principal mail routes for much of Northeastern Indiana, for many years. From time to time, branches were established at various points. As early as 1844, a route was established from Wolf Lake, on the Goshen road, *via* Port Mitchell and Albion, to Lisbon, on the Lima road. Another early mail route is said to have extended from Good Hope, on the Goshen road, to either Rome City or Lima, on the Lima road, passing *via* Rochester and Springfield. Several other routes were established for the convenience of localities, but not by the Government. The Lake Shore Railroad did away with many of the old routes, and new ones were established from stations on this road to the various towns in the southern part of the county. Finally, the presence of other railroads rendered these routes unnecessary, and now they have about all disappeared. The vast improvements that have been made in the means of overcoming labor, save such as is necessary for exercise to preserve the health

\* The real conditions as to how the company got control of the road are unknown to the writer, but from conversation with men prominently connected with the project, the facts appear to be as stated in the text.

and spirits, have driven many irksome and burdensome tasks from the obstacles to be met by human endeavor.

The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway Company was formed, in 1869, by the consolidation of the following four railroads, each of which had previously been formed of two others: Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana, Cleveland & Toledo, Buffalo & Erie and Cleveland, Painesville & Ash-tabula. The Michigan Southern was projected in 1837, through the southern part of that State, from Monroe on the east to New Buffalo on the west; but was not continued on to Chicago until 1852. Of the Northern Indiana Railroad, the *Chicago Times*, of 1877, has this to say: "In 1835, John B. Chapman, of Warsaw, Ind., a member of the State Legislature, introduced a bill for the incorporation of the 'Atlantic and Pacific Railroad.' He was ridiculed out of this ambitious title, and finally consented to come down to 'Buffalo and Mississippi Railroad,' but would not yield another mile." Work on the road was begun in 1835; but in 1837 came the financial crash that doomed the railroad to a sleep equal in duration to that of Rip Van Winkle. An effort at resuscitation was made in 1847, culminating, finally, in the road's passing to the Litchfields, under the name of Northern Indiana Railroad. The work went on slowly until at last, in 1855, the Michigan Southern and the Northern Indiana were consolidated with a union of those two names. The road was completed through Noble County early in 1858. Under the presidency of the Vanderbilts, the road is paying its stockholders dividends. So far as known, the citizens of the county contributed nothing toward the construction of the road.

The corporation first known as the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company was duly incorporated and organized by articles of association, bearing date January 18, 1854, with power to construct, maintain and operate a railroad from the town of Hartford, in Blackford County, Ind., to a point on the north line of the State, in the direction of Grand Rapids, Mich. Afterward, by various articles of consolidation and incorporation with other roads, it assumed the above corporate name in June, 1857, and at that time had a declared capital stock of \$2,800,000, including large tracts of valuable timber land grants in Northern Michigan; but the paid-up capital of the company was so small that it was found impossible to meet the expense of constructing the road, in which case, the land grants, after a certain date, would revert to the Government. To prevent this, various expediciencies were resorted to, and at last extension of the time for the completion of certain portions of the road was obtained. Work was resumed under several contracts, one of which was with George W. Geisendorff, of Rome City, dated December, 1864, to build and equip fifteen miles of road, understood to be between the latter town and La Grange, Ind.; \$19,000 paid by Mr. Geisendorff to the company were expended on the road north of Grand Rapids. Still the company found itself unable to continue the completion of the road, and a new executive administration under the old organization was effected, that some relief might be obtained.



Confidence was partially restored, and the citizens along the road in Noble and La Grange Counties subscribed about \$200,000 in aid of the work, the most of which was payable conditionally, and hence was unavailable until the conditions had been complied with. Soon, after considerable difficulty, another extension of time to January 1, 1868, was obtained. The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad was solicited for help, and furnished it conditionally by indorsing certain stipulations on fifteen hundred \$1,000 bonds of the issue of January, 1860. But this seemed to afford only temporary relief, as, in April, 1869, a number of responsible parties living in New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and known as the Continental Improvement Company, obtained such control of the Grand Rapids Company that the completion of the road was rapidly pushed forward, with the aid of a declared capital of \$2,000,000, owned by the last-named corporation, until, in December, 1873, the road, constructed and completed in accordance with the contract, was turned over to the Grand Rapids & Indiana Company. Thus it was, that after a long, distressing struggle for life, the road, at the price of large profits, was placed upon a permanent running basis. It is of incalculable value to La Grange and Noble Counties; although the trade in some localities has been divided, but the counties on the whole have been greatly benefited. Kendallville has been injured in some respects, and benefited in others. Avilla has found a decided improvement.

For some years prior to 1872, the Chicago & Canada Southern Railway Company announced its intention of passing across the northern part of Noble County, provided suitable aid was secured from the citizens along the route. The townships through which the road was to pass were called upon to vote aid; but all did not respond. The question of levying a small tax for this purpose was submitted in each of the townships, and carried in Perry and Wayne only. The tax to be paid by Perry amounted to \$19,000; and that of Wayne to \$20,500. Of these amounts about \$1,000 were paid; but the citizens were then relieved by legislative enactment from any further payments, and the \$1,000 was returned to the tax-payers. Thus was severed all connection with the road. The Eel River Division of the Wabash Railway passes across the extreme corner of the county, and was constructed and equipped in about the year 1872.

Early in 1872, the townships Allen, Jefferson, Albion, York and Sparta were called to vote a tax to aid the present Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Allen refused such aid, although she would undoubtedly receive greater benefit than any of the others. The vote in Jefferson was 187 for, 75 against; the tax amounting to \$3,078.60. That in Albion 103 for, none against; tax, \$3,380.80. That in York 131 for, 19 against; tax, \$2,793.95. That in Sparta 115 for, 25 against; tax, \$3,796.15. Total tax voted, \$13,049.50, of which \$12,322.99 have been paid to the company. The grain buyers at the stations on this road report that, on account of direct transportation to Baltimore, an

Eastern sea-board, the other roads not having such direct transportation, a higher price can be paid for grain by them than by buyers on the other roads. Farmers confirm this statement, and govern their sales accordingly.

The Noble County Agricultural and Horticultural Society had its origin in 1855, in accordance with an act of the Legislature, providing that the citizens of a county might institute the necessary conditions for a county fair. In response to notices posted up or published at the time, a meeting of the citizens was called to effect such an association, and some thirty or forty persons appended their names to a code of by-laws, and paid \$1 each, after which the necessary officers were elected to carry into effect the measures adopted by the membership. A fair, with a few premiums offered, was announced to be held on the farm of Mr. Bassett, a few miles northwest of Albion, during the fall of 1855; and on that occasion there was a respectable display of county products, notwithstanding that the premiums offered were few and made proportionally small, contingent on the failure of the receipts to meet the obligations of the society. The gate-money was not far from \$60. Horse-races were witnessed around the quarter-of-a-mile track; but the time made need not be mentioned. The fair continued to be held annually on Mr. Bassett's land for some four years, when it was removed to a ground of five or six acres, owned by Mr. Clapp, a portion of which is now covered with houses, being the northern part of the county seat. In 1865, by sharp management on the part of Ligonier, it was voted to remove the fair to the latter place, where Mr. Harrison Wood had offered a nice ground with a half-mile track to the association without charge for the first year, and \$30 for each subsequent year. This movement was opposed by most of the citizens at Albion, several of whom grind their teeth at the recollection even to this day. The fair was held on Mr. Wood's land for twelve years, and was then removed to the present ground, about a mile west of Ligonier, which at that time was purchased by an association of stockholders for \$1,700, there being about twenty-three acres. The stock (about eighty-five shares) is owned by some forty-five individuals. These stockholders rent the ground to the association. The receipts were largest about two years ago, being not far from \$1,600; of late years they reach on an average about \$1,000 annually. They probably did not exceed \$100 prior to the removal of the fair to Ligonier. The directors are usually elected, one from each township, and from these the officers are chosen. The usual premiums are paid for all varieties of live stock, products of the farm, manufactured implements and ornaments, plants and flowers, fruit, wearing apparel, kitchen products, etc., etc. The Agricultural Society is in a fairly prosperous condition, although there have been times in its history when the outlook was decidedly unpromising. So it is with all enterprises that tend to bind society closer, or remove the films from the eyes of humanity. The present officers of the society are: W. W. Latta, President; J. H. Hoffman, Secretary; John Weir, Treasurer; J. C. Zimmerman, Superintendent. In

1866, there was organized at Ligonier a "Live Stock Association," which is yet in existence, and has for its object the making of money through that decidedly laudable means—the improvement in stock, or, more specifically stated, the improvement in horses. Three magnificent Clydesdale stallions were purchased at a cost of \$7,200. There are about twenty stockholders in this association, four of whom own the greater portion of stock, as follows: John Morrow, Harrison Wood, Dr. Palmiter and William Hays.

There is one subject which can be as well mentioned in this chapter as in any other. Reference is made to what was known in early years as the "Seminary Project." Not far from the year 1840, the State Legislature passed an act authorizing the County Commissioners to levy a tax for an amount not to exceed a certain figure, the same to be applied toward the erection of a seminary for the education of youth. This the Commissioners of Noble County did; and Elisha Blackman was made "Seminary Trustee and Treasurer," to whom were paid all funds for this project. Money flowed in, while the county-seat was at Augusta, until the amount reached nearly \$2,000, when, for some reason which the writer, after patient inquiry, could not learn, the whole scheme collapsed, and the money collected was either turned over to the tax-payer, or placed with the school fund, upon what terms are unknown. Thus the experiment died.

From the time of the earliest settlement until about the year 1858, Noble County (and, indeed, all Northern Indiana, Southern Michigan and Northwestern Ohio, besides other localities) was so infested by horse-thieves, burglars, highwaymen, counterfeiters, manufacturers of bogus coin, murderers and outlaws and desperadoes of every description, that no honest man with money or valuable possessions could say with assurance that either himself or his property was at any time safe from their attack. The entire period was one long mild reign of terror and apprehension. About the time that Noble County was first settled, or from 1830 to 1840, the notorious counterfeiter of Summit County, Ohio, James Brown, a man of great natural ability, and one of the most daring, audacious and successful "blacklegs" in all the country at the time, managed by adroitness and cunning to so surround himself and his company of kindred spirits with secrecy and mystery, that all efforts to shatter the organization were for many years defeated and baffled. It will be seen by the reader that many of the most notorious blacklegs of Noble County came from Summit County, Ohio, or vicinity, and received their first instruction in the school of the infamous James Brown. The entire system of outlawry in Noble County undoubtedly sprang from that in Summit County, Ohio, and vicinity; as the dreadful business here was first inaugurated by men either directly or indirectly from that locality. It is not the design in this volume to enter into the details from which a large book might be entirely written. Nothing but an outline can be given. From the fact that scores of men, now honored and respected residents of the county, were connected with the blacklegs, either in the capacity of

thieves, or as manufacturers or passers of bogus coin and counterfeit bills, it is thought best to mention as few names as possible in this brief narrative. The children and grandchildren of James Brown are yet living near Akron, Ohio; and, without exception, are all upright and law-abiding citizens. And yet they all feel that their father's infamy is a dark blot on the family name and honor. So it is in a score of instances in Noble County. Hundreds of the best citizens are connected by ties of consanguinity with blacklegs, whose names have become synonymous of disgrace and dishonor. Prudence would dictate, then, that in this volume the subject should be treated generally, that the feelings of delicacy and shame in the hearts of descendants may be spared, and the family name and honor be cleared of infamy.

New countries are always the haunts of criminals and outlaws. There they find security, secrecy and that lack of law which specially favors their atrocious deeds of villainy. Noble County at once became the headquarters of scores of convicts and criminals, and soon gained national repute as a perfect hot-bed of sagacious crime. In California, after the gold excitement had somewhat subsided, any man, it is said, who announced himself as coming from Noble County, Ind., was regarded with suspicion and distrust. So it was as far east as Maine, and as far south as Florida. Peace officers all over the United States and Canada heard of Noble County, and wondered why the gang of blacklegs was not broken up and dispersed. While it is true that horses, merchandise, money, and, in short, any property wanted by the blacklegs, were taken from the citizens of Noble County, yet it was not done to that alarming degree as to rouse the people of the county to a concerted effort against them until about 1856. A large, well-organized band of criminals made Noble County, among other places, the headquarters where counterfeit bank bills were made, where bogus coin was minted, and where stolen property of all kinds was secreted until the ardor of pursuit had abated, and the property could be disposed of. Criminal action was not confined to the county, nor to Indiana; but spread into all the neighboring States, and even West into the Territories. This is what, more than anything else, rendered the name of Noble County odious and detestable. It was the harbor of all villains. It was where they found sympathy and encouragement, security and assistance. Here they could dispose of stolen property. Here they obtained counterfeit bank bills and bogus silver coin. Here they were secreted from irate owners of stolen property and from pursuing peace officers. All this assistance, security and protection were furnished by resident blacklegs, men of seeming integrity, who were often wholly unsuspected by their nearest neighbors of having any complicity in the nefarious practices. Further than this, the very men secretly engaged in assisting criminal procedure were elected to the most prominent official positions in the county. The County Sheriff at one time (and perhaps others) was a notorious blackleg. It was next to impossible to secure a jury of honest men. Lawyers were blacklegs. Constables in almost every township were corrupt





*Orlando Kinnell*

YORK TP.



and criminal. For these reasons, the laws were ineffectual and powerless. In all law-suits other than against blacklegs, the demands of justice were strictly complied with as far as the blacklegs were concerned, as it was to their interest to appear honest and law-abiding. But, when horse-thieves or passers of counterfeit money were charged with crime and arraigned, it was found next to impossible to convict them. They usually managed to escape on one pretext or another.

It is necessary to begin at the earliest settlement of the county, and trace the growth both of crime and of the efforts made to curtail or terminate it. As early as 1836, Alpheus Baker, residing in the eastern part of the county, lost three valuable horses the morning after his arrival. As many as a dozen other horses were taken during the same year; and, prior to 1840, there must have been at least fifty horses "pulled" from residents of the county. No township or locality was spared. Men dared not keep fine horses, and many were wisely contented with animals too worthless to be bothered by thieves. In 1839, the first real movement was made against the blacklegs. This will be found narrated in the chapter written by Mr. Prentiss. Some twenty were arrested, against nine of whom bills of indictment were found, but all managed to escape the punishment they no doubt deserved. In about 1842, William Mitchell and Asa Brown, who had assisted in the arrest of horse-thieves from Ohio, two men who had fled to Noble County for protection, were repaid for the act by the burning of their barns. About the same time, stores at Rochester and other places in the county were broken open, and considerable property was taken by burglars. Men were attacked in their own cabins, and compelled at the muzzle of pistols to hand over their ready money. Peddlers were stolen from in much the same manner, and widespread apprehension of robbery and even murder was felt. About this time, a public meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a society for the protection of property, and for raising the necessary funds to pay for detecting and capturing thieves and other criminals. This meeting is said to have been held at Kendallville. With startling audacity and presumption, the very men who habitually protected and harbored criminals, were loudest in their denunciations of all blacklegs, and most earnest in their declarations that something must be speedily done to check the alarmingly prevalent commission of crime. They thus became perfectly familiar with all the schemes to detect and capture blacklegs; and of course were enabled to completely baffle all such attempts. The results of the meeting were thus rendered abortive.

While every township had its blacklegs and rascals, perhaps the most notorious place was in the northeastern part of the county, in and around Rome City, and a little farther north, at a spot known as "The Tamarack." In this vicinity, several of the most notorious leaders of the blacklegs resided. The physical features furnished excellent facilities for the secretion of stolen property of all kinds. It was in this vicinity that, so far as known, the only bogus coin

was manufactured in the county, except, perhaps, in Noble Township. In the latter place, while it is clear that the necessary implements for manufacturing bogus coin were found, yet there is no conclusive evidence that such coin was minted there. Men lived there who dealt largely in the coin, buying it for about 25 cents on the dollar of those who did manufacture it, and passing it at every opportunity to travelers and others. There is reasonably conclusive evidence that counterfeit bank bills were engraved and printed in Noble Township. It is related that one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of Noble Township audaciously admitted to every one that he had any amount of bogus coin. He is said to have answered a man who wanted to borrow money of him, "Yes, come over; I have plenty. I know it's good, because I made it myself." It is also stated that he bought a piece of land of the Government Agent at Fort Wayne, paying for the same with bogus silver coin. Speaking of this transaction, he said, "The money was so d——d hot it burnt my fingers." An engraver of bills resided in Noble Township; also a signer of the same.

The Tamarack was a notorious place. Both counterfeit bank bills and bogus coin were manufactured in this vicinity. Hundreds of men were induced to pass bad money, who would not assist in the manufacture. Hundreds of men would buy and secrete stolen property, who would have nothing to do with stealing. Hundreds of young men were led into a more or less guilty complicity in criminal practices. This was one of the principal reasons why rascals could not be detected. So many were in some manner connected with the blacklegs, that neighbor dared not trust neighbor, and all concealed the truth. A certain chivalrous dignity became attached to the term "blackleg," that adventurous young men could not resist. They were thus gradually led into crime. It must be understood that, while there was no boldly open and concerted opposition to the execution of the laws in the capture and conviction of criminals, yet the efforts of honest officers were avoided and the requirements of the law frustrated. Honest men were not wanting; they lacked unity and secrecy of action. All their plans became at once known to the blacklegs, and they were thus for many years outwitted and misled. Perhaps no one individual among the honest men of the county was responsible for the lack of unity and secrecy in the conviction of criminals; and yet it is strange that, during all the long years of guilt and fear, no united and determined effort was made to end the "reign of terror." It cannot be said that there was not a sufficient number of honest men, as the criminals were comparatively very few. The execution of a few horse-thieves or counterfeiters by "Judge Lynch" would have ended the reign of crime in its infancy. It is a matter of wonderment that something of the kind was not done. What could the honest men have been thinking about? Are they altogether free from blame?

During the period from the earliest settlement until the power of the blacklegs was broken, many criminals were made to suffer the penalty of their misdoings. Six or eight persons, several of whom yet reside in the county,



were sent for short terms to the penitentiary. The blackleg leaders could not be caught by the mild efforts made; neither could the gang be broken up. At last, lawlessness had become so widespread, that the State Legislature, in 1852, enacted a law authorizing the formation of companies of not less than ten nor more than one hundred persons, with all the rights and privileges of constables, in the detection and apprehension of criminals. Strange as it may seem, no movement in pursuance of this law was made in Northern Indiana until 1856, at which time the "La Grange County Rangers" came into being. Within the next three years, thirty-six other companies were organized in Northern Indiana. The following were those formed in Noble County: Albion Rangers, Jefferson Regulators, Lisbon Rangers, Noble County Invincibles, Port Mitchell Regulators, Perry Regulators, Swan Regulators, Sparta Guards and Wolf Lake Sharpers. Perhaps there were several others. About five hundred men belonged to the companies organized in Noble County. The Lisbon Rangers numbered eighty-one members, the Swan Regulators sixty-one, the Port Mitchell Regulators sixty and the Perry Regulators seventy-nine. While the law undoubtedly brought these companies into existence, some of them went beyond the stipulated legal authority conferred upon them. The law gave them no right to try, convict or execute criminals. The authority conferred was confined to the *detection and arrest* of law-breakers. Any company that went beyond this was acting without proper legal authority. Each company adopted a constitution and by-laws, setting forth the various objects of the society. Any person making application for membership was required to bear an untarnished name, to make a solemn pledge of secrecy, and to subscribe his name to the constitution and by-laws. The deliberations of each company were kept in profound secrecy until the contemplated arrests were made. Any man against whom suspicion rested, unless he cleared himself to the satisfaction of the regulators, was denied membership in any company. This state of affairs soon completely overthrew the power of the blacklegs.

During the autumn of 1857, the first shot was thrown in the ranks of the enemy. "The first public demonstration was a grand parade of the regulators on the 16th of January, 1858, at an old settlers' meeting at Kendallville. Soon after the arrival of the morning train, and just before the organization of the meeting, about three hundred men on horseback moved down in majestic strength through the streets of the town, bearing mottoes and banners of every description, one of which contained a representation of the capture of a criminal with the words, '*No Expense to the County.*' After a full display through the principal streets, they repaired to the common near the Baptist Church, where several speeches were made, severely denouncing the blacklegs, and setting forth the intention to forthwith end their infamous deeds. This, to Noble and adjacent counties, was the star of hope—the omen of better days in Northern Indiana."\* Many blacklegs were in town, who saw with fear that they

\* From History of the Regulators of Northern Indiana, by M. H. Mott, Esq., of Kendallville.

could no longer control things as they had formerly done. Early on the following day (Sunday, the 17th of January, 1858), a posse of fifteen or twenty members of the Noble County Invincibles, from Ligonier, proceeded to Rome City, and arrested nine (afterward five more) of the most notorious blacklegs, one of them being Gregory McDougal, all of whom were taken to Ligonier and placed in confinement to await investigation. A separate and private conference was had with each man, and an opportunity afforded him to make a full confession, after which he was returned to confinement to await the action of the Regulators. In most cases confessions were volunteered, but, in a few instances where they were refused, a rigid means of extorting them was adopted. In this manner a more or less complete confession was obtained from each blackleg arrested.\* From the time of the arrest until the 25th of the same month, thousands of people went to Ligonier to see the rascals and watch the movements of the Regulators. Every train brought in men who had been stolen from, and who had come forward to ascertain from the confessions where their property could be found. Scores of witnesses appeared from all quarters, even from the Eastern States, with damaging testimony against the culprits. In every confession, men were implicated who had previously borne an irreproachable character. This led to many additional arrests. One of the rascals had stolen thirty-six horses, besides a large amount of store goods. Every confession was a continuous and shocking recital of theft, burglary, assault, counterfeiting and other crimes. A committee of five of the most prominent Regulators was appointed to decide what was to be done with the blacklegs. This committee heard the confessions, questioned the prisoners, and examined witnesses. A few arrested parties were dismissed for want of damaging testimony. All the others, except McDougal, were turned over to the legal authorities.

The career of McDougal had been much more infamous than any of the others. By his own confession, he, with the assistance of others, had stolen in less than a year thirty-four horses; had broken two jails; robbed four stores and two tanneries; taken the entire loads of two peddlers, besides a large amount of harness, saddles, buggies and other property, and had passed large amounts of counterfeit money. He publicly boasted that no jail could hold him, and that he feared neither God, man, nor the devil. The Deputy United States Marshal of Michigan stated to the committee, under oath, that in Canada a reward had been offered for the arrest and conviction of McDougal, who was charged with robbery, jail-breaking at Chatham, and murder. The Marshal (a Mr. Halstead) also testified that he went to Canada to investigate the matter, and there learned that McDougal had killed a jailer's wife in order to free his brother from confinement. The testimony of a confederate of Mc-

\* Prominent men at Ligonier, who were Regulators, and who participated in the examination and punishment of the blacklegs, informed the writer that several of the criminals refused to confess until they were threatened with lynching. Ropes were brought in and even placed around the necks of the villains; this generally brought them to their senses. It is said that one man was actually suspended by the neck for a few minutes, and then let loose, after which his confession was given without further ceremony.

Dougal confirmed this evidence of murder. It was also testified by the same witnesses, and others, that McDougal had robbed and murdered a school teacher on the ice in Canada. One witness also testified that McDougal and several others had tortured an old Scotchman with fire to compel him to hand over his money. All this evidence satisfied the committee, and the Regulators generally, that McDougal was guilty of murder. The testimony was carefully considered; the whole subject was calmly and impartially scanned and discussed, and the committee finally, on the 25th of January, unanimously adopted the following report:

We, the committee appointed by the Noble County Invincibles, to collect and investigate the evidence in the case of Gregory McDougal, now pending before this society, ask to make the following report: After having made a full and fair investigation of all the testimony, and having found during said investigation evidence of an unmistakable character, charging the said Gregory McDougal with murder, do recommend that the said McDougal be hung by the neck until dead, on Tuesday, the 26th of January, 1858, at 2 o'clock P. M.

Soon afterward the following resolution was passed:

*Resolved*, That the captains of the several companies of Regulators in Noble and adjoining counties notify the members of their companies to appear at Ligonier on the day of execution, at the hour of 12 M., and that each captain be requested to escort his own company into the village in regular file and good order.

The above report, recommending the hanging of McDougal, was submitted to the large assemblage of Regulators present, and on motion was received and adopted. It should be noted by the reader that, while the whole country was roused up at the prospect of the execution, and while Ligonier was filled to overflowing with excited men, the investigating committee was calm, just, deliberate and rational, and the great body of Regulators thoughtful and determined. All felt the responsibility of executing the sentence of death upon a fellow-mortal; and the decision was only reached after nearly two weeks of impartial investigation. McDougal, no doubt, had as impartial a trial as he could have received in a regularly authorized court. Of course, the Regulators had no legal right to put him to death. But it has been the custom the world over from time immemorial, when the law is inadequate to afford protection to life and property, for the people to arise and calmly put offenders beyond further power of committing crime. In a case of this character, when a fair and impartial trial is afforded the accused, when competent men are appointed to defend (as in the case of McDougal), when all proceedings are deliberate, wise and just, and *the law cannot afford that protection guaranteed by the constitution*, society recognizes the right of the people to punish criminals, even to the extent of taking life. This was precisely the state of affairs in the trial and execution of Gregory McDougal. It may be presumed that the investigating committee knew what they were about when they recommended his execution. While McDougal confessed multitudes of crimes, he never admitted having committed murder, even when standing on the scaffold.

Soon after the decision to hang McDougal was reached, he was informed for the first time of the doom that awaited him. Prior to this, he was careless

and defiant. He declared he could not be frightened, and made profane and insulting remarks to those around him. When he was officially told that he was to be hung at 2 o'clock on the morrow, he became confused and affected, and made some wandering remarks. He asked for a clergyman, and also desired that his wife be sent for. This lady and her little child—the child of McDougal—arrived at 7 o'clock the next morning, and learned for the first, from the lips of her doomed husband, of his impending fate. She was completely overcome with frenzied sorrow. McDougal, though perfectly composed, wept freely, and lamented his fate. The poor wife wept violently and bitterly, and the little child, catching the reflex of sorrow, cried with its parents. McDougal firmly denied that he had committed murder; and his wife, on her knees, with streaming eyes, implored the Regulators to wait until her husband's innocence could be established. She begged that his execution might be delayed until some one could visit Canada; but her prayers were unheeded. The final separation was hard; but McDougal resolutely kissed for the last time the sweet faces of his wife and child, and was hurried away. He was placed in a wagon which contained his coffin, and driven to near Diamond Lake, accompanied by a large crowd. Here a rope was fastened to the limb of a tree, a plank was extended from the top of the wagon to a prop at the other end, and the doomed man was given a last chance to address his fellow-beings. He spoke for about five minutes, declaring solemnly that he had never committed murder, but had stolen much property. He advised young men to take warning from his fate, justified the intention of the Regulators to break up the gang of blacklegs, and finally declared his belief that God had forgiven his sins. His face was then covered, the rope was placed around his neck, the prop was knocked out from under the plank, and in a few moments Gregory McDougal was pronounced dead. That was the soberest occasion ever occurring in Noble County. McDougal lies buried near Rome City. His execution produced a profound impression in all the surrounding country; and the power of the blacklegs was completely broken, and the guilty members scattered in all directions—fugitives from the law.

Two things remain to be noticed concerning the McDougal case: The right of the regulators to take the law into their own hands in the execution of the death sentence upon a fellow-mortal, and the conclusiveness of the testimony charging McDougal with murder. In regard to the first, it may be said that society, more especially in a new country, where the law is slack or altogether wanting, has always asserted the privilege (or the right) of hanging horse-thieves. While such action is often deprecated, yet the world at large condones and frequently applauds the offense. The servants of the law, knowing the sentiment of the public on this question, submit to the act and secretly say: "I'm glad of it." When, however, the crime of horse-stealing is repeated again and again under peculiarly atrocious circumstances and through many successive years; when numerous assaults coupled with highway



robbery and burglary are added; when the infamous career of crime is darkly burdened by one or more distressing murders, and when the law is lifeless and inert—who will undertake to say that society is not entitled to the privilege (and perhaps the right) of calmly, justly and deliberately taking human life? But it cannot be said that, in 1858, the law could not be executed; neither was it necessarily inoperative through the preceding twenty years. Nine out of every ten men in the county were honest. Why did they not execute the laws? It was also seriously doubted at the time, even by the Regulators, whether McDougal was really guilty of murder. One of two things is certain: If McDougal was hung on the testimony that he had committed murder, and would not have been hung if such testimony had not been given, then either the investigating committee were satisfied of the conclusiveness of the testimony, or they willfully perjured themselves, and outraged the public, in recommending his execution. The report of the committee does not state that “unmistakable evidence of McDougal’s guilt” was found; but that “unmistakable evidence *charging* him with murder” was found, and in consequence of the *evidence* of the murderous *charges* his execution was recommended. It is reasonably inferred from the report, that the committee were *not* satisfied that McDougal had committed murder; but that they recommended his hanging on general principles, because, by his own confession, he was an infamous villain, and because the charge of murder was *tolerably well* substantiated. Perhaps they also thought that his death would terrify his companions, and break up the gang of blacklegs. This is the view taken of the case by the great majority of citizens. It was afterward ascertained, beyond doubt, that the persons alleged to have been murdered by McDougal were yet living in Canada. In view of this fact, it is said that Halsted must have perjured himself before the committee. One thing is certain: When Halsted visited Ligonier some time afterward, he left the town in a hurry in fear of being lynched.

Another man, a resident of the county, came very nearly being hanged by the Regulators. The proposition to hang was at first carried by vote; but was afterward reconsidered and then lost by a small majority. He served a term of two years in the penitentiary. Another notorious rascal, a traitor to his comrades, gave a great deal of valuable information to the Regulators. Six or eight of the principal leaders of the blacklegs had managed to escape, and, to capture them, a Central Committee was organized at Kendallville, on the 19th of March, 1858, and empowered to tax subordinate companies for funds to carry on the detection and pursuit. The officers of the Central Committee were: President, Dr. L. Barber; Vice President, J. P. Grannis; Secretary, M. H. Mott; Treasurer, Ransom Wheeler. They offered a reward of \$400 for one man, who was soon afterward brought forward by an enterprising Ohio Sheriff. This man was known as John Wilson, but the name was assumed. He refused to disgrace his parents by having his real name known. His confession was six hours long. He was remarkably crafty, and finally escaped from the Noble

County Jail. A reward of \$500 each was offered for the capture of Perry Randolph and George T. Ulmer. C. P. Bradley, a detective of Chicago, undertook the task, and, after following them over large portions of Kentucky, Ohio and Pennsylvania, finally captured both, and brought them in irons to La Grange County. Both were sent to the penitentiary. Another desperate character was William D. Hill. He fled to Iowa at the first outbreak, but was finally traced by Bradley and another Chicago detective, C. E. Smith, and, after a hard fight of fifteen minutes, was captured and brought to the Noble County Jail. He had often said that he would never be taken alive; he feared the Regulators. He escaped in the night with Wilson from Jail. Much more of interest might be said, but this will suffice. The "reign of terror" in Northern Indiana was at an end.

During the spring of either 1859 or 1860, Mr. Judson Palmiter, of Ligonier, a man of bright intellect, who had previously been connected with the Ligonier *Republican* in an editorial capacity, went to Kendallville and established the *Noble County Journal*, the first newspaper ever published there. The political complexion of the *Journal* was Republican; subscription price, \$1.50 per year; and soon a circulation of about five hundred was secured, but was afterward about doubled. The *Journal* was published by Platt & McGovern. The editor, Mr. Palmiter, was a cautious, forcible writer; and the local columns of the *Journal* were crowded with terse, spicy news. In the prolonged editorial fight between the *Journal* and the *Standard*, the editor of the former was determined, skillful, and often justly wrathful and vindictive. His words were daggers, and his sentences two-edged swords. He conducted the paper with abundant success until the latter part of 1868, when the office was sold to Brillhart & Kimball, and J. S. Cox took the editorial chair. The *Journal* continued thus until the 1st of January, 1870, when it was purchased by Dr. N. Teal, who, in August of the same year, transferred the entire property to C. O. Myers, and the *Journal* was then consolidated with the *Standard*.

The Kendallville *Standard* was established in June, 1863, by Dr. C. O. Myers, there being at the time already a newspaper in the town; but the excellent business qualifications, practical experience, and indomitable energy of its founder, soon placed it in the front rank of county journals. The *Standard* has always been a stalwart Republican paper, fearless and independent; and from its inception to the present time has received liberal patronage and universal public confidence. Several of its contemporaries and rival publications have gone "where the woodbine twineth," while the *Standard* has been steadily growing in patronage, power and influence, and now enjoys a larger circulation than any other paper in the county. The *Standard* editorials were extremely bitter, dealing out invective and denunciation that rankled long in the heart of enemies, while friends were treated with uniform kindness and courtesy. Political and other differences between the *Standard* and the *Journal* were fought to the last ditch; and the personal enmity engendered will



*Julius Lang*  
COUNTY TREASURER





long be remembered by the citizens of the county. On the 1st of November, 1880, Dr. Myers sold the *Standard* office, which he had occupied successfully for seventeen and a half years, to the present proprietor, H. J. Long, an experienced newspaper man, who had been connected with the paper since 1865, in the capacity of foreman. Mr. Long has fine business qualifications, vast energy, and carries a cautious, trenchant pen; and the paper, under his management, is constantly extending its circulation. M. T. Matthews, a young man of fine ability, is local editor of the *Standard*.

The first issue of the *Weekly News* appeared on the 13th of November, 1877, the editor and proprietor being Dr. A. S. Parker, an old and respected citizen of Kendallville, where he located in 1857. Nearly two years before the first issue mentioned above, Dr. Parker had purchased the paper, which was then at Garrett, and had continued its publication there until compelled by the pressure of hard times to make a removal, which he did, as stated above. The first issue comprised 200 copies only, as but little effort had been made to secure subscribers, though the 200 copies went permanently into 200 homes. It started out without any special friends to boot or back it up. Without assistance, the editor and his family have labored until at present the circulation reaches nearly one thousand, and new names are added to the roll daily. Its politics is Democratic, though its editor is not so blind a partisan as to believe all that is good politically is within his party. The paper is on a solid financial basis. Two good printers are employed, one being Archie Dodge and the other Wadsworth Parker. The *News* is a six-column quarto, is newsy, and every citizen should have it. It contains the latest market reports from large cities, and devotes several columns to agriculture and farm interests, and to city and county news. Subscription price, \$1.50 per year. It is one of the best papers in the county.

The short-lived papers of Kendallville have been as follows: In 1862, Barron & Stowe issued a small neutral paper, about twelve by fifteen inches, designed to circulate among the many troops then quartered there, making a specialty of war news and incidents of camp life, especially those in the camp at the town, and affording an excellent means for the advertisements of merchants and others to reach the ears of the "b(h)oys in blue." The circulation soon ran up to nearly 500, and continued thus for about two years, when the office was sold to Mr. C. O. Myers.

In the latter part of about 1869, Hopkins & Platt began the publication of a small paper called the *Daily Bulletin*; but, after it had continued a few months with partial success, the official management was greatly altered, the publishers becoming Platt & Hopkins, and Thomas L. Graves taking the editorial chair. The paper was re-christened the *Independent*, came out with a bright face, and designed to be, as its new name indicated—independent. At the expiration of a few months the office was removed to Michigan, and the *Independent* ceased to exist. Its death occurred in 1870, while the circulation

was about 300. In about 1872, the Roof Brothers began publishing the *Semi-Weekly Times*, a small sheet, neutral politically, and designed as an advertising medium. It was issued about six months and then perished. About the time of the great temperance crusade in Kendallville, some ten or twelve years ago, a temperance magazine, published and edited by Shafer & Lash, was issued monthly for about six or eight months. It was an earnest exponent of temperance principles; but its death was contemporaneous with that of the enthusiasm arising from the crusade.

Rome City has enjoyed the luxury of several newspapers. In May, 1876, the Rome City *Review* made its appearance under the editorship of Dr. Thornton, who, after a few months, sold the office to J. R. Rheubottom, a printer of twenty-five years' experience. The paper was strongly Republican. In September, 1876, the office was removed to Wolcottville. In March, 1879, Mr. Rheubottom established at Rome City the Rome City *Times*, an exponent of that phase of national politics, known as "Greenbackism." The *Times* was a small sheet, 22x34 inches, and succeeded in securing a circulation of about 500; Mr. Rheubottom being both editor and publisher. At the expiration of about seven months the paper ceased to exist. In February, 1879, Revs. Lowman and Warner established at Rome City a religious periodical, entitled the *Herald of Gospel Freedom*. It was devoted to the interests of the Northern Indiana eldership of the Church of God. It was issued semi-monthly, at seventy-five cents per year, and was a five-column folio. It was removed to Indianapolis in 1881. For several months during the year 1880, W. T. Grose conducted at Rome City a Republican newspaper called the Rome City *Sentinel*, but after the October elections of the same year the paper became defunct.

In the month of August, 1856, a party of citizens from Ligonier visited Sturgis, Mich., for the purpose of inducing the proprietors of the Sturgis *Tribune*, Messrs. E. B. Woodward and E. D. Miller, to move their office and paper to Ligonier, offering as an inducement a money consideration, a guaranteed subscription list of 2,500 six-month subscribers, and a liberal patronage of advertising and job-work, providing they would move immediately, and commence the publication of a thorough Republican paper, and advocate the election of John C. Fremont for President of the United States. The Republicans of Ligonier were without an organ at that time, and, thus being forced to submit to the adverse criticisms of a keen Democratic editor in an adjoining town, determined to have their cause (for which there were many radical partisans) upheld and protected. They therefore did as stated above. In less than two weeks after the above offer, the first issue of the Ligonier *Republican* made its appearance, the mechanical work being done by Messrs. Woodward and Miller, and the paper being ably edited by one of the citizens, Mr. Adrian B. Miller, a man of bright intellect, and a fluent as well as a very sarcastic writer. The *Republican* was published during the campaign of 1856,

and about the first of the following year was sold to the leading members of the Republican party at Ligonier; Mr. J. R. Randall taking the management, editorial and otherwise; Mr. E. B. Woodward entering the practice of law, and Mr. E. D. Miller (to whom the writer is indebted for this sketch) going to one of the Western States.\* Early in 1857, Palmiter (Judson), Arnold and Pierce became editors and publishers, under the direction of a company of about forty stockholders, several of whom resided at Albion, Kendallville, and other portions of the county. Some changes were made in the editorship, Oscar P. Hervey occupying the "sanctum" for a short time. Finally, in the spring of 1860 (or perhaps 1859), Mr. Judson Palmiter purchased the office apparatus, except the press, and, moving to Kendallville, began the publication of the *Noble County Journal*.

During the early summer of 1861, J. R. Randall, who had been editing the *Noble County Herald*, at Albion, removed the office to Ligonier, still retaining the old name of the paper. Mr. Randall was an earnest, though prudent writer, careful whom he offended, but fearlessly upholding the Republican cause. He published the paper about two years and a half, securing a circulation of about 500, the subscription price being \$2. In the fall or winter of 1863, the office was sold to C. O. Myers and H. B. Stowe, the politics remaining the same, Mr. Stowe being actual editor. In about a year the office was sold to J. B. Stoll, who changed the name and politics of the paper, or rather issued a new paper. W. T. Kinsey established the *Ligonier Republican* about the spring of 1867, and continued the paper through the campaign of 1868, and then the venture terminated.

Early in 1880, a number of leading Republicans in Ligonier and vicinity, feeling the need of a party organ in their town, opened a correspondence with Mr. E. G. Thompson, of Michigan, with the view of making the necessary arrangements for issuing a Republican paper at Ligonier. This was effected, and, on the 4th of June, 1880, appeared the first number of the *Ligonier Leader*, an eight-page, forty-eight column newspaper, Mr. E. G. Thompson editor and publisher. The first edition, numbering 600 copies, was exhausted within three days, the subscription price per annum being \$1.50. The *Leader* began a fearless attack on the erroneous political and social questions of the day, withholding no honest conviction of opposing men and parties, but upholding the Republican banner with ceaseless energy, and to the satisfaction of its patrons. Through the earnest efforts of all interested in the success of the paper, the circulation steadily increased until at the close of Volume I the editor claimed a *bona fide* circulation of 1,300 copies per week. An interesting feature of the paper, and one that has contributed greatly to its success, is the department devoted to local correspondence. The success of the paper is assured, and the Republicans of Ligonier may congratulate themselves on hav-

\* Dr. Palmiter, of Ligonier, and several other citizens there say, that Mr. J. R. Randall did not edit this paper as stated in the text. According to Mr. E. D. Miller, Mr. Randall was in for a few weeks, and was then succeeded by Palmiter (Judson), Arnold and Pierce.

ing so excellent an implement of warfare to attack the powerful *Banner*. In 1865, Mr. J. B. Stoll, then on a visit to the county from Pennsylvania, was urged by Messrs. Baum, Walter & Co., of Avilla, to establish in Noble County a thorough Democratic newspaper. Prominent members of the Democratic party of the county were conferred with, and an arrangement agreed upon early in 1866, by which the first issue of the *National Banner* appeared on the 3d of May of the same year. The most active promoters of the project were Messrs. Baum, Walter & Co., Gilbert Sherman, Henry C. Stanley, Samuel E. Alvord, Owen Black, Howard Baldwin, James M. Denny, Jerome Sweet, James Skinner, John A. Bruce, James McConnell, Abraham Pancake, J. J. Knox, E. B. Gerber, C. V. Inks, David Hough, Dr. Parker, F. W. Shinke, Peter Ringle, Reuben Miller and others, who thoroughly canvassed the county and secured a paying list of subscribers for the new paper. As the county had been without a Democratic paper for a number of years, and as the Republicans had naturally grown haughty from successes and lack of opposition, the *Banner*, in its fearless expression of political conviction, in its sweeping and relentless denunciations of opposing party policy, encountered such a storm of opposition, that threats were finally made in the fall of 1866 to mob the office. But, back in the secret recesses of the sanctum, quiet but determined preparations were made to receive the enemy, which, however, failed to appear on time. The paper was edited and published by J. B. Stoll and Thomas J. Smith; subscription, \$2.50 per year; but, after the October election in 1866, Mr. Smith sold his interest in the *Banner* to his partner, who became, and is to this day, sole editor and proprietor. Mr. Smith returned to the Key Stone State, where he still resides, enjoying a lucrative practice as a disciple of Blackstone. At the beginning of the third volume, the *Banner* was enlarged to an eight-column folio, and the office supplied with a Campbell power press, the first cylinder newspaper press ever introduced in Noble County. The paper, immediately after its first issue, became the Democratic party organ in the county, and its editor, to give it strength and permanence, and to infuse new life into the members of his party, proceeded to effect an organization in every township, delivering speeches, and urging his fellow Democrats to present a bold front to the enemy. The *Banner* soon secured a large circulation, which it has retained until the present, never falling, since 1868, below 1,000. The Democracy of the county, under the stimulus of the dauntless *Banner*, grew in power, and, of course, in self-esteem. In 1875, the office was supplied with steam. Prior to this—in 1872—Mr. Stoll erected the two-storied brick building in which the *Banner* is now established, fitting the same expressly for a printing house. In January, 1879, the name of the paper was changed from the *National Banner* to the *Ligonier Banner*, a name yet retained; and the paper was enlarged from an eight-column folio to a six-column quarto, or from thirty-six columns to forty-eight columns. The politics of Noble County was revolutionized in the fall of 1870, when most of the candidates on the Demo-



cratic county ticket were elected. This gave the *Banner* the official patronage, to the dismay of its competitors. During the fifteen and a half years of the *Banner's* existence it has never missed a single issue.

John W. Peters, the faithful foreman of the *Banner* office, has been connected with the paper since its first issue, having come with Mr. Stoll from Pennsylvania. Employed in the *Banner* office as apprentices and job printers have been, among others, James U. Miller, now publisher of the *Steuben Republican*; W. K. Slieffer, now publisher of the *Angola Herald*; Herbert S. Fassett, one of the present publishers of the *South Bend Register*; John H. Eldred, now foreman of the *La Porte Argus*; E. G. Fisher, now a citizen of Colorado; Miss Ida King, now proof-reader in a leading Chicago publishing house, and Jacob Sessler, job printer in Toledo.

*Later.*—On the 3d of December, 1881, James E. McDonald, of Columbia City, purchased a half-interest in the *Banner* for \$3,000, the co-partnership, Stoll & McDonald, to date from the 1st of January, 1882, and Mr. McDonald to assume the editorship of the local department, Mr. Stoll still remaining general editor. On the 5th of December, 1881, Mr. Stoll purchased two-thirds interest in the *Elkhart Daily and Weekly Democrat*, the contract to become effective on the 1st of January, 1882.

In the spring of 1849, William H. Austin, of Albion, moved into a vacant room in the court house a small press and a quantity of second-hand material, and there began the publication of the *Noble County Star*, a neutral paper, the subscription price of which was \$1.50 per annum. A circulation of about three hundred was soon secured. A young printer, named William Norton, was foreman and actual editor. He also wrote largely for the paper original stories, sketches and poems. Norton was a youth of more than ordinary talent and literary culture, and his effusions gave to the paper a tone superior to the average of country newspapers at that time. Austin, the proprietor, was a genial, jolly fiddler of exceptional skill. He went far and near as the chief musician for dances, and thus made nearly money enough to defray the expenses of his newspaper. During the winter of 1849–50, Mr. Austin sold his press and material to Samuel E. Alvord, a law student from Northern Pennsylvania, who, being on a prolonged visit to an uncle at Northport, was engaged in teaching there and at Rome City. With this sale, the publication of the *Noble County Star* ceased.

In March, 1850, Mr. Alvord removed the press and materials from the court house to a vacant business building on the northeast corner of York and Jefferson streets, belonging to the estate of Jacob Walters. Having arranged and put up his establishment, found a partner (Homer King, of Fort Wayne) and a foreman (James B. Scott, also of Fort Wayne), the new venture was ready for launching. On the 6th day of June, 1850, appeared the first number of the *Albion Observer*, a Democratic newspaper; Alvord & King, publishers and proprietors; S. E. Alvord and H. King, editors; the subscription being

\$1.50 per annum. The *Observer* was an exponent of that phase of Democratic sentiment called "Free-Soilism," being an advocate of the limitation of slave territory by Democratic agencies. In this, at that time, it was in harmony with the platform of the Indiana Democracy, adopted in 1848. The publication of the *Observer* by Alvord & King continued until the winter of 1851-52, when King retired and went to California. The paper was continued by S. E. Alvord until December, 1852, when it stopped. Its greatest circulation was about four hundred. Advertising and job patronage was exceedingly "thin," and the paper was not self-supporting. Of the personnel of the *Observer* during its brief career of thirty months space will not allow much to be said. Homer King, the junior proprietor (not in years), an ex-merchant of Fort Wayne, was a man of good business education, very genial, generous and popular, and withal of a keen, critical mind. His social proclivities were too preponderant for financial success. James B. Scott, the foreman during the first few months, was then a man of thirty-seven, an excellent printer, faithful, prompt and thoroughly honorable and reliable. He had great experience of men and parties, and possessed sterling good judgment and a quaintly philosophical turn, which, with his sympathetic nature and ready wit, made him a charming companion and a trusted friend. He established a paper at Delphi, Carroll County, about twenty-six years ago, and is still there—an honorable citizen, wealthy, respected, socially and politically influential, and happy in his home. Others, of course, came and went, leaving their varied memories: S. A. Jones, the brilliant writer and speaker, who set type, composed poems, made speeches and wrestled with delirium tremens; the bright, eccentric Buckwalter; the steady, faithful Young, etc., etc. Two apprentices graduated in the office—Charles B. Alvord, who became a fast compositor and who has shown his handiwork in nearly every State and Territory during an erratic career of twenty-eight years as a wandering printer, and Hiram Walters, an excellent printer, now a citizen of Chicago.

On the discontinuance of the *Observer*, a small local paper called the *Noble County Expositor*, devoted exclusively to the financial and official affairs of the county, was issued by S. E. Alvord, and continued about three months, the last issue being in March, 1853. It was not a partisan paper, and dealt independently with matters in Noble County. From this time until the summer of 1854, there was no paper published in Albion; but, at the latter date, John W. Bryant came from Warsaw, Kosciusko County, with an old-fashioned Franklin press and old printing material, and commenced the publication of the Albion *Palladium*, a Democratic paper. Shortly afterward, Theodore F. Tidball became a partner with Bryant in the publication and editorship of the *Palladium*, and the paper was issued from an office then located just east of the present site of R. L. Stone's drug-store. The building belonged to William M. Clapp. In the spring of 1855, the press and types were seized under a writ of replevin or attachment from Kosciusko County. Deprived of his press,

Bryant went to Columbia City, Whitley County, with his compositors, where, by "doubling teams," the *Palladium* and the Democratic paper of Whitley County were both issued weekly from one press. The *Palladium* was folded and addressed and brought over to Albion in a buggy every week, and published and distributed there. S. E. Alvord accompanied Bryant, and gratuitously gave his services as assistant editor during the Whitley County episode, which lasted until the autumn of 1855, Tidball being in the meantime engaged in organizing a stock company of Democrats for the purchase of a new press and materials. This was accomplished, and, in the fall of 1855, the paper was re-established in Albion under the name of the *Noble County Palladium*, Tidball & Bryant, editors and publishers. It was a decidedly Democratic sheet, and engaged with great activity and vim in the somewhat bitter partisan discussion of that time. The *Palladium* lived through the campaign of 1856, and stopped near the close of that year.

The press and types of the *Palladium* were purchased of the stockholders by S. E. Alvord, and in February, 1857, was commenced the publication of the *Noble County Democrat*. The proprietor, S. E. Alvord, was editor, and at first associated with himself, as publisher, G. I. Z. Rayhouser, of Fort Wayne.

The *Noble County Democrat*, under the successive foremanship and management of W. T. Kimsey, George W. Roof and John W. Bryant, and under the editorship of S. E. Alvord (except during the summer and fall of 1858, when George W. Roof was editor as well as publisher), completed two volumes, and was then discontinued until September, 1859, when a new series, still under the name *Noble County Democrat*, was commenced by Edward L. Alvord, a printer from the New York *Tribune* office. Subscriptions were limited to four months—none being received for a longer period, and at the end of four months, being about the 25th of December, 1859, the *Noble County Democrat* became finally defunct.

During the latter part of 1860, Joshua R. Randall, having bought of S. E. Alvord the printing press and material of the *Noble County Democrat*, commenced the publication of the *Albion Herald*. He had associated with him at different times a Mr. Starnèr and W. W. Camp, an ex-Methodist preacher. Starnèr was chiefly distinguished, and is mentioned, as the man who, on a small bet, ran about 160 rods, barefooted, in the snow on a cold winter day. The result of the exposure was natural—but he pulled through. Camp was (externally) a polished little fellow, generally wearing well-fitting gloves and a nobby air. Randall, the proprietor, was a man of some literary ability and of good sense. Shortly after the commencement of the last war, he removed his office and paper to Ligonier. About the beginning of 1866, A. J. and William F. Kimmell, hardware dealers, started a small periodical called the *Albion Advertiser*. The paper, though small, was bright and promising. In it was published a series of articles on the history of Noble County by Nelson

Prentiss.\* W. F. Kimmell, getting the Nebraska fever, discontinued the publication the next year. The press and types of the little *Advertiser* were purchased by C. O. Myers, and by him put away in a corner of his office. Several years of destitution followed until the fall of 1872, when S. E. Alvord once more entered the newspaper business. In September, he purchased a small press and types for the purpose, at first, of printing cards and small bills for advertising purposes; but, being strongly importuned by many citizens, consented to issue a small paper called the *New Era*. For about three months the *New Era* was published on a quarter medium sheet with a Novelty press, after which time it was enlarged to a half medium and printed for a time on a common hand press. A few weeks later it was enlarged to a six-column folio. The paper met with abundant success, and in the fall of 1874 was enlarged to eight columns, and a Fairhaven power press added. The subscription ran rapidly up until, in the fall of 1875, it numbered 1,200. It was an independent journal, and was published by S. E. Alvord until January, 1876. On the first of January, 1876, Jacob P. Prickett and Thomas A. Starr purchased the *New Era* of Samuel E. Alvord, and commenced its publication as an independent Republican paper, under the firm name of Prickett & Starr. It was at that time enlarged to a nine-column folio. On the 25th day of April, 1878, the partnership was dissolved, J. P. Prickett retaining control of the paper as editor and proprietor. On the 17th day of October, 1878, in the face of an overwhelming defeat of the Republican party in the county, the *New Era* became no longer non-partisan, but became an advocate of Republican principles. On the 1st day of January, 1879, it was reduced in size to an eight-column folio, and continued as such until the 1st day of January, 1881, when it was enlarged to a six-column quarto.

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## CHAPTER IV.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION, OF 1812 AND OF THE MEXICAN WAR—LOYALTY AND DISLOYALTY SHOWN WHEN SUMTER FELL—MASS MEETINGS OF INDIGNANT CITIZENS—THE FIRST CALL FOR TROOPS—THE PROGRESS OF ENLISTMENT—COUNTY BOUNTY AND RELIEF FUND—THE ENROLLMENT AND THE DRAFT—INTERESTING INCIDENTS—CELEBRATIONS—SKETCHES OF THE REGIMENTS—AID SOCIETIES—NOBLE COUNTY'S "ROLL OF HONOR"—STATISTICAL TABLES.

NOBLE COUNTY has had but little to do with any war in which the United States has been involved, either with foreign nations or with rebellious subjects, except the great rebellion of 1861. No resident citizen of the county, so far as known, except one, had any participation in the Revolutionary war. This one was Nathaniel Prentiss, father of Nelson Prentiss, of Albion. When the colonies threw off the galling and burdensome yoke of

\*These articles, some thirty in number, have been very useful to the writers of the county history, who hereby return many thanks for the use of the same.





John  
Will. Mottet



Great Britain, Nathaniel Prentiss was a youth of but twelve years of age. He entered the service of his country as servant to one or more continental officers, and continued thus three years, at which time, being large and strong enough to carry a gun, he enlisted as a soldier proper. He fought at the battles of Saratoga, Princeton, Trenton and Monmouth; was present at West Point when Maj. Andre, the British spy, was captured, and witnessed his lamented execution; was with Gen. Washington during his encampment at Valley Forge; was shipped on board a continental privateer, and finally captured by the British and confined one winter in the hold of the renowned prison-ship "Jersey," which bears about the same relation to the Revolution that Andersonville Prison does to the rebellion of 1861. He was then, with others, taken to the Island of Jamaica and kept in confinement until the close of the war, and then came to the United States, via South Carolina, walking thence to Connecticut, and arriving home on Sunday; whereupon he was arrested by the authorities, and fined by the barbarous laws of the Nutmeg State for violating the Sabbath. He was a Revolutionary pensioner from about 1824 until his death, in 1839. He lived about two years in the county, and now lies buried in the cemetery at Ligonier. His wife drew his pension from 1839 until her death in 1861.

The following residents of the county, among probable others, whose names cannot be learned, served in the war of 1812: Andrew C. Douglas, now dead; Niah Wood, dead; James McMann, dead; Adam Kimmell, Sr., who served six months in Pennsylvania; he was a pensioner of the Government for a number of years; he came to the county in 1852; died in 1870;\* Andrew B. Upson, dead; James Mael, living in Iowa at last accounts; Henry Kline, dead; John Johnson, dead; Alexander Montroth, died about a year ago; Peter Black, dead; Daniel Wiley, dead, was at the battle of Plattsburg; Daniel Johnson, dead; Mr. Wilson, died a few years ago within a few days of the age of one hundred years; was with Lewis and Clarke on their expedition to the Pacific coast, and was on board the Constitution when it defeated and sank the Guerriere; and Sheldon Perry, dead. Nothing further could be learned of soldiers in the war of 1812.

The knowledge obtained of the soldiers of the Mexican war is no better. The following is the brief record: Joseph Braden, yet living; James C. Riddle, living; James J. Knox, living, who went from Mansfield, Ohio, in the Third Regiment of that State; James Hinman, living, who also served at the age of about sixty-three years in the last war; he enlisted but was rejected; he then employed a barber and a tailor, who succeeded in making him appear about forty years of age; whereupon he was accepted as fifer in the Thirtieth Regiment, and served his country through the war; Aaron Field, living; George Hart, living; J. H. G. Shoe, died in the service; Jefferson Smith, dead; Mr. Gibbs, dead; Harvey McKinney, died in the service; Stark Bethel,

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\*From information furnished the writer by Adam Kimmell, Jr., Albion.

dead; James Galloway, died in the service; Joseph Crow, dead; and George Carlyle, dead. Of these, J. H. G. Shoe, Jefferson Smith, Mr. Gibbs, Stark Bethel and James Galloway went from Noble County. The most of the others went from Ohio or other portions of Indiana. It is said that a partially-formed militia company at Ligonier, Rochester and that vicinity offered their services as a body for the Mexican war, but were refused, as the quota was already more than full. Several of the Noble County boys resided at or near Wolf Lake. They were in the Second Regiment Indiana Volunteers, commanded by Col. Lane, and served along the Rio Grande River, participating in no engagements of note. In common with all northern troops who went into the hot and peculiar climate of the "Land of the Montezumas," they suffered terrible hardships from privation and disease. Some of them lie buried under a tropical sun in the far-off land of Mexico; and their graves, like the tomb of Moses, are unknown. The brave boys who fought in Mexico must not be forgotten.

It is unnecessary to give a summary of the causes which led to the war of the rebellion. Historians persist in calling it the "Irrepressible Conflict," meaning thereby, that the antagonism which had slowly developed through a long period of years between the North and the South by the questions of slavery, State sovereignty, the tariff, and all their kindred attendants, could never be peaceably settled. Occurring, as the war did, but twenty years ago, its weary marches, dreadful sufferings from disease, daring achievements on the field of battle, and the fearful thought that the South might be successful, are yet green in the recollection of maimed and honored participants. Continued and extensive preparations for war were made in the South long before the North ceased to believe that the differences which bitterly divided the two factions of the Government might be amicably adjusted. Armed and hostile bands of the rebellious citizens of the South seized, at every opportunity, large quantities of military stores, and took forcible possession of important strategic points; but still, the North was hopeful that peace would prevail. Statesmen in the North viewed with reluctance or contempt the steady and extensive preparations for war in the South, and refused to believe its presence until the first blow fell like a thunderbolt upon Fort Sumter, and, at the same time, upon the faithful hearts of loyal people. President Lincoln, with that kind forbearance, that sublime charity, which ever distinguished him, wisely hesitated to begin the contest. Hot-blooded Abolitionists in the North urged him repeatedly to strangle the hydra of secession in its infancy; but still he hesitated. Even when Sumter fell, the North still believed that the rebellion would be quelled in ninety days. But, as time passed on, and the large bodies of troops failed to control or quell the aggressive and daring movements of the confederate armies, and the sullen tide of steady reverses swept over almost every field of battle, the hope of the North for peace died out, the gloom of probable national disaster and disunion filled every heart, and for many desolate months the outlook was dark and forbidding.



When the news of the fall of Sumter swept over the country like a flame of fire, in all places the most intense excitement prevailed. Men everywhere forgot their daily employment, and gathered in neighboring villages to review the political situation and encourage one another with hopeful words. The prompt call of the President for 75,000 volunteers the day succeeding the fall of Sumter, sent a wave of relief throughout the anxious North; and in every State more than double the assigned quota of men, without regard to political views, tendered their services and their money to the suppression of the rebellion. Fiery and indignant mass meetings were everywhere held, and invincible determinations of loyalty prevailed. There was not a town in Noble County in which the citizens did not gather to listen to loyal and eloquent words from Republicans and Democrats. The War Democrat was a good fellow. His sentiments toward the South were undergoing a change; and like all true converts he entered, heart and soul, into the wrathful public gatherings that were held to indignantly denounce the rebellion. The Abolitionist fairly boiled over with fiery determination to avenge the shameful insult offered to the "glorious old flag." Here and there in the county was found a man who soberly shook his head and remarked, "Well, I suppose if the South is determined to go out of the Union, we'll have to let it go. I don't think the Government has a right to compel the Southern States to remain. I am opposed to the war." But such sentiments were speedily borne down by the intense loyalty everywhere prevailing.

One of the first public meetings in the county in response to the news of the fall of Sumter and the call of the President for 75,000 volunteers was held at Wolf Lake, and is thus described by Colonel Williams, who, at that time, resided there:

"The citizens of Wolf Lake and vicinity assembled at the old hotel in the village, then kept by 'Uncle George,' as everybody called the proprietor, George W. Matthews; everybody was excited, indignant and boiling over with a consuming desire to do something. During the campaign of the year before, the two political parties had erected each its distinctive political pole on the public square in front of the hotel, the one flying on its flag the names of Lincoln and Hamlin, the other the names of Douglas and Johnson. The Democratic pole was cut down during that winter, but the Republican pole, being an unusually tall and shapely one, was allowed to stand, and on the fall of Fort Sumter, the maul and wedges (the rail-splitter emblems of the Republican party at that day) were still dangling from the top. 'What shall we do?' The writer hereof was urged by all to 'say something.' I proposed, after briefly reciting the exciting news of the hour, that we take down the Republican pole, remove the maul and wedges and other political emblems and mottoes attached; that I would remove the names of Douglas and Johnson from my large Democratic campaign flag, and as we were now neither Republicans nor Democrats, but Union men and hot for fight, we would as Union men hoist the pole as a

Union pole, with a Union flag. It was then agreed that on the morrow the work should be done. The morrow came and quite an earnest and patriotic little crowd had gathered, Republicans and Democrats. The Republican pole was soon taken down, the emblems, etc., removed, and up it went again amid the cheers of the little crowd, and soon after the large flag was rolling out its beautiful folds to the sunny breeze of that April day. After three times three hearty cheers for the flag of our Union, in response to the call of the crowd, the writer mounted a goods box and delivered perhaps the first (certainly among the first) war speech made that year in the county. That speech often recurs to the writer when reviewing the memories of that stirring year. I spoke about twenty minutes or longer, and then informed the crowd that men must look their duty in the face and like men meet it. There was but one feeling, one resolution, one purpose. Old men and young men, Republicans and Democrats, each and all, then cried out for vengeance on the heads of the traitors who had insulted and defied the majesty and power of the Government. Old Uncle George Matthews, old himself, without a tooth in his head, was the first man to offer himself as a volunteer; he had, he said, half a dozen sons who could go, and if they did not go and fight rebels he would disown them. His sons needed no urging; several of them entered the service that summer, and efficient and gallant soldiers they made, as the writer can testify from ample knowledge. I should like, if I could, give the names of all who composed that patriotic little crowd, which did not exceed one hundred, perhaps. But I remember some who took an active part in the proceedings that day. I call to mind Andrew Humphreys, Dr. Elias Jones, Francis R. Davis, David S. Scott, Dr. W. Y. Leonard, Charles V. Inks, Edwin W. Matthews, James C. Stewart, John P. Kitt, Jonathan W. Elliott, Jacob Mohn, Billy Holiman, Jacob and Oliver Matthews, Samuel Beall, Allen Beall, Uncle Joe Inks, Tommy Gray; and I could think up and recall other names, if it were important to do so. Steps were commenced at that particular time to organize a military company, under the laws of that day organizing military companies, and it was the intention to offer the services of the company to the Governor. Correspondence was at once opened by the writer with Gen. Lazarus Noble, the efficient Adjutant General of the State, as to the mode of procedure, etc. Quite a number of names were enrolled, and in a few days it looked as if Wolf Lake would be the first to be in the field with a military organization and off for the war. Some hitch or technical difficulty, I don't now recall, with the Adjutant General, threw a damper on the boys, and on offer to be mustered into any regiment, under a three months' call, not then full, word was received from the Adjutant General that the quota of the State was full and enough offers on hand to fill up twenty more regiments. The boys were informed by the Adjutant General that they would all have a chance before winter, and urged them to keep up their organization, as new troops would be called out inside of three months. This was not satisfactory to the boys, for they went elsewhere and enlisted,

some to Michigan, some to Illinois, and a number to other parts of the State where they heard and hoped that there was yet a chance to get into the three months' service. Finally new arrangements were made: The Thirtieth Indiana, under the second call for troops, was making up its quota at Fort Wayne, and two of its companies, 'C' (Captain Joseph E. Braden, of Ligonier), and 'F' (Captain William N. Voris) were raised in Noble County. Company 'C' was made up at Ligonier, and uniforming themselves in a neat and convenient rig, the gallant fellows marched afoot to Fort Wayne, a distance of some forty miles. They stopped at Wolf Lake en route and partook of a public dinner in the old Baptist Church, prepared by the citizens of Wolf Lake and vicinity. Company 'F' went into ~~camp~~ on the old fair grounds at Albion, and having been joined by quite a number from the east side of the county, and their ranks being full, they, too, started for Fort Wayne. Hardly had the Thirtieth Indiana got under good headway at Fort Wayne, and before it was near filled up, the Forty-fourth Indiana was ordered to be organized. Such of the original roster of Wolf Lake of April, that had not gone into the Thirtieth Indiana or other regiments of the State, or elsewhere, now again signed the roll of the writer undersigned, for service in the Forty-fourth Indiana. This organization became Company 'G,' Forty-fourth Indiana."

The first speech made in Kendallville after the fall of Sumter was delivered in the street to a large crowd of townsmen and countrymen, by a commercial traveler, who was stopping at the Kelly House at the time. Like all men of his occupation, he was well posted on the issues of the day, was naturally a bright fellow and a fluent speaker, and was loyal to the core. He made a rousing speech that was listened to with rapt attention and tumultuous applause. This was probably on the day following the one on which 75,000 volunteers were called for. Speech-making was very popular about that time, as the masses sought a leader—one who could present their views in eloquent words, and could direct them in their efforts to suppress the rebellion. The second speech was probably delivered by a drayman named Hogan. He stood on his wagon and made a humorous and thoroughly loyal speech to a large crowd that surrounded him. The first speaking of note was held in the Methodist Church within about a week after Sumter had fallen. The principal speaker was Judge Tousley. He briefly reviewed the causes which led to the outbreak, and finally said that, in order to see how many volunteers, if necessary, could be secured at Kendallville for the war, he asked all those who were willing and ready to go to rise to their feet. Instantly eight or ten brave fellows sprang up, the first, it is said, being Charles Dunn, and the second Lute Duel. Either the latter, or Capt. Voris, was the first one from Noble County to enter the service. Many others at this meeting signified their readiness to go *if they were needed*. Judge Tousley told the young men not to be rash, but to squarely face the situation, as all would have an opportunity to go before peace was secured. An early war meeting was held at Ligonier. J. R. Randall,

editor of the Ligonier *Herald*, was one of the speakers, and Joseph Braden, who had served in the Mexican War, was another. The latter had a phrase, a relic of the Mexican war, which he had been heard to use very often. It was, "I'm in favor of this war and the next one." When he delivered that old sentence, by which he was so well known, from the stage on the occasion of this war meeting, it seemed so fitting and appropriate to the occasion that the audience burst into tremendous cheers. Many at this meeting asserted their readiness to go out to fight their country's battles. The war spirit at Albion did not take a strong public course until somewhat later. Clusters of loyal men could be seen here and there, on the streets and in the stores, very early, soberly discussing the probable continuance of the pending struggle. Vigorous denunciations of the course of the South could be heard from every quarter. Mr. Denny, who had been a strong Democrat, came boldly out for a rigorous prosecution of the war against those who dared to trail the old flag in the dust, and by his earnest speeches and pronounced loyalty did a great deal to turn his fellow Democrats back from the pitfall of asserted sympathy with the South. The same is true of Mr. Alvord. At the session of the Literary Society held at the Lutheran Church in Albion, shortly after Sumter was fired upon, Mr. Alvord recited a poem of his own composition on the subject of "Maj. Anderson and the Old Flag." When troops were called for, he traversed the county, delivering speeches and encouraging the citizens to volunteer. At one of these meetings, while his muse was above the clouds, he was suddenly confronted by a large, angry woman, with a baby under her left arm and her right hand clenched into a fist of formidable size. Her "man" was in the army, and she demanded, as she shook the aforesaid fist threateningly at him: "Why don't you go and volunteer yourself, instead of coming out here and trying to get other men to go?" That was the last of the muse that had soared so high and well. The question remained unanswered—a shocking violation of etiquette. In response to the second call for volunteers (May 3, 1861), a large war meeting was held in the new court house at Albion. Among the speakers were Samuel Alvord, Nelson Prentiss, J. H. Stoney, Judge Clapp, Judge Tousley, Oliver McMann, James Denny and Dr. Dunshee. Here it was that the first attempt to enlist troops at Albion was made. Early mass meetings were held at Rome City, Avilla and other places.

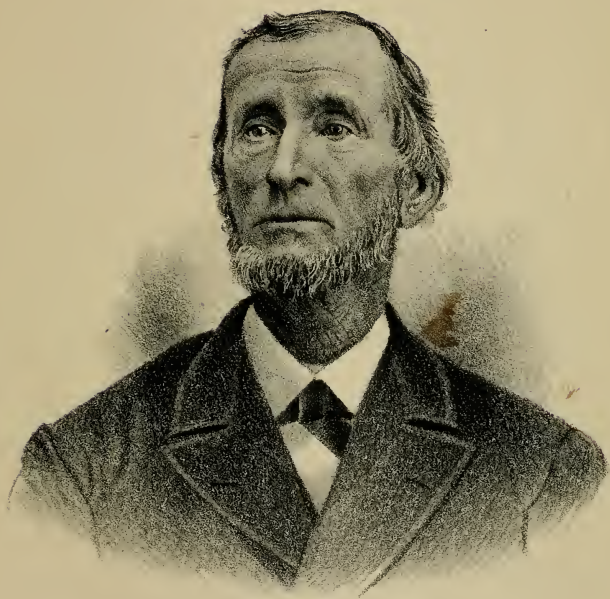
The six regiments required from Indiana under the first call of the President for troops were raised so rapidly in the larger places, where the work of enlisting a company was but the thought of a day, that the more thinly populated portions of the State were not represented in such regiments, save by occasional men, who were determined to smell powder at the earliest possible moment. This was the condition of Noble County. For this reason, no attempt was made to perfect the organization of a company, as many thought the rebellion would be quelled by the volunteers enlisted under the first call by the time their term of service had expired. There is some doubt regarding the



name of the first man of Noble County who succeeded in getting into the service. Capt. William N. Voris enlisted on the 22d of April, 1861; but Lute Duel claims to have been mustered into the service a day or two before. These two may be regarded as the first. They were in the Ninth Regiment, as were quite a number of others from the county, the exact number not being known. They were probably the only ones from the county in the three months' service. Quite a number went to Indianapolis and enlisted in the Twelfth, in the one year's service. Some enlisted in the Thirteenth, some in the Nineteenth, some in the Twenty-first, some in the Twenty-second, some in the Twenty-ninth and a great many in the Thirtieth, which regiment was organized by Col. Hugh B. Reed at Fort Wayne. This regiment was begun on the 3d of August and mustered into the service on the 24th of September, 1861. Joseph E. Braden, in August, began the organization of Company C for this regiment, with headquarters at Ligonier. William N. Voris organized Company F at Albion. These were the first two companies dispatched from Noble County to the field. Company F contained many men from Kendallville. Just before Company F left Albion for Fort Wayne, it was presented with a fine flag by the citizens of Albion, Mr. Alvord delivering an eloquent presentation speech and George W. Plants replying for the boys. There were almost three companies of men in the Thirtieth Regiment from Noble County. The Thirty-fifth, Thirty-seventh, Thirty-eighth and Forty-second Regiments contained quite a number of men from Noble County. There was scarcely a company in the Forty-fourth that did not contain men from the county. Company G was almost wholly thus represented, as was Company H to a large extent. Company G was raised by Dr. William C. Williams and Peter Snyder, of Kendallville, the two squads being consolidated by the election of Dr. Williams, Captain; Henry Shoemaker, First Lieutenant; Daniel Cary, Second Lieutenant; both Lieutenants being from Kendallville. Capt. Williams remained such until finally, for meritorious services, he went up at one bound to the colonelcy of the Forty-fourth Regiment. He was with the regiment until the battle of Stone River, when he was taken prisoner, conveyed to Atlanta and imprisoned. About this time, Judge Marchbank, a rebel emissary to Canada, was captured by the Federal Government and declared to be a spy, which meant death. As soon as Gen. Bragg learned of this, he ordered that the highest Federal officer in rank below the grade of Brigadier General, confined at Atlanta, should be put in solitary confinement, as a hostage for the safety of Judge Marchbank. Col. Williams was the officer thus conditionally doomed. The following is his own description of succeeding events: "Each night, as I lay down in the dark on the old cot in my cell," says the Colonel, "I thought might be my last on earth, and that in the morning I would be summoned forth to answer with my life on the gallows. The days wore away in weariness and the long solitudes of the terrible nights, which brought but little sleep, slowly crept along, and each day and night only added to the agony of

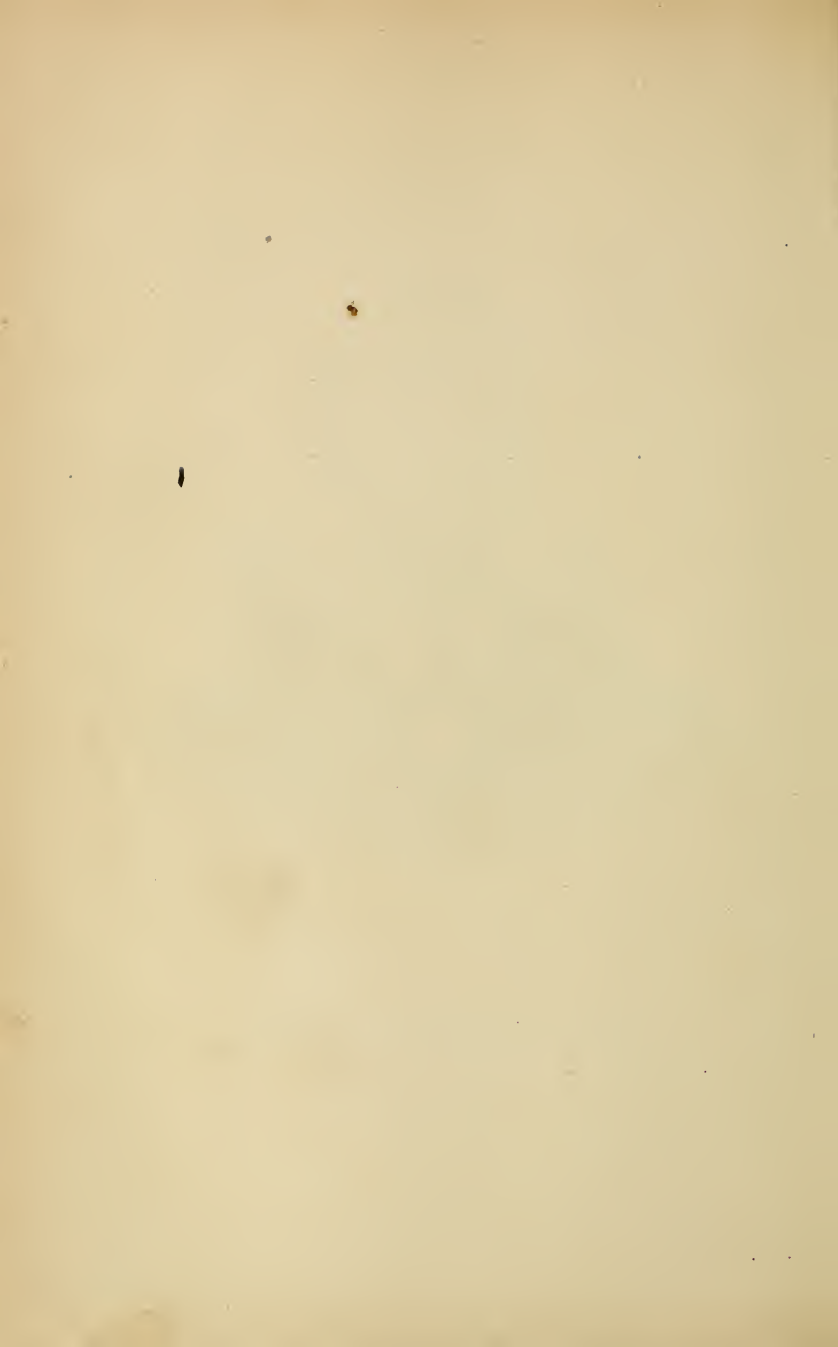
the awful suspense that environed me. Escape there was none. My guards had strict orders to hold no communication with me under severe penalties. The dark, damp, small room in which I was confined was telling daily on my health, and I was not sure, unless they hung me up soon, that I should be able to flank Jeff. Davis and Gen. Bragg by dying a natural, although a lingering, death. Some sixteen days thus passed, and one morning I was ordered by one of my guards to come forth and report to the officer in charge of the prison. I reported to that officer at his room, and he informed me that he had orders to release me from solitary confinement, that Judge Marchbank had been sent through the lines South, and the hostage business was at an end. Weak, sick and weary as I was, I gave a bound and was at once in the midst of my room-mates across the corridor, and a rejoicing was had, dear old Gen. Willick making a speech, until his emotions choked him up so full that he broke down."

After about three months at Atlanta, Col. Williams was sent to Libby Prison, Richmond, Va., where he remained and suffered many long months, a horrified, starving victim of the slave-holders' rebellion. The Forty-fourth was organized in September and October, 1861, at Fort Wayne. The Forty-eighth and the Fifty-ninth Regiments contained Noble County men. The Seventy-fourth was organized at Fort Wayne in July and August, 1862, by William Williams, and contained something more than a company from Noble County. Company D was raised almost wholly at Kendallville. The Eighty-eighth was organized at Fort Wayne in August, 1862, by George Humphrey. Company B of this regiment contained men from all parts of Noble County. A few from Noble were in Companies D and F. The One Hundredth was also organized at Fort Wayne in August and September, 1862, by S. J. Stoughton. Company E was from Noble County. A few men went into the One Hundred and Nineteenth regiment, which was for a time the Seventh Cavalry. The Twelfth Cavalry, which was organized at Camp Mitchell, Kendallville, from September, 1863, to March, 1864, by Edward Anderson, contained enough Noble County men to form about two companies. Nearly every man in Company B was from Noble. Many were in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry, Companies B, C, D and I, containing Noble County men, the latter being almost wholly composed of such. Company D of the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth was raised in Noble County. This regiment was organized at Indianapolis in April, May and June, 1864, by George Humphrey. Companies A, D and G of the One Hundred and Forty-second regiment were largely from Noble County. This regiment was organized at Fort Wayne by J. M. Comporet, from August to November, 1864. Companies A, B, C, E, F, I and K of the One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment contained men from the county. This regiment was enlisted for one year, and was organized at Indianapolis from December, 1864, to March, 1865. It perhaps contained more men from Noble County than any other regiment. Other regiments raised in neighboring counties of Indiana, and even in other States,



*Joel vanderford*

YORK TP.





contained men from Noble. Nelson Prentiss estimates that about 1,800 men went from Noble County to engage in the war of the rebellion, and that about 300 of these never returned. The writer of this chapter, after patient and protracted inquiry and study, finds that those figures are not far from correct.

There remain to be considered the questions of public feeling or sentiment, of loyalty and disloyalty, and of united movements to encourage or discourage enlistments, and to provide the families of soldiers with the necessities of life in the county while the war was still raging. Of course there was more or less disloyalty from men who (it is not strange) do not like to talk about the war to-day. No united, nor, perhaps, prominently public effort was made to discourage enlistments or resist the draft or oppose the duties of the enrolling officers or the Provost Marshal. But threats were made in almost every locality, often quite openly, that the enlistment and the draft would be stubbornly resisted, if necessary, with force. The following is quoted from the Adjutant General's reports: "In Noble County, information was given to the Governor February 3d, 1863, that the 'Knights of the Golden Circle' were fully 'organized and armed, and talked freely of the prospect of war here at home in case the Southern confederacy is not recognized, and "Old Abe" persists in his emancipation scheme. They publicly and boldly declare that no deserter shall be arrested here, that the Abolitionists are to be exterminated, and that the Northwestern States are to form a government by themselves.'" While, perhaps, these declarations were freely made, it is certain that, with the exception of a few knock-downs and a few mild riots caused by such declarations at public gatherings, no serious trouble ensued. All opposition ended with the disloyal declarations and the inevitable knock-down. Sometimes the knock-downs were reversed, as is shown from the following taken from the *Noble County Journal* of July, 1863:

BRUSH COLLEGE.—Out from Rochester, Noble Co., Ind., in the woods, is a log schoolhouse, where the Union and Copperhead sentiment divides. On Sunday last came a collision in which the Delilahs figured most prominently. The Union forces we understand were rather worsted. We learn that the fight is to be renewed next Sabbath.

In November, 1864, the following appeared in the same paper referring to Kendallville:

On Monday, a company of six men were arrested, some of whom had been overheard talking about burning the town. These were sent on Tuesday night to Indianapolis. On Tuesday night five more were arrested on suspicion. The town has been patrolled and precautions taken to frustrate such hellish designs. Most of these men are probably refugees and bounty-jumpers—desperate characters from Canada and elsewhere—who by their own innate wickedness, and incited by the every-day harangues of campaign Democratic speakers and papers, think that they have a license to lay waste loyal towns and cities. It is to be hoped that our authorities, both civil and military, will use the utmost diligence to detect and ferret out such designs, and be ready to inflict most summary punishment upon any such steeped criminals, when caught. Besides this no unknown characters without proper business should be tolerated in our midst.

The following occurred at Albion in June, 1863:

PEACE AT ALBION. — The "Democratic" species of Peace men met at Albion on Saturday last. The immortal Robert Lowry, of Goshen, who, in 1854, wrote and pub-

lished that it was as reasonable to talk about repealing the "ten commandments as the Missouri Compromise," but who since then has blathered and bellowed that "the repeal was the great and glorious principle upon which our fathers fought the battles of the Revolution," was imported as speaker to go over his choice vocabulary of slang epithets and abuse of the army, its officers, the President, the heads of departments, and everything else but traitors, who have immersed this whole land in blood and mourning, and their sympathizers in the North. As Mr. Lowry did not come at the hour appointed, Col. Williams, being a Democrat, was called upon and made a sensible Democratic speech. While Col. Williams was speaking Mr. Lowry came upon the ground, and when Col. Williams had concluded, made such a tirade as we have spoken of above. At the conclusion of Mr. Lowry's remarks, Col. Williams was again called out, when he proceeded to administer such a castigation to the "ten commandment man" from Goshen, as we are informed men very seldom receive. Lowry then replied in coarse billingsgate, Col. Williams again arose to reply, when the Democracy, fearing that their imported would be too fearfully peeled, sounded their horns, drums, fifes and "whisky tunnels," and scampered off. Notice was then given that Col. Williams would speak again on Wednesday evening of this week.

One of the most serious outbreaks in the county during the war occurred in Swan Township in 1863. One Sunday, a meeting of Dunkers was held in a barn belonging to Samuel Shadows. A discussion of war topics was indulged in by a party of men standing outside. The men became excited—mad, began calling hard names, until at last they came to blows, some ten or twelve taking part in the *melee*. Blood soon flowed from sundry noses, sound heads were unceremoniously cracked, ribs were seriously punched, and numerous men, both Copperheads and Abolitionists, like Nebuchadnezzar, went to grass. The battle was bloody, but the Union troops were victorious. In a store in Ligonier a large man boldly exclaimed, "Vallandigham is just as loyal as Lincoln!" whereupon a small man publicly and loudly cried: "You are a d——d liar!" The large man said to the small man, "Come out in the street and I'll lick the stuffing out of you." The small man seemed to relish the invitation, for he followed. No sooner had the pugilistic couple reached the street than the large man suddenly fell violently on the hard walk, while the blood flowed freely from a cut in his head. He got up and went home, a wiser, and, it is hoped, a better man. Incidents of this character might be multiplied without limit. It was fashionable to wear butternut breastpins in Copperhead circles during the war. This led to frequent affrays, after which it usually became fashionable *not* to wear them. Soldiers home on a furlough were generally on their muscle, and instantly resented any insult offered "Old Abe," the "old flag," or the "boys in blue." During the year 1863, the darkest for the Union cause while the war continued, quite a number of men who had gone from the county to serve their country deserted, and many of them came home, where they were secreted by their friends. The arrest of these deserters afforded exciting sport for the Sheriffs and Marshals. As troops were called for from the county, all the prominent Union men, Democrats and Republicans, traversed the entire county, speaking at every schoolhouse, and making every effort to fill the county quota by means of voluntary enlistments. When it became known, in 1862, that, unless the quota was filled, a draft would be resorted to in October, hercu-

lean efforts were everywhere made to encourage volunteering. Many men who enlisted under these earnest calls were assigned to old regiments as recruits, they having their choice of regiments. In July, 1862, the County Commissioners ordered that \$20 be paid each man who would enlist in Company "D," then being raised by W. N. Rogers for the Seventy-fourth Regiment. This was the first bounty paid by the county. In August of this year, the Commissioners ordered that \$30 be paid each man who would volunteer in the company then being raised by Capt. Voris and Col. Tousley, the money to be paid from the county treasury upon receipt of the certificate of the Captain of the company that such man, or men, had been mustered into the service. At the same time, it was also ordered that \$20 be paid each man who was subject to draft, who would volunteer in any company in the county. At this time the Commissioners began paying from the county treasury large sums of money for the relief of soldiers' families. In September, 1862, they ordered \$20 to be paid each man who would enlist in the companies of Capt. McMann or Capt. Braden. A large amount of money was paid by the county during the latter half of 1862 to the boys who went into the Seventy-fourth, the Eighty-eighth and the One Hundredth Regiments. By the 5th of June, 1863, there had been paid out in county bounty \$7,360.95. The first draft occurred on the 6th of October, 1862, the following being the officers: Nelson Prentiss, Draft Commissioner; J. R. Randall, Marshal; T. P. Bicknell, Surgeon. The draft was ordered from the following facts, which were reported on the 20th of September, 1862:

Total militia .....	2,578
Total volunteers .....	973
Total exempts .....	468
Total opposed to bearing arms.....	37
Total volunteers in service.....	226
Total subject to draft .....	2,073

The following draft was ordered:

Washington Township.....	10
Sparta Township.....	10
Green Township.....	6
Jefferson Township.....	8
Wayne Township.....	21
Allen Township.....	11
Albion Township.....	4

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Total.....70

Between the 20th of September and the 6th of October, when the draft occurred, eighteen men volunteered, so that only fifty-two men were actually drafted. After this, Noble County filled her quotas until 1864. In May, 1863, the following Enrolling Board for the Tenth District were appointed: Hiram Iddings, Provost Marshal; William S. Smith, Commissioner; Stephen Morris, Surgeon. Every effort was made to avoid the draft. Township boun-

ties were offered, and, as a last resort, substitutes were hired. But again the draft came on the 6th of September, 1864, as shown by the following table.

These are the quotas and credits of Noble County, under calls of February 1, March 14 and July 18, 1864:

NOBLE COUNTY TOWNSHIPS.	Quota under call of February 1, 1864.	Quota under call of March 14, 1864.	Quota under call of July 18, 1864.	First Enrollment.	Total of Quotas and Deficiencies.	Credits by voluntary enlistments.		Credits by Draft.	Total Credits by En- listment and Draft.	One Year.	Two Years.	Three Years.	Deficiency.	Surplus.
						New Recruits.	Veterans.							
Wayne Township.....	62	25	74	448	161	160	26	...	186	30	...	150	...	25
Orange Township.....	34	14	38	227	86	71	5	...	76	12	...	64	10	...
Elkhart Township.....	25	10	31	186	66	35	4	1	40	3	...	37	26	...
Perry Township.....	59	24	67	403	150	85	5	2	92	13	1	78	58	...
Sparta Township.....	27	11	29	173	67	46	9	...	85	1	...	54	12	...
York Township.....	19	8	22	132	49	33	3	...	36	1	...	35	13	...
Albion Township.....	12	5	14	84	31	26	5	...	31	2	...	29	...	...
Jefferson Township.....	31	12	34	204	77	51	...	21	72	26	...	46	5	...
Allen Township.....	41	16	48	290	105	97	1	...	98	17	...	81	7	...
Swan Township.....	27	11	29	173	67	41	1	...	42	5	...	37	25	...
Green Township.....	20	8	20	121	48	35	2	4	41	8	...	32	7	...
Noble Township.....	21	8	20	119	49	43	3	2	48	3	...	45	1	...
Washington Township....	14	6	16	97	36	25	...	...	25	...	...	25	11	...
Totals .....	392	158	442	2657	992	748	64	30	872	121	1	714	175	25

This is undoubtedly an imperfect report, as the draft shown by the above table is very far from being correct. Charge the imperfection to the Adjutant General and not to the historian. The headquarters of the enrolling board of the Tenth District was at Kendallville. Here was Camp Mitchell, where many or less troops were encamped from the spring of 1863 until the close of the war. Kendallville was a military place at that time. The Twelfth Cavalry was organized there, as above stated. The following is clipped from the *Journal* of May, 1864:

#### TWELFTH CAVALRY GONE.

The Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, so long stationed at this place, moved from here on Tuesday last, and a kind of grateful quiet prevails. Just as the regiment was moving from camp, the barracks, formerly occupied by Capt. Baker's company, as also their stables standing some distance from the barracks, were fired. The fire communicated to other barracks until some six in all were consumed. Mr. George Moon, we understand, lost 300 bushels of corn. The loss of the barracks was probably about \$2,000. Most of the regiment felt very much chagrined at such an act.

The old schoolhouse at Kendallville was turned into a hospital for the sick soldiers, while the teachers and scholars were obliged to seek other quarters. The small-pox broke out among the troops, several of whom died of it, as did also several citizens. When the schoolhouse was burned, it was thought that some of the citizens did it to prevent its being again used for school purposes, in which case the children might catch the small-pox. The draft above mentioned, which occurred on the 6th of September, 1864, went off smoothly, as is shown by the following from the *Journal* of September 20:





MRS. JOEL VANDERFORD  
*YORK TP.*



## THE DRAFT.

The draft here is passing off very quietly and satisfactorily. The urbanity and patient, fair and open deportment of the drafting board is giving satisfaction and confidence throughout the entire district. The bitterest of political partisans openly and unqualifiedly admit the fairness of the whole transaction. There are a great many curious freaks occur in the way the lots fall sometimes. From Perry Township, in this county, there was a large delegation present at the time of drawing, most all of whom were drafted. The next township drawn was Benton, Elkhart County, and hardly any of the delegates from there were drawn. In most townships persons liable to draft have entered into companies to assist each other or buy substitutes if drafted. In this way the burden falls much lighter, and in view of the duty to their country, the patriotic able-bodied conscript will cheerfully go or send a substitute to the war. With more men and with vigorous blows upon rebellion, now so sadly tottering, a just, abiding and lasting peace will soon spread its balmy wings over the land. But give the rebels an armistice in which to gather up their strength again, and vote in the McClellan policy of dallying, hesitating, digging and wasting time in "reviews" and scares at "quaker guns," and you have wars and McClellan's favorite drafts interminably, without limit, and almost without end. Kill the rebellion now, and not let it up to fight you again in a long uncertain future.

The drafts of October, 1862, and September, 1864, were the only ones enforced in Noble County. A draft was ordered to fill the quota required from the county under the call of December 19, 1864, but was delayed and not carried into effect. The close of the war rendered it unnecessary. The following order was made by the Commissioners in December, 1863:

*Ordered by the Board of Commissioners,* That the County Auditor is hereby authorized and required to draw an order on the County Treasurer for the sum of \$50, payable to each person, being a resident of Noble County, who shall volunteer and be mustered into the service of the United States as a soldier, under the proclamation of the President of the United States, issued the 17th day of October, 1863. Such allowance to be made to each and every person who shall volunteer until the whole number of 188 men required of this county shall be raised. And before the said Auditor shall make out any such order, he shall require a properly certified muster-roll of the company in which the applicant has enlisted to be filed in his office; and also, that the said Auditor be authorized and required to issue orders on the County Treasurer, payable to the wife of each soldier who has volunteered and is in service under any call, or shall hereafter volunteer under said call, for the sum of \$8 per month and \$1 in addition thereto for each child under the age of twelve years. The order to said wife shall be issued upon the certificate of the Township Trustee where she may reside, showing that she is a resident of this county and was at the time of the enlistment of her husband, also, the number, name and age of her children, which allowance to said wife and children shall commence on the 1st day of December, 1863, and be paid on the 1st of each month thereafter. The above order shall not apply to any commissioned officer, his wife or children.

This order was attended with most excellent results, as the quota (188 men) of the county under the call of October, 1863, was filled without resorting to a draft. Under the call of December 19, 1864, the enlistment of men from the county became so slack that the Commissioners ordered a bounty of \$400 paid to men that would enlist. How much was paid out at this figure is not known. The table on the following page gives some interesting information regarding the response made by the county to the call of December 19, 1864:

NOBLE COUNTY TOWNSHIPS.							
	Second Enrollment.	Quota under Call of December 19, 1864.	Total Quotas and Deficiencies.	New Recruits.	One Year.	Two Years.	Three Years.
Wayne Township.....	360	19	19	19	19	...	...
Orange Township.....	125	17	17	14	14	...	...
Elkhart Township.....	97	26	26	12	38	...	...
Perry Township.....	188	58	58	14	64	...	...
Sparta Township.....	120	16	16	11	24	...	...
York Township.....	81	15	15	9	22	...	...
Albion Township.....	52	2	2	2	2	...	...
Jefferson Township.....	111	21	21	15	21	...	...
Allen Township.....	202	17	17	29	29	1	...
Swan Township.....	99	28	28	4	27	...	...
Green Township.....	68	12	12	11	13	...	...
Noble Township.....	72	3	3	1	1	...	...
Washington Township.....	66	13	13	5	17	...	...
Totals.....	1641	247	247	146	291	1	...

The following proceedings at the Republican County Convention of 1864 will be read with interest. The Committee on Resolutions reported to the Convention, through Col. Williams, accompanied by some very appropriate remarks, the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That we are heartily in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war for the suppression of the slaveholders' rebellion.

*Resolved*, That we are in favor of supporting the Administration in the use of all the means it can lay its hands upon for the suppression of the same.

*Resolved*, That our most hearty sympathy is extended to the officers and soldiers of our gallant armies in the field, for their glorious achievements, self-sacrifice and determination to support the Government in the suppression of the rebellion.

*Resolved*, That the false Copperhead cry of "peace" is rebuked by those words of inspiration which declare that the wisdom coming from above is first *pure* and then *peaceable*.

*Resolved*, That we present candidates worthy the support of every Union man in the county.

*Resolved*, That we are determined to go to work and elect our candidates.

During the absence of the committees, the Ligonier Glee Club was invited to favor the meeting with music, and executed several very appropriate patriotic songs in their usual excellent manner. Col. Tousley was called to the stand and briefly addressed the Convention, in his usual earnest and patriotic manner. He was repeatedly cheered, and evidently possessed the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens to an enviable degree. He read a letter which the officers of the Twenty-first Indiana Artillery presented to Capt. Eden H. Fisher, upon the event of his taking leave of the regiment, which showed the high regard in which Capt. Fisher was held by his comrades in arms, both as a soldier and a man. During the reading of that letter, which so vividly set forth the misfortune of their companion whom they so highly esteemed, many an eye in that vast multitude glistened with "the tear that would obtrusively start," and spoke plainly that the audience, like his friends in the tented field, believed him to be "worthy of a better fate." And when it came to "Dear Fisher, God bless you," it met with a hearty response from that vast multitude. Hon. William S. Smith being called upon for a speech, came forward and requested the "Red, White and Blue" to be sung, which was executed in a most admirable manner by Miss Ogden; after which he responded in a manner such only as "Pop-gun" is capable of doing. He was followed by Col. Williams, who entertained the



audience for a short time, in an eloquent and patriotic speech. On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered the gentlemen and ladies for their excellent music during the Convention. On motion, a committee of five was appointed to act as a County Central Committee for the coming year, as follows: J. R. Randall, N. Prentiss, George L. Gale, C. O. Myers and James C. Stewart.

Rousing meetings were held in the county on the 4th of July, 1863, upon the receipt of the news that Vicksburg had surrendered. Three companies of Home Guards were in attendance at Kendallville—a company from Swan Township, the Rome City Zouaves, and a Kendallville company. A glee club sang many patriotic airs. Guns, pistols, fire-crackers, etc., etc., filled the atmosphere with smoke and noise and enthusiasm. Speeches were made by Messrs. Tousley, Axeline, Mitchell, Cissel, Smith, Stoney and Bartlett. Fire-works and bonfires were enjoyed at night. At Albion a large celebration was held, where much of the above was gone through with. Messrs. Alvord, Prentiss and others spoke to the crowd. It was fashionable those days to bring forward some wounded or furloughed soldier, place him on the stand, and cheer him to the echo. This was a bait used often to secure the enlistment of men. Beautiful ladies passed around the enlistment roll, and many a poor fellow whose bones lie buried in an unknown grave in “Dixie” owes his death to his inability to say “No” to the entreaty of handsome women. A large celebration was also held at Ligonier. A troop of thirty young ladies on horseback passed along the streets, and led the vast crowd to a neighboring grove, where Hon. J. T. Frazer and others fired the patriotism of the citizens with eloquence. Wearers of buttoned breastpins had threatened to appear with them at the celebration; but when a half dozen stalwart fellows circulated the report that any person seen wearing such pin would be pounded into a jelly, the pins were carefully concealed.

On the 3d of September, 1864, the Democrats held a large meeting at Albion, J. K. Edgerton and Andrew Douglas, of Columbia City, being the principal speakers. Both speakers denounced the Administration and the war. The latter said he had been opposed to the war from the first; had never encouraged one man to enlist; would not have voted a man nor a dollar for the wicked war of the Abolitionists; the North could never subdue the brave men of the South, who were fighting for their rights; declared that Lincoln was a *traitor*; that he had horns, hoofs, and the snout of a swine, etc., etc.; swore that the war was to make “niggers” equal to white men; that it was to force white men to marry “nigger gals,” and white girls to marry “buck niggers;” that the Union troops could not take Richmond; that they could not even take Atlanta. At that moment, tremendous cheering was heard on the outskirts of the crowd, which grew louder and louder until it burst into one grand, prolonged “hurrah” from hundreds of loyal lips. The news had just been received that Atlanta had been taken. Such a scene as followed, Albion never saw before or since. Loyal minds and hearts in re-action were reeling with delirious joy. So intense became the excitement, and so great the commotion, that the Democratic speaking was entirely broken up. That night Albion gave

herself up to every species of wild and joyous demonstration. The Glee Club sang itself hoarse. Cheer upon cheer, "tiger" upon "tiger," rent the drowsy air of night. Thrilling speeches were delivered by Col. Williams, Col. Tousley, Nelson Prentiss, Fielding Prickett, and others, and the meeting was continued far into the night.

The following proceedings occurred at Kendallville when the news was received that Gen. Lee had surrendered:

On Tuesday evening an impromptu bursting forth and celebration broke out in this place, which eclipsed everything that ever took place here before. Somebody began to put candles and lamps up before windows, and others proceeded to follow suit, until a large number of buildings were lighted up. The "baby-waker" was brought out, and its exploding notes rang out over hill and valley. People began to gather in the windows, sidewalks and streets, until living, smiling quantities of humanity, little and big, hooped and unhooped, were to be seen almost everywhere. Rockets were sent up, and fire-works of different descriptions played a conspicuous part. Everybody seemed to feel that they had a right to celebrate in their own way, "subject only to the Constitution." The brass band discoursed soul-stirring music, and the Rimwhanticle Instant Born Company paraded the streets, dressed in a variety of paraphernalia, and armed with spears, clubs, boards, gongs, tin-pans, oyster-cans, horns, etc., etc., with unprecedented effect. "Capt." Brace, with the shorn hat and immense countenance, performed the part of a brave and successful officer with brilliant effect. "Gen." Frank Hogan was all along the line, sometimes on the double-quick, and sometimes in other positions, and sometimes almost everywhere at once, giving orders and charging on Richmond and Lee's flying army generally. We cannot speak too highly right here, but must subside by saying that this officer covered himself all over with impenetrable glory, and is the Gen. Grant of these parts of kingdom come. Jeff. Davis appeared in the drama, suspended on a tall pole, with his name upon him, and was carried through the streets, attracting profound attention. He finally "went up" in a chariot of fire. Somebody attempted to speak to the crowd, but there was an inspiration infinitely over and above words, and it boiled over them and drowned them out. What was talk compared with the surrender of Richmond and the smashing up of Lee's army, and the finally hopeful close of the rebellion? Such impromptu gatherings are the best in the world if the spirit gets rightly infused and lighted up.

Immediately following this came the sad news that Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated. Kendallville lamented as follows:

The business houses were all closed in Kendallville on Wednesday last, and the insignia of mourning was to be seen all around. The bell was tolled and the cannon was fired at different intervals. At noon, the Presbyterian Church was packed to its utmost capacity. The center aisle was seated and filled by the military. The pulpit, orchestra, lamps, and other portions of the church, were draped in mourning. Even the elements, as Rev. Mr. Harrison remarked, in the heavy black clouds, the slow rumbling of thunder, and the apparent tear-drops fall of rain, seemed to be in unison and sympathy with the solemn exercises everywhere participated in and conducted by the people of the United States. Nature seemed to join in the great national mourning. Short addresses were made by Revs. Cressy, Meck and Harrison, Rev. Mr. Forbes assisting in the other necessary exercises of the occasion. The united choirs discoursed appropriate music. Services were also held in the German Lutheran and German Methodist Churches, and we learn also at the Christian Chapel.

Ligonier, Albion, Avilla, Rome City, Wolf Lake, and other villages held appropriate memorial services in sorrow and honor for the illustrious dead.

Many of the citizens paid eloquent tributes to the noble life and character of the "Savior of his Country."

A thorough system of Soldiers' and Ladies' Aid Societies was established in Noble County during the war. Numerous committees were appointed to solicit anything that was likely to be needed by the boys in the field. Large quantities of blankets, shirts, drawers, socks, mittens, lints, bandages, canned fruits of all kinds, etc., etc., without end, were boxed up and sent to the boys of Noble County at the regimental hospitals or in the field. After the bloody battle of Stone River, where the troops from Noble County suffered severely, a car load of supplies was sent from Ligonier to the poor boys. Some four or five physicians of the county volunteered to go down and assist in taking care of the wounded and sick. Three of the doctors were Palmiter, Sheldon and Denny. People went around with pale, wo-begone faces, when it became known that a great battle had been fought, and perhaps lost, and that many brave fellows, relatives or neighbors, perhaps, had met with a tragical death. Unfortunately, but little authentic can be given regarding the work done by the societies. James S. Lockhart, of Ligonier, was very active in the work. A short time before the 4th of July, 1863, the citizens of Kendallville sent over \$500 to the boys from that place, who were in the intrenchments about Vicksburg. It is safe to say that thousands of dollars in money and property were sent into the field for the boys. Indiana would have fared poorly during the war, with its disloyal Legislature and Supreme Court, had it not been for that grand man, Oliver P. Morton. He successfully confronted every opposer, and placed the State troops in the field with admirable dispatch. He pledged the credit of the State, and borrowed any quantity of money to pay soldiers' bounties and provide arms.

It seems necessary to give an outline of the service of those regiments which contained a considerable number of men from Noble County. These regiments were the Thirtieth, Forty-fourth, Seventy-fourth, Eighty-eighth, One Hundredth, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth, One Hundred and Forty-second, One Hundred and Fifty-second, Seventh Cavalry and Twelfth Cavalry. The Thirtieth was at first commanded by Col. Sion S. Bass. It first moved to Indianapolis, thence to Camp Nevin, Ky., thence to Munfordsville and Bowling Green, and in March, 1862, to Nashville. It participated in the battle of Shiloh on the 7th of April, losing its Colonel, who was succeeded by Col. J. B. Dodge. Here the regiment lost in killed, wounded and missing about 130 men. It participated in the siege of Corinth, and moved with Buell's army through Northern Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky, and also pursued Bragg. It took part in the three days' battle at Stone River, losing heavily; and also at Chattanooga and Chickamauga, suffering severely at the latter place. It was in the campaign against Atlanta, fighting in all the battles. At Atlanta, it was consolidated into a residuary battalion of seven companies, under the command of Col. H. W. Lawton. It fought against

Hood at Nashville, and pursued him to Huntsville, thence moved into East Tennessee. In June, 1865, it was transferred to Texas. It was mustered out of service late in 1865.

The Forty-fourth, with H. B. Reed as Colonel, moved to Indianapolis in December, 1861, thence to Henderson, Ky., thence to Camp Calhoun, thence to Fort Henry, thence to Fort Donelson, in which battle it suffered severely. It moved to Pittsburg Landing, and fought both days at Shiloh, losing thirty-three killed and 177 wounded. It fought often at the siege of Corinth, and pursued the enemy to Booneville. It moved with Buell, and followed Bragg, fighting at Perryville. It skirmished at Russell's Hill, moved to Stone River, where it fought three days, losing eight killed, fifty-two wounded and twenty-five missing. It moved to Chattanooga, fought at Chickamauga, fought at Mission Ridge, losing in these engagements three killed, fifty-nine wounded and twenty missing. It did provost duty at Chattanooga, and was finally mustered out September, 1865. During the war, it lost 350 killed and wounded, and fifty-eight by disease. William C. Williams, Simeon C. Aldrich and James F. Curtis were its Colonels at times.

The Seventy-fourth, in August, 1862, moved to Louisville, Ky., thence to Bowling Green. It pursued Bragg, and reached Gallatin on the 10th of November. Companies C and K joined the regiment in December. Before this, these companies skirmished at Munfordsville, and with Bragg's advance on the 14th. Were captured, paroled and then joined the regiment. The regiment pursued Morgan, moved to Gallatin, Nashville, Lavergne, Triune, moved against Tullahoma, and skirmished at Hoover's Gap. It joined the campaign against Chattanooga, skirmished at Dug Gap, Ga. It was one of the first engaged at Chickamauga, and was the last to leave the field. It lost 20 killed, 129 wounded and 11 missing. It skirmished continuously at the siege of Chattanooga, and in the charge on Mission Ridge lost two killed and sixteen wounded. It pursued the enemy to Ringgold, Ga., participated in the reconnaissance on Buzzard's Roost, marched with Sherman on the Atlanta campaign, skirmishing and fighting at Dallas, Kenesaw and Lost Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, and many other places about Atlanta. It lost in this campaign forty-six men. It charged the enemy's works at Jonesboro, Ga., and lost thirteen killed and forty wounded. Many of the latter died. It pursued Hood, and skirmished at Rocky Creek Church. It moved to North Carolina, and finally home *via* Washington, D. C.

The Eighty-eighth took the field in August, 1862. It defended Louisville against Kirby Smith, pursued Bragg, fought at Perryville and Stone River, doing splendid work at the latter battle, losing eight killed and forty-eight wounded. It fought or skirmished at Hoover's Gap, Tullahoma, Hillsboro, Elk River and Dug Gap, Ga. It fought desperately at Chickamauga, fought "among the clouds" on Lookout Mountain, charged at Mission Ridge, skirmished at Graysville and Ringgold. In the Atlanta campaign it was en-



gaged at Buzzard Roost, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, and Atlanta and Utay Creek. It pursued Hood, marched with Sherman to the sea, campaigned through the Carolinas, fought at Bentonville, and moved home *via* Richmond and Washington, D. C.

The One Hundredth, in November, 1862, took the field at Memphis, Tenn.; moved on the unsuccessful Vicksburg campaign; did garrison duty at Memphis and vicinity; participated in the siege of Vicksburg, and then in the five days' siege of Jackson. It moved to Vicksburg, thence to Memphis, thence to Stevenson and Bridgeport, thence to Trenton, Ga. It fought at Lookout Mountain, and then moved to Chattanooga. It fought at Mission Ridge, losing in killed and wounded 132 men. It pursued Bragg's army; relieved Burnside at Knoxville; moved on the Atlanta campaign, fighting at Dalton, Snake Creek Gap, Resaca, Dallas, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack Creek, Chattahoochie River, Decatur, Atlanta, Cedar Bluffs, Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station, fighting almost continuously for 100 days. It pursued Hood, joined the famous march to the sea, fought at Griswoldville, Ga., and Bentonville, N. C., then moved home *via* Richmond and Washington, D. C. The regiment fought in twenty-five battles.

The One Hundred and Twenty-ninth moved to Nashville, Tenn., April, 1864, thence to Charleston, Tenn. It fought at Dalton, Resaca, skirmished for nearly two weeks through the woods and defiles near there, fought gallantly and lost heavily at Decatur, engaged the enemy at Strawberry Run, losing twenty-five killed and wounded. It pursued Hood, moved to the assistance of Gen. Thomas, skirmished heavily at Columbia, and fought desperately at Franklin, one of the bloodiest battles of the war; fought in the two days' battle against Gen. Hood, and joined in the pursuit. It then moved *via* Cincinnati and Washington, D. C., to Morehead City, thence to Newbern, and finally to Wise's Forks, where it had a severe engagement with the enemy. It moved to Goldsboro, Morley Hall, Raleigh and Charlotte, where it was mustered out of service in August, 1865.

The One Hundred and Thirty-ninth entered the service at Indianapolis, June, 1864. It moved to Nashville, Tenn., and was assigned garrison and provost duty in the towns and along the railroads, and, in general, was required to guard Sherman's base of supplies. At the expiration of 100 days the regiment left the service.

The One Hundred and Forty-second entered the service in November, 1864. It moved to Nashville, where it was assigned garrison duty. At the battle of Nashville, the regiment was in the reserve. After this, and until it was mustered out, it remained at Nashville.

The One Hundred and Fifty-second entered the service in March, 1865, moving to Harper's Ferry, in the vicinity of which place it was assigned garrison duty. It was stationed for short periods at Charlestown, Stevenson Station, Summit Point and Clarksburg, where it was mustered out in August, 1865.

The Seventh Cavalry took the field in December, 1863. It moved to Louisville, thence to Union City, Tenn. It skirmished at Paris, Egypt Station and near Okalona, fighting severely all day at the latter place. In one charge it left sixty of its men on the field. During the entire fight it lost eleven killed, thirty-six wounded and thirty-seven missing. It moved to Memphis, and finally to the support of Sherman's base of supplies. At Guntown, Miss., a desperate battle ensued, the regiment being driven back with a loss of eight killed, fifteen wounded and seventeen missing. Here it was highly complimented by Gen. Grierson, notwithstanding the defeat. It fought at La Mavoo, Miss., and near Memphis, where seven members of Company F were killed by guerrillas. After this it joined in the pursuit of Gen. Price; moved with Gen. Grierson on his famous raid, fighting and destroying rebel property. It moved down into Louisiana and Texas, and finally, late in 1865, was mustered out.

The Twelfth Cavalry was organized at Kendallville during the winter and spring of 1864, Edward Anderson, Colonel. It first moved to Nashville, thence to Huntsville, Ala. Here and vicinity it remained, chastising guerrillas and bushwhackers. A portion was not mounted; the others were and were commanded by Lieut. Col. Alfred Reed. Many men were lost in the numerous engagements. After this the regiment moved to Brownsboro, thence to Tullahoma, where they watched Gen. Forrest. Here it had several skirmishes. Companies C, D and H participated in the defense of Huntsville. The regiment fought at Wilkinson's Pike, Overall's Creek and before Murfreesboro, spent the winter of 1864-65 at Nashville, embarked for Vicksburg, participated in the movements on Mobile, Ala., and joined in the raid of Gen. Grierson. It occupied Columbus, Miss., Grenada, Austin and other points, guarding Federal stores and positions. It was mustered out of service at Vicksburg in November, 1865.

The following imperfect "Roll of Honor" of men from Noble County who were killed, died of wounds or disease, or otherwise, while in the service of their country during the war of the rebellion, is taken from the Adjutant General's reports, from newspapers, and from various other sources, and doubtless contains numerous errors.

Commissioned Officers—Smith Birge, Captain, died in 1865; E. A. Tonson, Captain, accidentally killed in 1865; Thomas Badley, First Lieutenant, killed at Chickamauga, September 19, 1863; George W. Seelye, First Lieutenant, killed at Bentonville, N. C., March 19, 1865; J. D. Kerr, Second Lieutenant, died at Evansville, Ind., March 25, 1862; Simon Bowman, Second Lieutenant, died August 19, 1864; H. Reed, Lieutenant, killed; James Collier, Lieutenant, died; J. T. Zimmerman, Lieutenant, died in 1865.

Non-Commissioned Officers—J. W. Geesman, Sergeant, died at Nashville, Tenn., August 19, 1863; A. J. Linn, Sergeant, died of wounds at Nashville, Tenn., February 5, 1863; Addison Harley, Sergeant, died at Louisville, Ky.,

August 5, 1864; J. W. Clark, Sergeant, died of wounds at Marietta, Ga., September 19, 1864; John W. Hathaway, Corporal, killed at Stone River, December 31, 1862; Rush W. Powers, Corporal, died at Nashville, Tenn., August 17, 1863; Emanuel Diffendafer, Corporal, died at Bowling Green, Ky., December 29, 1862; Samuel Hamilton, Corporal, died at Annapolis, Md., February 20, 1865; Henry Hinkley, Corporal, died at Lisbon, Ind., November 19, 1864; Charles Wilde, Corporal, died at Memphis, Tenn., in 1862; Henry H. Franklin, Corporal, died at Chattanooga, Tenn., November 7, 1864; John D. Stansbury, musician, died at Louisville, Ky., January 23, 1862; L. D. Thompson, wagoner, died at Bowling Green, Ky., December 7, 1862.

Privates—William Archer, killed at Stone River, December, 1862; Levi Atwell, died at Upton, Ky., December, 1861; William C. Allen, died at Nashville, September, 1862; Otis D. Allen, died at Louisville, February, 1862; William Anderson, died at Camp Nevin, Ky., November, 1861; William Adkins, died near Nashville, Tenn.; Daniel M. Axtell, died of wounds at Marietta, Ga., 1864; John W. Aker, died at Louisville, April, 1864; A. M. Albright, died in 1865; William Abbott, died at Chattanooga in 1864; Andrew Arnold, died at Chattanooga, 1864.

William Barthock, died of wounds at Fort Fisher in 1865; J. E. Bradford, starved to death at Danville in 1864; H. J. Belden, died at Evansville, Ind., April, 1862; Solomon Bean, died at Nashville, November, 1862; Paul Bean, died at Glasgow, Ky., November, 1862; A. P. Baltzell, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; James Bailey, killed at Perryville in 1863; Henry Brooks, died at Madison, Ind., 1862; Peter Betyer, died at Grand Junction, 1863; W. H. Bailey, died at St. Louis, 1862; T. A. Barber, died at Nashville, 1865; Noah Bowman, died at Chattanooga in 1865; L. H. Baldwin, killed at Stone River, 1862; Josiah Benton, died at Kendallville, March, 1864; Henry Bloodcamp, died at Cumberland, Md., 1865; Joseph Bull, died in 1865; Anson Bloomer, died at Murfreesboro in 1864; C. Barnsworth, died at Chattanooga in 1864; J. Bishop, died of wounds, Louisville, in 1863.

T. P. Cullison, died at Chickamauga, September, 1863; Michael Clair, died at Upton, Ky., December, 1861; Daniel Chapman, died at Camp Nevin, Ky., November, 1861; Patrick Clark, died at Camp Nevin, November, 1861; George Cullors, died at Nashville, May, 1865; J. W. Cruchlow, died of wounds in 1865; Daniel Coopruher, died of wounds in 1865; G. Caswell, died at Kendallville in 1862; C. Conkling, died at home in 1864; John T. Cannon, died at Chattanooga in 1864; James Cook, died at Paducah, Ky., March, 1862; Homer E. Clough, died at Gallatin, Tenn., December, 1862; Theodore Coplin, died at Louisville in 1863; Lucius Covey, died of wounds in the hands of the enemy, October, 1863; John Chancey, died near Edisto River, February, 1863; William P. Cheesman, died in 1863; Joseph H. Clemmons, killed at Iuka, 1862; H. D. Collins, killed at Stone River in 1862; W. A. Curry, drowned at Louisville in 1863; J. W. Curry, starved at

Andersonville in 1864; H. E. Cole, died at Camp Nevin, Ky., 1861; George Cluck, died at Collarsville in 1863; A. T. Cumming, died at Indianapolis in 1862; W. H. Calkins, killed at Mission Ridge in 1863; John Clutter, died at Memphis, May, 1865; Joel Clark, died at Nashville in 1865; John Clark, killed at Stone River in 1862; Marion F. Cochran, died at Louisville, December, 1864; A. M. Casebeer, died in 1865; W. H. Coates, died in 1865; Alonzo Chase, died at home.

Isaac Dukes, died at Murfreesboro, Tenn., April, 1863; John Dyer, died at Gallatin, November, 1862; William J. Dyer, died of wounds, Chattanooga, October, 1863; James Dunbar, died November, 1863; Helim H. Dunn, died of wounds, December, 1863; Silas Dysert, died at Bridgeport, Ala., February, 1862; J. B. Dillingham, died at Collarsville, 1863; J. H. Drake, died at Athens, 1865; John Dingman, died at Nashville, March, 1865; Daniel Donehue, died, 1865; William Denny, killed, 1864; J. A. Denny, died at Nashville, 1864.

Abner Eddy, died at Camp Nevin, November, 1861; Nelson Eagles, starved to death, Danville, 1864; John Erricson, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., July, 1865; Henry Eley, died of wounds, May, 1862; John Engle, died at Camp Sherman, 1865; Abner Elder, died at Madison, Ind., 1862; Peter Eggleston, died at Nashville, January, 1865; Henry Eddy, died at Cumberland, Md., April, 1865; Eben Eddy, died at Indianapolis, March, 1865; A. T. Ellsworth, died, 1865.

Orton B. Fuller, killed at Resaca, May, 1864; Albert W. Fisher, died at Cairo, August, 1864; Erastus Fisk, died at Upton, Ky., December, 1861; Mackson Fisk, died at Camp Nevin, November, 1861; George Fisk, died at Louisville, January, 1862; Andrew J. Follen, died at Gallatin, November, 1863; Charles Folk, died at Nashville, 1864; Cepheus Fordam, died at Nashville, 1865; Frederick Felton, died at David's Island, April, 1865; William Fitzgerald, missing, wounded at Shiloh, April, 1862.

Daniel Groves, died at Memphis, December, 1862; Samuel Gardner, starved to death, Danville, 1863; I. J. Garver, starved to death, Andersonville, 1864; William H. Green, died at Louisville, Ky., June, 1865; A. A. Gallonge, killed at Shiloh, 1862; Owen Garvey, killed at Chickamauga, September, 1863; Matthias Green, died at Murfreesboro, February, 1863; B. L. Gage, died, 1865; Michael Gunnet, died, 1864; Simon Gilbert, died in Michigan, 1864; Wallace Gorton, died at home; Cyrus Gyer, starved at Andersonville, 1864.

Daniel Hodges, died at Baton Rouge, October, 1864; George Hubbard, killed at City Point, 1865; Joseph Hart, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; Henry Hetick, died of wounds, Chattanooga, October, 1863; Joseph C. Hill, died at Nashville, April, 1865; T. C. Hollister, killed at Murfreesboro, 1862; James Hudson, killed at Murfreesboro, 1862; Henry Hart, died at Indianapolis, 1863; John Haller, killed at Stone River, December, 1863; C. Hinton, died



at Henderson, Ky., 1862; William H. Hays, died at Ackworth, Ga., June 1864; W. Herrick, starved at Andersonville, 1864; M. Harker, died of wounds, 1864; Orange Homer, died at Gallatin, 1862; Emanuel Hoover, died at La Grange, 1862; Jacob K. Hartzler, died at Chattanooga, September, 1863; Stockton D. Haney, died at New Albany, Ind., November, 1862; John Hoffman, died at Hickory Valley, 1863; Jesse Hull, killed at Dallas, Ga., 1863; Alvin O. Hostetter, died at Memphis, September, 1865; Robert Hamilton, died near Vienna, Fla., July, 1864; E. L. Humphreys, died in Noble County, 1865; Edwin B. Hanger, died at home, April, 1865; Eliphalet S. Holy, died at Indianapolis, March, 1865; R. Householder, died; Addison Harley, died at Nashville, 1864; Elisha Harding, died at Kendallville, 1864; C. Hackett, died at Nashville, 1864; John D. Harber, died at Nashville, 1864; W. Hardenbrook, died at Pulaski, 1865.

Henry Jerred, killed at Murfreesboro, 1862; J. Y. Johnson, died at Corinth, July, 1862; Hollis Johnson, Jr., died at Gallatin, November, 1862; J. D. Joslin, killed at Atlanta, 1864; Samuel Johnson, drowned near Beaufort, S. C., January, 1865; Silas W. Johnson, died at Chattanooga, July, 1864; Albert M. Johnson, died at Camp Piatt, W. Va., August, 1865.

J. W. Kirkpatrick, died at Nashville, 1865; Samuel Konkright, died at Nashville, 1863; William H. Kelley, died of wounds at Chattanooga, March, 1865; Daniel Knepper, died on hospital boat, August, 1865; Barney Knepper, died at Indianapolis, June, 1862; L. C. Knapp, killed at Mission Ridge, 1863; M. D. King, killed at Dallas, Ga., 1864; Elias Kessler, died at Indianapolis, March, 1865; John W. Klein, died at Nashville, 1864.

Ashbury Lobdell, died at Beaufort, S. C., February, 1865; Jacob Lannen, died of wounds at Fort Fisher, 1865; Joseph Longly, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; Ira Lease, died at Murfreesboro, August, 1863; Robert Longyear, died at Farmington, 1862; Jacob Long, died, 1862; Hiram Lindsey, died, 1864; John S. Lash, died at Memphis, March, 1864; John Louthan, died at Vicksburg, August, 1865; A. Lunger, starved at Andersonville, 1864.

Lafayette Mullen, killed at Chickamauga, September, 1863; Andrew J. Myers, died at Victoria, Texas, November, 1865; Thomas J. Manhorter, died at St. Louis, February, 1865; James Monroe, killed at Stone River, 1862; F. B. Miller, starved to death at Andersonville, 1864; Simon Michaels, died, July, 1865; William Miner, died at Evansville, December, 1861; H. J. Monroe, died at Andersonville, August, 1864; J. B. Matthews, died at Murfreesboro, January, 1863; L. H. Madison, died at Hamburg, Tenn., May, 1862; John Mankey, died at Athens, Ala., July, 1862; Jacob Mohn, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; Eli Miser, died at Chattanooga, 1864; Corry McMann, died at Louisville, Ky., December, 1862; William Martin, died at Louisville, January, 1863; Matthias Marker, killed at Perryville, October, 1862; J. McBride, died at Nashville, 1865; Albert Martenus, died, 1865; John H. Mitchell, starved at Andersonville, 1864; Charles A. Monroe, died, 1863; Wesley

Moore, died, April, 1864; Sylvanus Mercia, died at Huntsville, Ala., 1865; J. McQuiston, starved to death at Andersonville, 1864; Charles W. Mullen, died at Whitesburg, Ala., August, 1864; Henry McGinnis, died at Decatur, Ga., September, 1864; John A. Madison, killed at Atlanta, 1864; J. H. McNutt, died of wounds, 1865.

G. G. Nelson, killed at Murfreesboro, 1863; J. W. Norton, died at Evansville, Ind., December, 1861; Charles Noteman, died at Columbus, 1865; Henry Nichols, died, 1865.

George Oliver, died in hospital, 1864; Francis Owen, died at Tuscumbia, 1863; Horace D. Odell, died at Gallatin, December, 1862; T. L. Ourstreet, died at Helena, Ark., 1862; Samuel W. Orr, died at Keokuk, Iowa, 1863.

H. Plummer, died at Granville, 1865; John Poppy, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; William Prentice, killed at Resaca, May, 1864; John S. Pancake, died at home, January, 1864; William H. Piatt, died at Murfreesboro, February, 1863; Rudolph Phisel, died at Nashville, 1865; Daniel Porke, died at Camp Sherman, 1863; A. Pennypacker, died at Murfreesboro, 1864; Earl Powers, died at Cumberland, Md., April, 1865; Lester Powers, died, 1865.

Henry Ridenbaugh, killed at Mission Ridge, November, 1863; Abraham Reed, died of wounds at Fort Fisher, 1865; Charles Rossin, died, December, 1864; William Richardson, died at home, April, 1862; Louis Routsong, died at Louisville, December, 1862; Isaac Rambo, died at Chattanooga, 1865; David Rink, died at Bowling Green, Ky., November, 1862; Oliver Reed, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., June, 1864; Robert Reed, killed at Atlanta, August, 1864; L. H. Randall, killed at Chickamauga, 1863; George W. Rogers, died at Tyree Springs, Tenn., November, 1862; David River, died at Nashville, 1862; Milton Richards, died at Nashville, September, 1864; William Rosenbaugher, died at Indianapolis, March, 1865; A. Rinehart, died, 1865.

Frank Seamans, died at Grand Junction, Tenn., February 1863; George R. Smith, died at Rome City in 1863; J. H. Sparrow, died of wounds at Fort Fisher, 1865; Edward B. Segnor, died at Baton Rouge, May, 1864; Daniel Shobe, Jr., died of wounds May, 1862; Clark Scarlett, died at Upton, Ky., December, 1861; Alfred Shields, died at Murfreesboro, December, 1863; P. J. Squires, killed at Shiloh in 1862; John Shidler, died at Gallatin, December, 1862; Thomas Stokes, died March, 1863; Elijah Starks, killed at Chickamauga in 1863; Jacob Shobe, died at Murfreesboro, May, 1863; Amos W. Seymour, died at Bowling Green, November, 1862; David Soule, killed at Atlanta in 1864; E. O. Sanborn, died at Chattanooga in 1863; Francis H. Shaver, starved at Andersonville in 1864; Alfred Sutton, died at Washington in 1864; J. Seebright, died on steamer Olive Branch in 1864; Jacob Slusser, died at Ackworth, Ga., June, 1864; Theron A. Smith, died, January, 1865; John Seips, died in 1865; Uriah Swager, died in 1865.

Frank Teal, killed at Shiloh, April, 1862; William Totten, killed at Chickamauga, September, 1863; John Traul, died at Huntsville, Ala., January,

1865; William R. Truly, starved to death at Andersonville in 1865; David Tressel, died at Lebanon Junction, Ky., December, 1862; William Tressel, died at Gallatin, December, 1862; Abraham Tasony, died of wounds, Madison, Ind., December, 1863; W. T. Taylor, drowned in Mill Creek in 1864; Franklin Thomas died at Nashville in 1863; Isaiah Tryon, killed at Kingston in 1864; Francis Trask, died at Jackson in 1865; Marcus B. Turney, died at Cumberland, Md., April, 1865.

William Untadt, died at Washington City, 1864.

Moses Walters, died at Memphis, October, 1863; George E. Warden, died at Scottsboro, Ala., March, 1864; William H. Williams, died at Marietta, Ga., September, 1864; Adam Weeks, died at Rome, Ga., 1864; John M. Wells, starved to death at Andersonville, 1864; Andrew J. Webb, died at Camp Nevin, Ky., November, 1861; Ira Worden, starved to death at Andersonville, 1864; Lorenzo D. Wells, died of wounds, December, 1863; Ziba Winget, died at Nashville, March, 1863; John D. Warner, died in 1863; Edmund West, died in Andersonville Prison, 1864; Hiram Wabill, died at Grafton, West Virginia, June, 1865; Joseph E. Walburn, died at Nashville, February, 1863; Hiram Woodford, died in 1865; W. R. Wilttrout, died at Washington in 1864; George Weamer, died of wounds, April, 1862.

William T. Yort, died at St. Louis, July, 1862; David C. Yoder, died in Andersonville Prison, August, 1864; John H. Yeakey, died at Nashville, 1862; L. D. Yorker, died at Camp Nevin, 1861; A. Young, died at Memphis, 1862.

John Zeigler, died at Raleigh, N. C., 1865.

Grand total, 301.

Table showing the amounts expended for local counties, and for relief of soldiers' families by Noble County during the late war, taken from the Adjutant General's Reports:

TOWNSHIPS.	BOUNTY.	RELIEF.
Noble County.....	\$ 67,856 50	\$ 39,426 26
Washington Township.....	2,176 00	.....
Sparta Township.....	1,800 00	.....
Perry Township.....	4,500 00	2,926 00
Elkhart Township.....	2,650 00	.....
York Township.....	2,675 00	200 00
Noble Township.....	150 00	.....
Green Township.....	1,500 00	.....
Jefferson Township.....	3,650 00	200 00
Orange Township.....	7,150 00	825 75
Wayne Township.....	7,600 00	3,000 00
Allen Township.....	7,165 00	1,500 00
Swan Township.....	6,000 00	.....
Albion Township.....	1,000 00	500 00
Totals.....	\$115,872 50	\$ 48,578 01
Grand Total.....		\$164,450 51

#### CALLS FOR TROOPS DURING THE REBELLION.

1. April 15, 1861, 75,000 men, for three months' service.
2. May 3, 1861, 42,034 men, for three years' service.

3. August 4, 1862, 300,000 men, for nine months' service.
4. June 15, 1863, 100,000 men, for six months' service.
5. October 17, 1863, 300,000 men, for three years' service.
6. July 18, 1864, 500,000 men, for one, two and three years' service.
7. December 19, 1864, 300,000 men, for one, two and three years' service.

Table of interesting facts regarding regiments which served in the last war, and which contained men from Noble County :

REGIMENT.	Term of Service.	Original Commissioned Officers.	Original Non-Commissioned Officers and Band.	Original Enlisted Men.	Recruits.	Re-enlisted Veterans.	Unassigned Recruits.	Commissioned Officers Died.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Men Died.	Deserters.	Non-Commissioned Officers, Band and Men Unaccounted for.	Total Officers and Men Accounted for.	Total Belonging to Regiment.
Ninth Infantry.....	Three years..	47	30	980	747	291	46	12	339	125	18	2123	2141
Twelfth Infantry.....	Three years..	41	6	901	372	.....	12	9	184	8	13	1319	1332
Thirteenth Infantry re-organized.....	Three years..	36	5	929	125	.....	41	.....	98	1	30	1116	1146
Twenty-first Infantry*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Twenty-second Infantry.....	Three years..	42	30	984	956	332	374	14	313	88	62	2656	2718
Twenty-ninth Infantry.....	Three years..	49	28	859	884	204	106	8	285	63	49	2081	2130
Thirtieth Infantry.....	Three years..	46	4	961	117	121	159	5	360	67	70	1338	1408
Thirtieth Infantry re-organized.....	Three years..	30	6	701	31	.....	35	.....	68	2	7	796	803
Thirty-fifth Infantry.....	Three years..	42	30	799	704	192	102	3	241	269	51	1818	1869
Thirty-seventh Infantry.....	Three years..	41	29	920	99	193	18	7	201	18	2	1298	1300
Thirty-seventh Infantry re-organized.....	Three years..	5	.....	162	47	.....	333	.....	10	.....	329	218	547
Thirty-eighth Infantry.....	Three years..	46	24	925	720	247	66	10	343	58	77	1951	2028
Forty-second Infantry.....	Three years..	43	25	951	902	215	27	6	248	60	119	2044	2163
Forty-fourth Infantry.....	Three years..	44	.....	889	987	220	63	13	236	65	102	2101	2203
Forty-eighth Infantry.....	Three years..	44	4	943	529	284	74	3	210	96	199	1679	1878
Fifty-ninth Infantry.....	Three years..	42	5	674	834	240	361	1	220	32	158	1998	2156
Seventy-fourth Infantry.....	Three years..	42	.....	900	208	.....	7	7	253	25	4	1153	1157
Eighty-eighth Infantry.....	Three years..	42	5	904	161	.....	19	12	196	36	8	1123	1131
One Hundredth Infantry.....	Three years..	43	.....	925	75	.....	11	5	232	31	11	1043	1054
One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry	Three years..	40	6	901	69	.....	3	4	171	34	4	1013	1017
One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Infantry	100 Days.....	39	6	818	2	.....	.....	.....	11	1	.....	865	865
One Hundred and Forty-second Infantry	One year.....	41	.....	926	27	.....	21	.....	64	28	22	993	1015
One Hundred and Fifty-second Infantry	One year.....	39	.....	933	13	.....	3	.....	48	23	.....	988	988
One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Infantry or Twelfth Cavalry.....	Three years..	50	.....	1211	83	.....	13	2	166	54	7	1350	1357
One Hundred and Nineteenth Infantry or Seventh Cavalry.....	Three years..	51	.....	1151	95	.....	32	5	238	169	29	1300	1329
One Hundred and Nineteenth Infantry or Seventh Cavalry re-organized.....	Three years..	25	7	543	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	2	673	575
Twentieth Battery.....	Three years..	5	.....	140	107	.....	.....	.....	25	27	6	246	252
Twenty-third Battery.....	Three years..	5	.....	130	71	.....	.....	.....	19	25	.....	206	20

## CHAPTER V.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

CITY OF KENDALLVILLE—ITS APPEARANCE FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO—SUBSEQUENT IMPROVEMENTS—MERCHANTS, MECHANICS AND OTHER BUSINESS MEN—THE ORIGINAL PLAT—INCORPORATION—CITY RAILROAD BONDS—COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS—EDUCATION AND RELIGION—SECRET SOCIETIES.

PREVIOUS to the year 1832, no white man had made the present site of Kendallville his home, but everything was just as it had been placed by the fashioning hand of the Creator. During the autumn of 1832, or perhaps the spring of 1833, a man named David Bundle, a tall, awkward specimen of the *genus homo*, who, like the immortal Lincoln, usually displayed about a yard of uncovered leg (at the lower extremity), appeared in the primitive for-

\* Not given in Adjutant General's reports.





Truly Yours  
John Mitchell

KENDALLVILLE



ests of Kendallville, and erected a small round-log cabin, with the assistance (some say), of the Viewers appointed to establish the Fort Wayne and Lima road. The cabin was but little better than a wigwam, as it was very small, and the roof was made of bark, while the floor, which was lacking at first, save the one formed by nature, consisted of clapboards rudely rived from some suitable log. This building was located near where the present residence of Hiram Roberts stands. Travel had already begun along the Fort Wayne road, as settlers from Ohio or farther east first went to the land office at Fort Wayne, and afterward came north to settle upon the farms they had purchased. A settlement had been formed before 1833 in the northern part of La Grange County, and it was mainly through the petition of these people that the Legislature was induced to order the survey and establishment of the Lima road. Thus the road was traveled by a few teamsters when Bundle first built his cabin, and, with the prospect of getting a few extra shillings in view, a small unpretentious sign was hung out that entertainment could be obtained. In the fall of 1833, Mrs. Frances Dingman, whose husband had died at Fort Wayne while the family were in search of a home in the wilds of Indiana, appeared at Bundle's cabin, and, having purchased his right and title to the property for a pittance, moved with her family into the log cabin, where she continued the entertainment of the traveling public, while Mr. Bundle disappeared, and his fate is unknown to this day. It is not known whether Bundle owned the land or whether he was anything more than a squatter; at least, he was easily induced to transfer his right in the cabin to Mrs. Dingman, who did own the land. This woman possessed considerable money, a will of her own, and a family of five or six children, several of whom had almost reached their majority. She employed some man to clear a few acres of land, and, in 1836, immediately after the erection of the Latta saw-mill, in Orange Township, she erected the first frame house in Kendallville, a small roughly constructed affair, which was built near the old log cabin. Mrs. Dingman found many hardships to contend with, and when at last, in about 1837, after a brief courtship, Truman Bearss asked her to become his wife, she consented, and the couple, happy in the enjoyment of genuine love, walked over to the Haw Patch to have the ceremony performed. They were bound together in Hymen's chains, and then started for home; but gloom and darkness came on, and they were compelled to pass the night in the woods. A fire was built, and here the newly made man and wife sat staring at each other with loving eyes until morning, when they started early and succeeded in reaching home in time for a hearty wedding breakfast. In about the year 1835, George Ulmer located on what is known as Idding's Addition to Kendallville. William Mitchell, in the spring 1836, built a double log cabin near where his son now resides. Thomas Ford came soon afterward. Ezra T. Isbell, Henry Iddings and Daniel Bixler appeared in about 1836, all locating within what is now Kendallville; but as they were scattered around a considerable distance apart, it was not yet dreamed in their philosophy that a

thriving village was destined to spring up around them. Isbell was the first shoemaker in town. John Finch, a wagon-maker, located before 1840, where Dieble's warerooms now are; and John Gipe erected a blacksmith-shop on the south side of the creek, on west Main street, about the same time. In 1840, there were living on the present site of Kendallville the families of Mrs. Dingman (or rather of Mr. Bearss), William Mitchell, John Gipe, John Finch, George Ulmer, Ezra T. Isbell, Henry Iddings, Daniel Bixler, and possibly two or three others, representing a total population of about thirty-five or forty. Mr. Mitchell also entertained the public, though no sign was hung out. By 1840, the settlement had assumed the appearance of an embryonic village. A short time before this, through the influence of Mr. Mitchell, who owned about five hundred acres of land and possessed considerable means, a post office was established at his cabin; but, a few years later, it was removed to the residence of Hiram Iddings; but, in about 1848, was re-established at the store of Samuel Minot, who had erected a small building (yet standing) on the old George Ackley property, and had placed therein between \$2,000 and \$3,000 worth of a general assortment of goods a year or two before. The office took its name from Postmaster General Amos Kendall, and was known as Kendallville, and the village, as soon as it was laid out, was christened after the name of the post office. Kendallville did not grow to any noticeable extent between 1840 and 1849, as perhaps not more than a dozen families lived within its limits. Lisbon, however, was at the summit of its prosperity. On the 1st of June, 1849, William Mitchell secured the services of the county surveyor and laid out twenty lots on the west side of Main street. Mr. Minot had opened his store some three years before. He built an ashery and manufactured a considerable quantity of pearl-ash, which was conveyed by wagon to Fort Wayne. Minot also built a saw-mill, which soon had all it could do in furnishing lumber for the plank road. From 1849 to 1857 the population of Kendallville increased from about seventy-five to over three hundred, the most rapid growth occurring in 1852, at which time it became quite certain that the Southern Michigan & Northern Indiana Railroad was to pass through the village. After that the future prosperity of the village became insured. Merchants and artisans of all kinds appeared, and the hum of various industries filled the ear with sounds of improvement. In about 1849, Minot took as a partner Mr. Evans; but, a few years later, the store was sold to Clark & Bronson. Israel Graden opened with a small stock of goods about 1848, but the next year sold to Minot & Evans. George Baker placed a small stock of groceries in the Graden building, but soon sold out to William Mitten. After the dissolution of Minot & Evans the latter continued the business with Mr. Parkman. Rood, Daniels & Co., started, in 1853, with dry goods and railroad supplies. A few years later Northam, Barber & Welch opened a store. Jacob Lessman appeared in about 1856, but sold to J. F. Corl, a short time afterward. A Hebrew partnership (Loeb Brothers) began selling ready-made clothing in about 1856.



Peter Ringle bought out Evans in 1854. M. M. Bowen engaged in the mercantile pursuit not far from 1857. In about 1857, Mr. Welch bought his partners' interest, and soon afterward effected a partnership with G. W. Greenfield. Haskins & Roller started about 1858. Jacobs & Brother engaged in the mercantile business in 1862; and G. C. Glatte started up not far from 1857. Thomas Brothers opened with a stock in 1859. Other merchants were engaged in business during these years, and since that time their name has been legion.

In 1852, Samuel Minot built a large frame four-storied grist-mill, placing therein three run of stone. Four or five years later the mill was purchased by George F. Clark, who greatly increased its usefulness. He shipped by rail large quantities of excellent flour to different points. About the beginning of the last war, the property was transferred to parties from Toledo, and after it had been heavily insured, it was burned to the ground, and the insurance money was demanded and obtained. Damaging charges were made, but were never substantiated. F. & H. Tabor built the grist-mill now owned by Mr. Brillhart, in the year 1857. The mill, which cost \$6,000, was supplied with three run of stone, and in 1859 a saw-mill was attached to it. Mr. Tabor claims that this was the first circular saw-mill in Northeastern Indiana. At the end of six years F. & H. Tabor disposed of their interest in the mills, but in 1864 built another saw-mill and the following year a grist-mill. These mills cost over \$7,000. The grist-mill has been re-built within the past two years. Thomas Evans, a cabinet-maker, appeared about 1852. Luke Diggins opened the first hotel of consequence not far from 1848. Four years later Jesse Kime built the old Kelley House. Diggins' House was known as the "Calico House," from the Dolly Varden style in which it was painted. The first follower of Esculapius was Dr. Cissel, who appeared in 1850. James Hoxby was the first attorney, although there were several pettifoggers before him. John M. Sticht began manufacturing buggies, phaetons, wagons, etc., in 1863. The business is now under the management of his son, H. J. Sticht, E. J. White and F. J. Westfall. Isaac R. Ayers is also engaged extensively in the same calling. The different establishments of the city in this line manufacture some fifty vehicles per annum. Reed, Hamilton and Gallup are at present manufacturing 30,000 snow shovels and handles of all kinds per year, employing from seven to twelve hands. Lucius N. Reed, since 1869, has been conducting a planing-mill; sash, door and blind factory; a general hardware store of materials needed in buildings; a large lumber yard, and is doing an annual business of over \$12,000. He keeps from 300,000 to 500,000 feet of lumber on hand, and employs in the various departments of his occupation some fifteen men. He has become a building contractor to the extent of about \$6,000 per year. In about the year 1856, Williams & McComiskey opened a small foundry, and began manufacturing various domestic articles and implements and a few plows. Within two or three years, they sold their establishment to

Hildreth & Burgess, who greatly increased the scope of the business in all departments. After a few years, Burgess died, and Hildreth continued the occupation for some time alone. Several changes were made, until at last, about the time of the last war, Flint, Walling & Co. assumed ownership and management, and have continued thus since. They have steadily increased in the business, omitting some branches, and taking up within the last few years the manufacture of wind-pumps, of which they send out large numbers, the demand being greater than the supply. They are at present manufacturing their own patent, although they did not at first. This is one of the most important industries in the city. J. H. Hastings was the first carriage-maker in town, coming in 1861. He is doing an annual business of \$8,000. The Masons instituted a lodge about twenty years ago, and have steadily increased in numbers and influence since. The Odd Fellows, in October, 1868, started with eight charter members; they now have sixty-eight. The Good Templars started up during the war, and have since died out several times, but, like the *Felis domesticæ*, they seem possessed of nine lives, and soon come to time again. The Knights of Honor organized a chapter about two years ago, and are doing well. All trades and professions are now represented in the city. These have one by one appeared, as Kendallville has grown from obscurity to one of the most prosperous cities of the size (about twenty-five hundred) in Northern Indiana.

At the June session of the County Commissioners in 1863, they were presented with a petition, signed by a majority of the tax-payers of Kendallville, praying that the village might be made an incorporated town. After a due hearing of all the facts in the case, the Commissioners granted the prayer. The "Incorporated Town of Kendallville" immediately began to assume airs of the most killing kind. Street lamps must be had. Town ordinances were adopted by the Board of Trustees, and executed with infinite *eclat* by officers duly empowered to see that the laws were speedily and effectively executed. The citizens proudly raised their heads a degree higher, looked sagely down their noses and thought unutterable things. Sidewalks were built, stagnant spots drained by effective sewers, estray animals were provided with suitable accommodations, and aristocratic circles were created, from which the impolite and the "unculchahed" were unceremoniously tabooed.

On the 6th day of October, 1866, pursuant to a notice of the Board of Trustees, and in accordance with the requirements of the law, an election was held, resulting as follows: Tim Baker, Mayor of the incorporated *City* of Kendallville; A. A. Chapin, Clerk; D. S. Welch, Treasurer; James Van Ness, Marshal; George Sayles, Street Commissioner; A. B. Park and John Emerson, Councilmen, First Ward; K. B. Miller and Moses Jacobs, Councilmen, Second Ward; James Colegrove and George Aichele, Councilmen, Third Ward. A stringent code of city ordinances was slowly adopted by the Council to meet the requirements of good health, good morals and general prosperity and com-

fort. The first meeting of the new city government was held on the 12th of October, 1866, at which time the necessary committees were appointed. A few years before this, a fire company had been organized, and some time after this they were provided with new apparatus, and a hook and ladder company was organized. The first movement looking to the erection of street lamps was made in November, 1870, when it was decided by the Council to purchase fifteen of such lamps at \$15 each. This resolution was not fully carried into effect. Many other things in the same strain might be said of the city.

On the 6th of January, 1858, Mitchell & Hitchcock (William Mitchell and Henry H. Hitchcock) began a private banking business in Kendallville, and continued until December 31, 1861, at which time the firm was dissolved, Hitchcock going out, the business being resumed by William Mitchell & Son (William Mitchell, John Mitchell and Charles S. Mitchell), continuing thus from January 1, 1862, to June 11, 1863. On the 12th of June the business was merged into the First National Bank of Kendallville, William Mitchell being elected President, and Charles S. Mitchell, Cashier. The first Board of Directors were William Mitchell, John Mitchell, Charles S. Mitchell, William M. Clapp, of Albion, and William W. Maltby, of Ligonier. The first stockholders were the above, with the addition of Mrs. M. C. Dawson, of Kendallville. William Mitchell and Charles S. Mitchell acted as President and Cashier until their respective deaths in September, 1865, and September, 1866. Since the death of William Mitchell, his son John Mitchell has been President of the bank. John A. Mitchell was Cashier from September, 1866, to January 10th, 1871, at which date Emanuel H. Shulz succeeded him. Mr. Shulz died in November, 1878. Jacob G. Waltman became Cashier on the 14th of January, 1879, and has held the position since. The bank is doing a good business, and enjoys the entire confidence of the community.

Kendallville has been visited by several disastrous conflagrations, the aggregate loss amounting to about \$60,000, not including numerous private dwellings. Among the principal losses, have been the foundry of Hildreth & Co., Iddings & Brown's stove factory, the Burnam House, the schoolhouse, a block of five buildings on Main street south of William street (net loss, \$6,000), a block of eight business buildings on Main street north of Williams street (net loss, \$16,000), a block of five business rooms on Main street south of Mitchell street (net loss, \$7,000), the tannery of Draggoo & Oviatt, the Air Line House, many private dwellings, some being elegant and costly. These are the principal fires, running over a period of some twenty-five years.

Kendallville lies upon the bank of a beautiful lake. This sheet of water (named Bixler Lake, for an old settler) might be rendered much more attractive by the construction of an artificial beach of gravel on the side adjoining the town. This could be done at little expense, and would transform Kendallville into a celebrated watering place. In about 1866, a small steamboat, named the "Flying Dutchman," and capable of carrying about fifty passengers, was

placed upon the lake by Mr. Lorenzo Ellenwood, at a total cost of several thousand dollars. It was purchased in Toledo, and after being used about two years was transferred to some lake in Southern Michigan, or perhaps to a river there. Mr. Ellenwood conducted a restaurant, entertaining pleasure seekers and others. He also dealt in ice; but these enterprises were losses financially.

When the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company were projecting their road through the county, citizens along the line were asked to take stock therein. Many did this in and around Kendallville, and finally the city government issued its bonds for \$83,000 to the railroad company, and received in return stock in the company to the same amount. Some time afterward, it became apparent, from the depreciation in the value of the stock, among other things, that large tracts of valuable timber land in Northern Michigan, in which every dollar's worth of stock had an interest, had been disposed of in such a manner as to deprive the stockholders of any interest therein. This led the city to refuse to pay its bonds at the par value of the stock, although it was not the design to repudiate the debt. A more detailed account of the whole proceeding is as follows:

WHEREAS, A majority of the resident freeholders of the city of Kendallville have petitioned the Common Council of said city to subscribe for and take \$83,000 capital stock in the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, for and on behalf of said city, and to make and issue bonds of the city in payment thereof; and whereas, it further appears, that the railroad as proposed to be constructed, will run into and pass through said city; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Kendallville,* That said city will subscribe for and take \$83,000 capital stock in aid of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and that bonds of said city shall be issued in payment therefor, as follows: Eighty-three corporate coupon bonds of \$1,000 each, signed by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk of said city, and payable twenty years from the 15th day of May, 1867, with interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable annually on the 1st day of May of each year (both principal and interest) at the office of the Treasurer of said city; that said bonds shall be delivered to the proper officer of said Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company only on condition—*First*, that the company issue to the city of Kendallville, in lieu thereof, certificates for capital stock of said company to the amount of \$83,000; *second*, that sufficient guaranty be given to said city by the President of said railroad company that all moneys arising from the sale of said bonds shall be expended upon that part of said road lying between the Allen County line, in the State of Indiana, and the city of Kendallville; that the Committee upon Ordinances prepare and report an ordinance to carry into effect these resolutions.

At a meeting of the City Council on the 10th of June, 1867, that portion of the above resolution requiring the President of the railroad company to guarantee that all money arising from the sale of city bonds should be expended upon that portion of the road lying between the Allen County line and Kendallville was unanimously "rescinded and repealed." It was further ordained, at this session, that so much of the above resolution as referred to subscribing and taking \$83,000 stock in the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and to issuing city bonds in payment therefor, "be and the same is hereby repealed." This was accomplished by a unanimous vote. Immediately afterward, the following resolution was offered:





Yours truly,  
Norman Leab.

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*Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Kendallville,* That whereas, the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company has prepared a proper certificate for capital stock in said company to the amount of 830 shares of \$100 each, and by its President, Joseph K. Edgerton, has also executed a written guarantee that the proceeds of the bonds ordered to be executed by said city by special ordinance adopted May 8, 1867, shall be applied in the construction of said railroad between Fort Wayne and Kendallville, and not elsewhere, and the said company having consented also to deliver to the said city the private obligations or subscriptions to the capital stock of said company made by the citizens of Kendallville during the year 1866; Now, therefore, the Treasurer of said city is directed to receive from said Joseph K. Edgerton the certificates of stock as aforesaid and the written guarantee and the private obligations or subscriptions aforesaid, and in payment therefor to deliver to said Edgerton the bonds executed by virtue of the special ordinance aforesaid, being eighty-three corporate coupon bonds of \$1,000 each; and the said City Treasurer is further directed, upon application, to deliver said private obligations to the several citizens of the city who executed the same and who now reside in said city.

This resolution remained pending until the next session of the Council, when it was voted upon and passed without a dissenting voice. On motion, Mr. Edgerton was appointed to cast the vote of the city at the annual meeting of the stockholders to be held at Sturgis, Mich., on the third Wednesday in July, 1867. He was also instructed to vote for Robert Dykes, as Director of the company from Kendallville. In July, 1869, some misgivings having arisen in the breasts of the citizens of Kendallville regarding the good faith of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company as to the fulfillment of its promises and obligations, and the proper disposal or application of the city's subscription, the President of the company was informed that the city would not pay its obligations—would repudiate the payment of its bonds, unless some further assurance was received that the stock subscribed would be properly expended, and that, too, without any unnecessary delay. Whether such assurance was received is not known; at all events, matters went on until it was learned that the Grand Rapids Company had in some manner transferred its interest in the road to the "Continental Improvement Company," and that the stock in the road held by the city of Kendallville was either worthless, or nearly so, from the probable fact that the extensive pine timber lands in Michigan, owned by the company, to which all such stock had a claim, had been disposed of in a manner to defraud the stockholders of any interest therein, whereupon one hundred and fourteen citizens of Kendallville petitioned the City Council, asking that the Continental Improvement Company be required to furnish the city with \$83,000 of stock, or upon failure to do so, such citizens would refuse to pay the principal of their bonds, the interest, or any part thereof. The petition was ordered on file, and the Mayor was instructed to employ Morris & Worden, attorneys of Fort Wayne, to ascertain the true condition of affairs, and whether the city of Kendallville was liable for the payment of the \$83,000 stock subscribed. This last resolution, however, was soon rescinded, and the Council employed L. E. Goodwin to ascertain the extent of the legal liability of the city for the bonds given to the railroad company. As time passed, it became more apparent to the citizens that they had been outflanked when they gave their bonds to the railroad company, and a bitter oppo-

sition to the payment of the subscription was freely expressed everywhere. At last a petition with sixty-eight names was presented to the Council, asking that an agent be appointed to see whether the bonds of the city in the possession of the railroad company could be negotiated at some satisfactory rate, in view of the existing hard times and burdensome taxation; but at the next meeting another petition, asking that action on the above petition be deferred until after the election of the city officers for the ensuing year, was presented with 142 names. At the next session the Council resolved to appoint a committee of three citizens to confer with the holders of the city's bonds, as to the best terms such bonds could be negotiated. A conference between the committee and Mr. Edgerton, of the Grand Rapids road, and G. W. Cass, of the Continental Improvement Company, was held, and arrangements were made by which the bonds were to be purchased by the city, and, in lieu thereof, the stock held by the city was to be transferred to the holders of the bonds; but as this was not followed by the proper action on the part of the bondholders, it was resolved by the City Council that the Treasurer be instructed to pay no more coupons on the bonds until further orders. This action brought from Mr. Cass the proposition to exchange \$40,000 of the bonds of the city with the overdue coupons attached for \$80,000 of the stock in the Grand Rapids Railroad, and also an agreement to discount 25 per cent on the remaining debt, if the same be paid in one and two years. After long debate through several successive meetings the Council finally rejected the offer of Mr. Cass, but agreed to exchange \$20,000, and the stock in the city's possession, for the \$83,000 in bonds held by the Continental Company; the \$20,000 to be payable in three years in equal annual payments. Mr. Cass, by letter, refused to accept this proposition, and further debate was indulged in by the City Council regarding the best means of adjusting the difference. A committee of three was appointed to go to Sturgis, Mich., and confer with Mr. Cass and secure the best terms possible, the committee being Messrs. Ringle, Cain & Orviatt. These men could secure no better terms, and accordingly a mass meeting of the citizens of the city was called to be had on the 2d of August, 1870, at which time an almost unanimous opinion was expressed not to accept the proposition of Mr. Cass; but in the face of this feeling the City Council by a vote of three to two accepted the proposal. Any further action, however, was postponed until a petition, signed by 238 qualified voters of the city, and asking that the resolution of the Council be rescinded, was presented, when the prayer of the petitioners was granted. The payment of the coupons on the bonds was refused, and after threatening suit against the City Treasurer for the collection of the same, the railroad President was confronted by a resolution from the Council supporting the Treasurer in his refusal to pay the overdue interest. After numerous propositions from both sides for a settlement without success, suit was finally begun in the United States Circuit Court at Indianapolis, by J. T. Davis, for the collection of overdue interest on the city's bonds. While this was pending, further efforts were made to



adjust the trouble. The city received a proposition from certain attorneys of Fort Wayne to the effect that, if \$15,000 would be guaranteed them, they would clear the city of its bond indebtedness. This proposition was accepted, and suit was begun. Various other complications arose, until at last in January, 1874, the following contract was entered into between the city and Mr. Cass, representing the Continental Improvement Company :

The said city shall assign and deliver to the said Continental Improvement Company the certificates for 830 shares of the stock in the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, now held by said city. *Sec-nd*, The said city shall pay the said Continental Improvement Company \$25,000 in ten (10) equal annual payments with interest payable annually on the whole; the first payment to be made on the 1st of October, 1874, and the remaining payments on the 1st of October, annually, thereafter, until all shall be paid, and the interest shall be computed on the \$25,000 from the 1st day of October, 1874. *Third*, The cause now pending against said company in the Allen Circuit Court to be withdrawn, and all suits against said company, in which said city is interested, either directly or indirectly, to be dismissed immediately by said city. *Fourth*, The said Continental Improvement Company agrees to accept from said city each of the above installments (\$2,500) and interest as above stated, as it becomes due, and at the same time surrenders to said city \$10,000 of said bonds or coupons now held by said company, and when said city shall have paid the whole \$25,000, and interest at the time, and in the manner above promised by said city, and shall have performed all the other stipulations herein agreed to be performed by said city, then the Continental Improvement Company will, without further payment, deliver to said city the remainder of said bonds and coupons.

This contract has been faithfully carried into effect, until at the present writing only about \$6,000 remains unpaid. The above facts have been dwelled upon, as the subject was one which for several years affected the financial welfare of every tax-payer within the corporate limits of the city. The writer may have made some mistakes above, as the facts in the case were extremely hard to get. If so, the forbearance of the reader is asked. "You know how it is yourself."

Kendallville children first went to school about a mile and a half north-west to the old log schoolhouse on the Sawyer farm. School was taught there prior to 1840. Soon after this house had been built, another was erected between the residences of Ryland Reed and Hiram Iddings, and as this was nearer than the other house, the scholars were sent to it. Cynthia Parker and Miss Wallingford were early teachers at the Iddings Schoolhouse. In about the year 1847, a log school building was erected on the line between Allen and Wayne Townships, about forty rods west of the Fort Wayne road. Here the village children assembled to receive instruction. No schoolhouse was constructed in Kendallville proper until 1858. For several years previous to that date, however, select schools had been taught by competent instructors in vacant rooms here and there in town; but this was found to be unsatisfactory, and, accordingly, in 1858, a three-storied frame school building, about 30x60 feet, was erected on the site of the present school structure, at a cost of about \$3,500. The two lower stories were devoted to the use of class recitations, while the third story was used as a hall in which to hold public exhibitions, lectures, etc. From one hundred and eighty to two hundred scholars were in

attendance from the beginning. Dr. Riley, an accomplished scholar and an efficient instructor and organizer, was employed and taught two years, when he was succeeded by Mr. W. W. Dowling, who likewise taught two years. During the winter of 1863-64, which was very cold, the Government troops encamped at the town suffered so much that the Colonel ordered the evacuation of the schoolhouse by teachers and pupils, and transformed it into a hospital for the sick of his command. Small-pox broke out among the men at the "hospital," but, luckily, it was prevented from spreading. After this, talk was freely indulged in by parents of scholars that the schoolhouse could not be used longer as such, owing to the liability of the children's catching the small-pox. A secret attempt was made, during the summer of 1864, to burn the house, but without success, although, late in the fall, the attempt was repeated, resulting in the destruction of the building. School was then taught in the basement of the Baptist, Disciple and Presbyterian Churches, and in public halls in the town, until the present fine (brick) school structure was erected at a total cost, including finishing, bell, desks, apparatus, etc., of nearly \$40,000. The house is 61x81 feet, is two stories in height, has ten regular school rooms, and several others which could be made such if necessary. It is one of the finest school structures in Northern Indiana. It was built by means of city bonds, which were issued and sold, but which after a time depreciated considerably in value, owing to several reasons, one being the hard times at the close of the war, and another the heavy taxation for the payment of railroad bonds. Money was hard to obtain, and it is said that while the city was kicking like Balaam's donkey against the payment of the railroad bonded debt, the schoolhouse bonds were sold at a discount as soon as they were issued—were thrown upon a dull market and sold at a discount. The building was begun with money (about \$7,000), raised by subscription, and with the personal liability (about \$6,000), of James Colegrove, James B. Kimball and Freeman Tabor. These amounts were afterward covered by city bonds. The bonds were paid by installments, and were issued in the same manner, the most at any time being \$1,500, due in one year; \$1,500, due in two years; \$2,000, in three years; \$5,000, in six years; \$5,000, in nine years; and \$5,000, in twelve years; the first three installments drawing interest at 6 per cent per annum, and the last three at 10 per cent per annum. This issue of bonds was made in March, 1867. The schoolhouse debt has been liquidated. Within the last few years, a high school has been created, and now young men and women, with thoughtful faces, pass out into the world, with "sheepskins" of the Kendallville High School. The present enumeration of school children in the city is about 1,100.

The Methodists had an imperfect organization in the vicinity of Kendallville as early as 1840, and first assembled in a large barn belonging to William Mitchell. Three or four families belonged, and when the barn was burned down by an incensed blackleg, meetings were held in the neighboring log schoolhouses. The Baptists had an early organization at the Sawyer Schoolhouse,



*L. W. Reed*

KENDALLVILLE





and the Presbyterians started up about the same time. Circuit ministers of these denominations visited the neighborhood for a number of years; but, as these societies died out before Kendallville began its rapid growth in about 1851, the present organizations in the city cannot properly be called a continuation of the old ones. The following denominations have churches in the city: Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, German' Lutheran, German Methodist, Disciple, Albright and Catholic. The Protestant Methodists were represented for a time, but the society was disbanded a number of years ago. The Baptists built the first church in town, the building being now occupied by Catholics. The house, a frame structure, was erected in 1856, and ten years later was transferred to the Catholics for \$2,500. They have owned it since. The Baptist Church was used by several denominations, which had contributed means for its erection. A few years later, the Methodists built a frame church, which, after being used a few years, was destroyed by fire. After the Baptists sold their church, they soon bought that belonging to the Protestant Methodists. This they still occupy. The Disciple Church was first started at Lisbon; but before it was completed it was taken down, and the material was conveyed to Kendallville, where it was used in building the present church. The Albright Church was built at the close of the war. The Presbyterian society was first organized in May, 1848, by Rev. J. T. Bliss, of the Fort Wayne Presbytery. Four members constituted the original membership, as follows: Joseph Gruey, Mrs. Elizabeth Gruey, John Cospar, and Mrs. Mary Cospar. Mr. Gruey was the first Ruling Elder. At the first meeting, Mr. and Mrs. John Kerr were received by letter. The Methodists and Baptists also had organizations many years before their churches were erected. The Presbyterian Church was erected in 1863, and the Methodist ten years later. These two and the German Lutheran are large, costly, brick edifices, tastefully and handsomely finished, and are a credit to the city. All the others are frame buildings. William Mitchell, one of the most prominent and charitable men ever residing in the city, gave each religious society (eight in all) a lot upon which to build its church. He also gave the fine large lot upon which the High School building now stands. The old Baptist Church was an important building. Prior to 1863 the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and possibly other societies, met there alternately to worship, and the old house was almost constantly filled with one unending song of praise and thanksgiving. Before its erection, and subsequent to the year 1852, meetings were held in various vacant rooms and halls; but all this inconvenience is now gone, and the sweet-toned bells calling Christians to worship are heard from many quarters. \*The Lutheran St. John's congregation was organized in 1856, and was first served by Rev. Schumann, holding its first meetings in private houses. Among the first members were John Eichelberg, George Aichele, Julius Kratzer, and later A. Wickmans, John Ortstadt, Oscar Rossbacher, John Krueger, Julius Lang and F. Oesterheld and

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\*Prepared by Rev. George M. Schumns.

others. In 1860, the first (frame) building was erected, which was afterward enlarged. In 1865, Rev. A. Wuesteman was called to take charge of the congregation, which continued to grow by the advent of German Lutherans. In 1871, Rev. Ph. Fleishmann succeeded Rev. Wuesteman, and by this time it was found that the congregation had outgrown the capacity of the old church. Accordingly, in 1873, a new brick edifice valued at \$10,000 was erected. The old building was made use of as a school-room. Connected with the congregation is a private school, at present under the management of Mr. F. Gose. The enumeration is about 100. At the death of Rev. Fleishmann in 1879, the present pastor, Rev. George M. Schumns, was given charge of the congregation. There is a present membership of 75 *voting* members, besides others. Since the origin of the society, 454 persons have been baptized, 228 confirmed, and 207 deaths have occurred.

## CHAPTER VI.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP—REFLECTIONS OF AN OLD SETTLER—LONG LIST OF PIONEERS—LIFE IN THE FOREST—WOLVES VERSUS DOMESTIC ANIMALS—MR. GRADEN'S ADVENTURE—THE OLD SAWYER SAW-MILL—EARLY TAVERNS AND DRINKING CUSTOMS—ROLLINGS AND RAISINGS—THE FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE AND TEACHER—THE FIRST RELIGIOUS SOCIETY AND THE FIRST CHURCH ERECTED.

THE common experience of old age is an earnest wish to live over again the life that is swiftly drawing to a close. How many mistakes have been made! how many hours have been unprofitably spent! how blind to good advice and influence! The stealthy and inevitable approach of death baffles the desire for a renewal of youth, and fills the heart with bitter remorse at the thought of what might have been. Youth is always bright with hope and expectancy; but, as the years glide by, the scales fall from the eyes, and the sorrowful experiences of earth trace wrinkles of care upon the brow, and bend the once stalwart form toward the grave. No rocking vessel on life's great sea can escape the angry rain that dances upon it, or avoid the bitter winds that check its course.

“ Sweet are the uses of adversity,  
Which, like a toad, ugly and venomous,  
Wears yet a precious jewel in its head.”

Let us learn from the wretched experience of others—learn from the lives that have gone down amid the gales of sorrow that encompass the earth, to shun the shoals and quicksands that beset our course, that the sunset of life may be gilded with the gold of eternal joy.

The first log cabin erected in Wayne Township was built on the present site of Kendallville in 1832, but at what time of the year is uncertain. In fact, the first two or three settlers in Wayne located at Kendallville. As,

however, the history of that city is fully given in another chapter, its further consideration at this time is postponed. In 1844, the following men resided in the township on land of their own, as shown by the tax duplicates at the county seat: Lewman Andrews, Joseph Axtell, Daniel Axtell, John Bullenbaugh, Jason Bosford, Daniel Bixler, Nicholas Bixler, George F. Bodenheifer, Ludwig Brown, John Cosper, Reuben Chamberlain, Elias Cosper, John A. Forker, S. W. Gallop, Joseph Graden, Henry Grubb, Erastus Harlow, Richard Horsely, George Kimmel, J. W. Leonard, William Mitchell, Samuel Lehman, Daniel Longfellow, Christian Long, D. L. Numan, H. G. Rossen, S. B. Sherman, Stephen Sawyer, Mrs. William Sawyer, Jacob Spurbeck, Isaac Swarthouse, William Selders, Samuel Trowbridge, D. D. Trowbridge, Ansel Tryon, Hester Taylor, Thomas B. Weston, John B. Woodruff, Albin Curtis, Henry Deam, Michael Deam and Charles Fike.

Perhaps the very earliest among this catalogue were Nicholas and Daniel Bixler, Reuben Chamberlain, John Cosper, William and Stephen Sawyer, John A. Forker, Henry Grubb, John Brundage, George L. Kimmel, and others. Many of the earliest settlers in the township left before 1844, so that their names do not appear above; and, unfortunately, they cannot be given, as their faces and names have faded from the memory of the old settlers yet living in the township. The year 1836 is remembered all over the county as the time when the first great rush was made for farms therein. Settlers were generally averse to going into counties for the purpose of permanent settlement until after the first organization had been perfected. That, being accomplished, was regarded as sufficient evidence that, although the county might be new and wild yet, still primitive homes had been begun, and that rude specimens of human habitation—the log cabin—had been reared. Besides this, land was quite cheap, and a comfortable home could be secured with a little money and a great deal of patience, hard work and endurance. Accordingly, as above stated, large numbers of immigrants appeared in the county in 1836, and from that time forward rapid growth and improvement ruled the hour. Prior to 1836 not more than six or eight families were living, or had lived, in Wayne Township, and some of these were as follows: David Bundle, the first settler in the township; Mrs. Frances Dingman, widow of James Dingman, and her family; Daniel and Nicholas Bixler; Thomas Ford; Truman Bearss, who, a few years later, became the husband of Mrs. Dingman; Luke Diggins; Mr. Martin, and perhaps one or two others. Among those who came in 1836 were Samuel Comstock, John Brundage, Joseph Graden, Henry Iddings, John Sawyer, who soon afterward died of a fever, and perhaps others, some of whose names appear above. Early life in the Wayne woods was, in general, very similar to that in other townships, and many descriptions will be found in this volume, pointing out the various pleasures and hardships incident to a sojourn in the wilderness. John Sawyer was a native of Knox County, Ohio, and upon his arrival entered several hundred acres a mile or two northwest of Ken-

dallville, where he made his home and lived until 1837, when he died. He was the first blacksmith in the township. On this farm was an Indian graveyard, where a few of that unregenerate race were buried, to await, probably, the resurrection, which occurred much sooner than had been intended, as the crumbling skeletons were carelessly thrown out by the curious, and left to mingle with the surface soil. Many wild animals were yet abundant, though the larger and fiercer, such as bears, had disappeared, save an occasional straggler. Deer were every-day sights, and were often shot by men who were probably not descended from Nimrod. They frequently came into the clearings to feed on the green wheat and other luxuriant vegetation. Many were shot from windows and doors. Jackson Iddings tells that, upon one occasion while hunting in the woods, he shot a buck which dropped to the ground; but, as he approached to cut its throat, it leaped to its feet, and with bristles erect along its spine and head lowered for the conflict, made a dash at the hunter, but for a time it was eluded by briskly dodging behind trees, until its strength had considerably failed on account of the wound, when it was suddenly attacked by the settler, and dispatched by a few strokes of the knife. Mr. Iddings also says that in one day he found seven bee trees, from which were taken about thirty gallons of the finest honey, a portion being candied. Bees came from their hive during warm days in the winter, and, dying of cold, would fall on the snow, leaving a bright yellow stain, by which their hives were discovered. A dish of fine wild honey was a common sight in the dining room (if there was such an apartment) of the old settlers. William Tryon tells of killing a badger under the following circumstances: The opening in the earth leading to its nest having been discovered, Mr. Tryon and several others began the work of digging it out, but as fast as they dug the animal also dug, keeping away from them; finally, after a deep excavation had been made without success, five or six strong steel traps were set in the opening, and the next morning the hole, when approached, was found nearly full of dirt; a portion of this was thrown out, and in one of the traps was the badger; it was taken alive to the house, but died in a few days. It is related that Joseph Graden, having lost his cows, went in a southerly direction in search of them, taking with him his little boy some eight years old; not finding them as expected, he traveled on, and ere he was aware darkness had come, when he was on the bank of Cedar Creek, several miles from home; the night was cloudy and very dark, and the cold wind swept through the branches of the trees, and the weird rustling of dead leaves and the wild creakings of gnarled limbs aroused the apprehensions of the belated settler; to add to the unpleasant situation, wolves began to howl in the dark forest near them; a fire was immediately kindled, and a supply of fuel gathered, and the settler holding his little boy closely by his side sat down with the fire at his front and a large half-hollow oak at his back, and thus remained until morning; the wolves came close to the fire during the night, snapping and snarling, yet did not venture an attack, but sneaked off into the





*Thomas B. Weston*



forest as the dawn appeared. John Longyear, who settled in the township in 1844, says that the wolves, one night in harvest, attacked a flock of ten sheep belonging to him, and when morning dawned nine of them were found lying stiff and stark upon the ground with their throats cut. Many incidents of a similar character are narrated, but these will suffice to illustrate the dangers to be met by backwoodsmen in Noble County.

The first birth in the township was that of a son of Mr. Bixler, and occurred early in the year 1836. The child lived but a few weeks, and its death was the first. One of the first marriages was that of Mrs. Dingman to Mr. Bearss. They went over to the Haw Patch to have the ceremony performed, and becoming belated on their return spent the night in the woods. William Selder was conducting a tannery on Section 22, as early as 1845. This was continued probably about five years, and the small quantity of leather manufactured was sold in surrounding towns, or to the settlers, who took it to their homes, where it was made into boots or shoes for the family by journeymen cobblers. It must be remembered that ready-made clothing and wearing apparel of all kinds were not kept for sale in stores as they are nowadays. Cloth or leather was purchased at certain seasons of the year in quantity sufficient to supply the whole family, and then either a journeyman cobbler or tailor was employed to make the goods up, or the services of the wife and mother were called into requisition to furnish the clothing, and those of the husband and father to furnish boots and shoes. The parents often acquired great dexterity by long practice in these particulars. The journeyman would travel around from house to house, remaining sometimes more than a week at the same place. Whisky was used at all the rollings and raisings, as no man pretended to work on such occasions without frequent potations from the bottle. On one occasion Mr. Longyear announced a rolling-bee, and, when the men assembled and began work, it was discovered, amid considerable comment, that no whisky had been furnished. One of the men asked Mr. Longyear: "Have you no whisky?" and was answered, "No." "Why not?" "I have no money" (a prevarication, as Mr. Longyear did not want to furnish whisky). "Well, I have money," said the man, reaching his hand in his pocket and taking out a half dollar. "Take this and get us a gallon of whisky." Whereupon a messenger was dispatched for a gallon of the drink which inebriates, and when it came the men made themselves both full and happy. Some became too full (fool) for utterance, and sought the shade to sleep off their blissful spirits. The whisky was obtained at the tavern of Luke Diggins, on the Fort Wayne road, and was at that time 50 cents per gallon. At a rolling or raising on the farm of Mr. Childs, the whisky was drunk from a wash-dish, and is said to have tasted as well as usual. Various drinking vessels were at first used, and when, finally, a jug was brought into the neighborhood, it was immediately and with due ceremony dedicated to the service of imbibers at the rollings and raisings, and after that was always present, traveling the circuit of the neighborhood,

but, unlike the men who assembled to work, was generally empty, a deplorable condition of affairs truly. Mr. Longyear says that by actual count he assisted at sixty rollings and raisings in one year.

The old Sawyer Saw-Mill was built in the southwestern part in about the year 1840, being located on the Elkhart River at a place where a dam was easily secured, and where a fair water-power was warranted. The writer could not learn with certainty who erected this mill, but it must have been by either Stephen Sawyer or Joseph Graden. Graden was a carpenter, and probably did the work of construction, even though the other man owned the property. That is probably the true fact in the case. Stephen Sawyer operated it very early, and was afterward succeeded by numerous owners, among whom were Solomon Sherman, Daniel Bixler and John Forker. The mill remained in operation about twenty years, and at times was well patronized. The next saw-mill was built at Kendallville, to supply the old plank-road with lumber. No grist-mill has been built in Wayne Township outside of Kendallville. The old plank-road was extensively traveled in early years, especially after the enactment of the Fugitive Slave Law, by colored fugitives from the Southern States on their way to Canada. They were assisted on their way by S. Whitford, John Longyear, old man Waterhouse, and several others along the road. Father Waterhouse was constantly engaged in the business, and it must be remembered that any help rendered the escaping slaves was punishable by stringent legal enactments; consequently those who engaged in the work, knowing that they were violating the law, carried on their schemes under the friendly cover of the night. Mr. Waterhouse was discovered assisting fugitive slaves, and, it is said, was arrested, but finally cleared himself after considerable trouble. In the light of subsequent events, this noble-hearted old man, and all others who engaged in the work through humane motives, deserve a lasting tribute to their memory. Mr. Longyear says that on one occasion eight dusky fugitives remained over night at his house, and were taken away just at daybreak, and hurried to some other point. Mr. Longyear received the appointment of Postmaster in about 1850, and retained the office seven years. Prior to that event, it had been at Marseilles, in Orange Township, Joseph Scott being the Postmaster. Luke Diggins opened a tavern on the Fort Wayne road very soon after coming to the township, not far from the year 1838; but, prior to that, one had been thrown open for public entertainment in what is now Kendallville, by Mrs. Dingman, the latter house being the first in the township. Diggins' tavern was standing on the Fort Wayne road, near the Orange Township line, and became a great resort of those who courted the god of wine. Whole nights were spent in the old bar-room, and merriment ruled the hours.

“In the days of my youth, when the heart's in its spring,  
And dreams that affection can never take wing,  
I had friends!—who has not?—but what tongue will avow  
That friends, rosy wine! are as faithful as thou?”



"Then the season of youth and its vanities past,  
For refuge we fly to the goblet at last;  
There we find—do we not?—in the flow of the soul,  
That youth, as of yore, is confined to the bowl."

For the first few years, the early settlers were obliged to go to Brush Prairie for corn, wheat and vegetables. No man had money in any quantity worth mentioning, and it was therefore necessary for those dealing in values to devise a system of exchanges, and this was accomplished by the establishment of a representative of value that was within the reach of all. A day's labor in the woods was as unchangeable as any value, and was often used as a standard, by which prices were fixed and exchanges effected. Thomas B. Weston, quite an early settler, was well known and universally respected and trusted. It was customary at the time taxes were to be paid for some settler who could be depended upon to obtain from each tax-payer the necessary amount of money, and then proceed to the county seat, where the claims of the county and State were adjusted. Mr. Weston often did this for the settlers in Wayne Township. One day he approached Mr. Longyear's house, and told the owner that it was tax-paying time, and for him to get ready his money. This was new for Mr. Longyear, and he replied that he had not laid by any money for such a purpose. "Well, can't you raise the money, some way?" asked Mr. Weston; whereupon he was given a coon skin and a fawn skin, which were taken to Port Mitchell, then the county seat, and sold, and the \$1.50 realized was used to pay Mr. Longyear's first tax. That was only a common incident, and fitly illustrates the early way of meeting obligations. Many cranberries were growing in the surrounding marshes, and these were gathered and sold, and the cash realized was turned over to the tax collector. The woods were filled with wild hogs and rattlesnakes, and as the former were needed they were shot, and, as the latter were not needed, they were likewise killed. The early settlers were like brothers, sharing with each other provisions, etc., and assisting in all departments of farm work.

The first schoolhouse in the township was erected in about the year 1838, on the farm of the heirs of John Sawyer. It was a small, round-log structure, built in the rudest and most primitive way, and without a solitary interesting feature, save the roaring fire-place that lighted the gloomy room with ruddy and fitful glow. Joseph White, a native of the Buckeye State, taught the first school, receiving for his services \$1 for the term from each scholar, and his board from the patrons of the school, the latter being the families of Mrs. John Sawyer, Luke Diggins, and two or three others. The plank for the doors, window-casings, etc., was obtained at the old Latta Saw-Mill in Orange Township, as the Sawyer Mill had not yet been erected. This old house was used five or six years, when a small frame school building was erected near it to take its place. In 1845, a log schoolhouse was built in the Kimmel neighborhood, and was used until it became leaky, when it was abandoned, and a better one built. By this time, there was some school money that had been

raised by taxation, and was used to pay the teacher and maintain the school. The second house in this neighborhood was a frame structure which is yet standing and used, though it has often undergone repair. The next schoolhouse was built one mile north of John Longyear's residence, about 1846; others have succeeded it. The schoolhouse at the Center was built the same year, and, within the succeeding four or five years, every district then in the township was supplied with some kind of a rude log schoolhouse. Lydia Bixler was the first teacher at the Center. The Longyear school building was not erected at public expense. It was the outgrowth of jealousy, and was built at the expense of a few foolish individuals, who subsequently turned it over to the township. Several other districts have been ruptured the same way, until there are fourteen school buildings in the township outside of Kendallville. The result is as might have been expected. If every man must have his own schoolhouse, he "must pay for his whistle," and live to see it run down. Wayne Township is certainly well supplied with schoolhouses, and also has its full share of spleen.

A small Free-Will Baptist society was organized in about 1841 or perhaps a year or two earlier. Circuit ministers came to preach about once a month, and a membership of some twelve or fifteen was secured. The society was first organized in Daniel Bixler's barn, where it met for a few months, and then occupied the old log schoolhouse. Some of the early members were Daniel Bixler and family, Barbara and Elizabeth Dingman, Philander Isbell and others. Rev. John Staley was one of the first preachers. When he died, the flock, being without a shepherd, became confused and scattered, and the society was soon extinct. The Bixler girls were fine singers, possessing magnificent voices, and drawing many outsiders in to hear them. In about 1847, a revival was held at the Center Schoolhouse by an able minister of the Episcopal Methodist persuasion, and many were converted and joined to the church. Meetings were held in schoolhouses, and at last a good-sized log church was built on the farm of Nicholas Hill. This was used until it was worn out, and until a portion of the membership had altered their faith to that of the Protestant Methodists. The old building was abandoned, and the Episcopal Methodists afterward held their meetings in the old schoolhouse near by, while the Protestant Methodists went down to the Center Schoolhouse, where they still continue to assemble. The other branch of the church built a neat frame building a short distance east of where the old log house had stood, about fourteen years ago. The society is in a flourishing condition. Among the members who belonged at the time the first church was built in about the year 1851 were the Hills, Brundages, Greens, Rices, Johnsons, Youngs, Stantons and Wilsons. These religious societies have had an excellent effect upon the morals of the citizens. The German Methodist society, which now has a church on Section 2, was organized in the fall of 1857 by the following persons who became members: George Linder and wife, Gottlieb Fried and wife, and George Frey and



CATHERINE WESTON





wife. The first meeting was held at the house of George Linder, with the Rev. John Snider as Pastor. After this, meetings were held in the various private houses and in Hamer's Schoolhouse, until the membership had reached about thirty, when a consultation was held at the residence of John Shifaly, regarding the propriety of building a church, which resulted in the appointment of a committee, with Mr. Shifaly as chairman, to solicit subscriptions for the erection of such a building, Mr. Shifaly donating \$100 and the necessary ground. In May, 1873, the contract for the erection of a church, 30x40 feet, was let to Mr. Shifaly for \$1,318, and the house was completed in October and dedicated in November, 1873, the Rev. Andrew Meyers being first Pastor. The church was named "Weston's Chapel," in honor of the old settler of that name. The first Trustees were John Ackerman, Gottlieb Fried, George Frey, Charles Kent and John Shifaly. The present membership is about forty, Rev. August Gerlach, Pastor. The society is in good circumstances. The Trinity class in the northern part was organized in 1869, by D. S. Oakes, who became first Pastor. Among the early members were D. Fiant and wife, Mr. Kreuger and wife and R. Hutchins and wife. Preaching was held in the Ream's Schoolhouse. In February, 1873, a subscription was started for a brick church, 34x48 feet. A considerable amount was thus promised, and the work was begun by the appointment of the following building committee: M. Eckhart, M. Kreuger and R. Hutchins, who, in July, let the contract for building the house to M. Kreuger for \$2,150. For some reason further work was postponed until the following year, when the house was constructed, and finally dedicated in August, 1874, R. Riegel being Pastor. On the day of dedication a debt of \$600 covered the church; this has since been reduced until at present only \$60 remain. In 1880, \$80 were expended in repairs. The membership, in 1875, was twenty-two; that at present about forty. The present Pastor is Rev. D. S. Oakes.

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## CHAPTER VII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

TOWN OF LIGONIER—EARLY DEVELOPMENT—SUBSEQUENT IMPROVEMENT—APPEARANCE OF INDUSTRIES—THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE—FIRES—INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE—SECRET SOCIETIES—THE JEWS—THE SHIPMENT OF WHEAT—MR. GERBER'S EXPERIENCE—EDUCATION AND RELIGION—THE HIGH SCHOOL—STATISTICS.

THE incorporated town of Ligonier was laid out and platted in May, 1835, the year before the county was organized, by Isaac Caven, owner and proprietor, and the plat was recorded at the county seat of La Grange County. One hundred and ten lots were laid out on a beautiful tract of land, which, in former years, had been used as a depository of animal bones, from which the flesh had been gnawed by red men, before the era of settlement. The early

settlers found growing in bountiful profusion, all over the present site of the town, great beds of the finest wild strawberries, which sprang up around the moldering bones, making a "merry meal" from the rich mold. The Elkhart River, then twice as large as it is at present and far more beautiful, wound through the present town site and was the resort of hundreds of deer, which came to bathe in the stream or drink of its limpid waters. Like all proprietors of towns in early years, Mr. Caven confidently expected to be the founder of a metropolis that would immortalize his name and fill his empty coffers with an abundant supply of "the representative of value." He owned eighty acres where the village stands. A short time after the village had been founded, Isaac Spencer (who lived about a mile south and who was the first County Clerk) erected a small hewed-log storeroom, in which was placed a small stock of a general assortment of goods, valued at about \$1,000. The goods were removed from a store Mr. Spencer had at his residence. Not much of a trade was obtained. Ward Bradford built the first residence, into which his family moved about 1836. Spencer did not continue business in the village longer than about two years; and, as soon as he departed, Daniel Stukey succeeded him, occupying the same room, with not so large a stock, until 1839, when he too found the occupation unprofitable and went out of business. Two or three families lived in Ligonier in 1840, but it had not yet dawned upon the citizens' minds to denominate the place a village. In autumn, 1844, Henry Treer, of the partnership Hill & Treer, of Fort Wayne, opened a general store, and, a year later, Hugh Miller followed suit. Treer became somewhat embarrassed about 1846, and retired from the business; and Miller likewise saw visions of more profitable fields of labor not far from the same time. Taylor Vail, yet an influential and respected citizen of Ligonier, succeeded Treer. The population in 1845 was about 50; in 1850, about 100; in 1855, about 300; in 1860, about 900; in 1865, about 1,100; in 1870, about 1,400; in 1875, about 1,700; in 1880, about 2,000. The present population is about 2,200. Allen Beall, who put in an appearance in 1844, was the first resident blacksmith. From 1845 to 1852, the growth of the village languished; but, at the latter date, as it became assured that the Northern Indiana Railroad was to pass through the town, all manner of improvement underwent a revival. Soon after this, quite a number of that shrewdest and most business-like and prosperous class of people, known as Jews, established themselves at Ligonier, and the population and business, within five years, quadrupled. The Jews, with plenty of money, have continued to come, until no town in Indiana of the same size contains the same number of these excellent people. The beauty, amiability and grace of the Ligonier ladies are proverbial. Myers & Strous, dealers in "clodings" and dry goods, began business about 1854; Kearn & Smalley not far from the same time; Haskell & Ellis, ditto; George McClellan, a tinner, ditto. There were five or six stores in town in 1855, where almost anything could be obtained for "de monish."

In about 1847, Taylor Vail became owner of the foundry that had been in operation at Rochester, and moved all the apparatus to Ligonier, where he continued the work of the former owners, manufacturing all kinds of plow castings, a few cook stoves, pots, kettles, and various other useful articles and implements. He sold out to Jacob Wolf in about 1848, who continued in the same line for two years, then selling to Mr. Beall, who also disposed of the property to (probably) George Ulmer & Sons, not far from the year 1855. A few years later the property was destroyed by fire, and was not afterward rebuilt. About two molders were employed, and a few assistants, who, at the most prosperous periods of the enterprise, secured a combined cash and book account of about \$1,200 per annum. Some of the old articles manufactured are yet in use. A saw-mill was built in 1852, and James Kennedy, Benjamin Ruple and George Hersey conducted it three years, without profit. The Fishers built and operated one about 1856, continuing with success some six or eight years. Dodge & Randolph built one after the war. Fisher Brothers, soon after their saw-mill had been erected, built a grist-mill near it, and furnished the village and surrounding country with flour for a few years, when the mill was abandoned, and Albert Banta and A. C. Fisher erected another on the site of the present Randolph Mill. Joseph Fisher, in about 1859, built one where the Empire Mill now stands. The post office was established in Ligonier in 1848, and was a continuation of the Good Hope office, the first one granted in the county. H. M. Goodspeed has been Postmaster since the war. Solomon Mier established a private bank in 1872, and is there yet doing a general banking business. In 1870, the Straus Brothers established their private bank. They are dealing largely in real estate. The Sons of Temperance organized a lodge in 1849, nearly all the principal citizens joining it. Harvey W. Wood came from a distance, and, in violation of the State law, began retailing liquor from his wagon on the streets. The Sons of Temperance seized his liquor (legally) and concealed it, but about this time the Supreme Court decided that the law prohibiting the sale of liquor on the street was unconstitutional; but the Sons, refusing to give up the "spirits," suit was begun against them by the owner for damage. The owner was successful, and the Sons, in some way, turned over their hall to satisfy the judgment, but retained the liquor. What was to be done with all the whisky, rum, etc., became the absorbing question. At this time, there belonged to the lodge about one hundred of the most prominent citizens in the village and surrounding country. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the liquor (which in some incomprehensible manner had greatly decreased in quantity, though several kegs were yet left), should be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder, *none but Sons being permitted to bid*. It was a laughable scene, long to be remembered. Here were the very men who had so bitterly denounced the cause of intemperance but the day before, vying to outbid each other in order to get the liquor, which, by the way, was of the best quality. The "Grand Mogul" of

the lodge immediately arose with the spirit of the occasion, and, amid great excitement, bid off the best keg of rum; and in dignity departed, lugging it home on his shoulder. On went the sale, and away went the remaining few kegs, to the bitter disappointment of the great majority of Sons. It is needless to add that the lodge immediately became defunct. Ask not the historian for the names of these Sons; go for information to the "old settlers."

In 1860, a \$15,000 fire was indulged in, on Caven street, along where Taylor Vail's store now is. In December, 1870, an \$8,000 fire swept over a portion of the same ground. In 1858, \$5,000 in property was destroyed, on the second corner south of Mr. Vail's store. In 1873, the fire fiend swept away the Conrad Block; loss about \$6,000. These have been the principal fires. The Odd Fellows, Masons and Good Templars have lodges in the town. In 1864, the village having sufficient population for the purpose, the citizens proceeded to petition the Commissioners to incorporate the town. This was soon accomplished; but the writer cannot give the details, owing to the loss of the records (which, by the way, were kept in very poor shape), and the treachery of recollections. In August and September, 1860, 31,180 bushels of wheat were shipped from Ligonier. It is a great wheat market at present, as nearly 500,000 bushels are shipped away annually. In January, 1874, an association, known as the Ligonier Building, Loan and Saving Association, was chartered, the object being "the accumulation of funds by the savings of the members thereof, to aid and assist the stockholders to purchase real estate, erect buildings, and make such other investments as are provided by law." The corporation was chartered for eight years, and its operations were limited to Noble County, the capital stock being \$100,000, and shares \$500 each. Some fifty citizens of Ligonier and vicinity appended their names to the articles of association. Nine directors were appointed, and the following first officers were elected: President, John B. Stoll; Vice President, Isaac E. Knisely; Treasurer, David S. Scott; Secretary, Daniel W. Green. This association did not come up to the hopes of the members; and, in 1877, a new charter was obtained, and an entirely new organization effected under the name Perry Building, Loan and Savings Association. The corporation is yet in its infancy.

The first school building erected on the present site of Ligonier, was a small, hewed-log structure, rudely and hastily put together, in about 1837, by some four or five of the early settlers in the vicinity, one of them being Jacob Wolf, from whose premises the logs were taken. Miss Achsa Kent, who afterward became the wife of one of the Frinks living near Port Mitchell, was employed to teach the first school, which she did, receiving her pay by subscription, and boarding around. The second teacher in this house was Henry Hostetter, and the third, James Miller. The log schoolhouse was used for almost everything until about 1851, when, on account of its dilapidated condition, it was succeeded by a small frame building, which was known far and near as the "Red Schoolhouse." A few years after this schoolhouse was erected, Mr. Eli



B. Gerber was employed to teach the tow-headed urchins that assembled there. The first morning, he fired up his sinking courage, repaired to the schoolhouse, and began vigorously to ring the bell. Miscalculating either on his strength, or on the toughness of the bell-rope, the cord snapped off just as he began to ring. What in the world was to be done? A happy thought darted through his bewildered mind. He would ascend into the loft through the small uncovered opening in the ceiling, and tie the rope together. No sooner conceived than up the loft he went. By this time, the children began to flock in, anxious for a "good squint" at the new teacher. They saw nothing of that functionary until the latter, making a misstep above, came thundering down through the plaster, tearing off, on the way, nearly half the lath on the ceiling. The scholars stared in terror at the formidable object, thinking, doubtless, that the old Devil himself was after them, and then, with one accord, ran pell-mell out of the room in the greatest fright. School on that day was a decided failure. Mr. Gerber tells this story with many mental reservations; but he has another which he tells to particular friends (and historians), and reserves none of the very interesting facts. It is an adventure which he and a select company of companions had with a band of Indians, in about 1835, near Omaha, Neb. He armed himself with an enormous—but Mr. Gerber may tell the story in his own inimitable style. All go and ask him for it—one at a time. Have him tell the story often.

The old red schoolhouse was built in the ordinary way, by means of funds raised by direct taxation. This was used until 1865, when the present three-storied brick building was constructed at a cost of about \$12,000. Money certificates, or orders on the Town Treasurer, for stipulated sums were issued by the Trustees, and purchased by the citizens; or rather, the money was advanced by the citizens, and the town's obligations, bearing interest at 6 per cent per annum, were given in lieu thereof. The citizens were sadly in want of a more commodious schoolhouse; and all having money to spare advanced it, and took the above obligations. In this manner no trouble was experienced in getting money to build the house. The building was poorly constructed (according to reports), and was located upon the public square, the third story being fitted up for a town hall to satisfy objections as to the legality of transforming the park into a schoolyard. For a number of years prior to the erection of the brick, the old red schoolhouse was so dilapidated and small that select schools sprang into existence in various portions of the town. Vacant rooms here and there were converted to school uses, and the old red house was left to the wind, the owls and the bats. The log and the red frame schoolhouses were not the only ones in early years; as, in 1857, when the north side (or Brooklyn, as it is sometimes denominated) had become quite well populated, a frame schoolhouse, a little larger than the old red one, and commonly known as the "White Schoolhouse" to distinguish it from the other, was erected there, and used until 1873, when the present two-storied brick took its place at

a cost of about \$3,300. It may be mentioned here that many select schools have been taught in the past, several of which were well conducted. There have also been denominational schools.

The first movement toward the erection of the High School building, was a petition presented to the Town Trustees in May, 1875, asking that a special ordinance be passed, to issue town bonds to the amount of \$10,000 (the Trustee of Perry Township having promised to levy for the same amount, to be placed with that raised in the town, and for the same purpose), the same to be applied toward the erection of such a building. Definite action on the petition was deferred until April, 1876, during which time the subject was thoroughly discussed, and permission was obtained from the County Commissioners by the Township Trustees to create a township debt of \$4,000 (there being at the time, in his hands about \$2,000), the same to be raised by assessment, and applied toward the erection of the high school building. During the same time, it was decided to put about \$18,000 into the schoolhouse, two-thirds of which were to be paid by the town, on account of the greater benefit likely to be received by it. The \$2,000 in the hands of the Township Trustee, and the \$4,000 (which were raised in two annual assessments) were presented within two years to the building committee. This much for the township. The town, in accordance with a special ordinance, issued its bonds (twelve in number, bearing 9 per cent interest) for \$12,000; and soon effected a negotiation for the entire amount. The following is the report of the negotiating committee:

*To the Board of Trustees of the Town of Ligonier:* The undersigned, who were by the Board of Trustees of Ligonier appointed agents for the sale of certain schoolhouse bonds in the sum of \$12,000, authorized to be issued by Ordinance No. 19, would respectfully report, that we have sold the said bonds to Dr. W. P. Hazleton, of New York; that the interest upon said bonds (being 9 per cent per annum) is payable semi-annually at the National Park Bank of New York, on the first day of May and November of each year, the first installment coming due November 1, 1876; that the charge of said National Park Bank for turning over said bonds to Dr. Hazleton, receiving the money therefor, and issuing certificates of deposition in our favor, amounts to the sum of \$15, which sum said bank deducted from certificate of deposit No. 6,044, as per their statement; that we received as the net proceeds of said sale of bonds four certificates of deposit, issued by said National Park Bank, and calling for \$11,985; that upon the filing of a bond by the School Board of Ligonier with the Auditor of Noble County, covering the sum of \$15,000, we turned over to the Treasurer of said Board the said four certificates of deposit, taking his receipt therefor, which is hereunto attached. We also herewith file a copy of the bonds issued by authority of Ordinance No. 19, and sold to Dr. W. P. Hazleton as above stated.

J. B. STOLL,  
J. C. ZIMMERMAN, } Agents.

May 15, 1876.

As the Town Trustees found they could not be in readiness to pay the first installment of bond interest on the 1st of November, 1876, a special ordinance was passed providing that an additional bond, sufficient in amount to cover such interest, be issued. This was done, and the bond was purchased by Straus Brothers. At the proper time, a tax was levied upon town property, sufficient in amount to pay off the interest accruing annually on the bonds, and also to



*E. B. Ligonier*

LIGONIER





create a sinking fund, with which at least one of the bonds could be taken up yearly. In August, 1879, the above bonds, to the amount of \$11,000, were refunded, pursuant to an act of the State Legislature, approved March 24, 1879, each new bond being for \$1,000, and drawing interest at 6 per cent per annum. The entire amount of the new bonds was purchased by Mr. W. P. Hazleton, and, at the present writing, \$8,000 and some interest are yet to be paid by the town. A simple arithmetical calculation will show that before this debt is wholly liquidated at the present rate of payment, there will have been paid over \$20,000 by the town of Ligonier. The next thing to be done was to secure a competent Superintendent or Principal to put the school in shape, and to unite the discordant elements or factions which had resulted from the limited authority given by the School Trustees to former Superintendents in the public schools. What grading had been done was more from the standpoint of physical proportions than from mental endowments or acquirements: hence, upon the new Superintendent was thrown a burden with which none but a man of long experience in scholastic discipline, and one with great executive ability, could have advanced to the present excellent condition of things. Prof. D. D. Luke, of Goshen, was the man destined to create order out of chaos. He was employed to superintend all the town schools, and to conduct certain courses of instruction in the High School. This he has done to the perfect satisfaction of the School Trustees. Prof. Luke, assisted by the County Superintendent, conducts a normal school for six weeks during each autumn, and a praiseworthy interest is created. Three commencement days have dawned upon the High School, and forty-two well-informed young ladies and gentlemen have gone forth to battle with life.

As early as 1831, ministers of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist denominations, began to appear about once a month and preach to the earliest inhabitants in the vicinity of Ligonier. Meetings were held in log cabins, barns, and, finally, in schoolhouses. Beyond a doubt, as early as 1842, the Methodists began holding rude meetings in Ligonier, but the society, though probably formed in 1844, did not feel able to erect a church until 1846, at which time, Henry Treer, having donated the lot upon which the present Methodist Church stands, to be used for purposes of religion, began to agitate the propriety of building a church. This was followed by the immediate construction of the first church building in Ligonier. It was a small frame structure, 30x40 feet, but it answered the purpose. Great revivals were held soon afterward, and large accessions were made to the membership. At last, in 1858, the present house was erected. It has been remodeled several times since, and will last many years to come. The Methodist society is the strongest in Ligonier at present. The Presbyterians and the Baptists endeavored to organize early societies in the town, but without avail. The Universalists sprang into life about 1854, and within the next two years the following well-known persons organized themselves into the second religious society in town :

Harrison Wood, John C. Johnson, James Smalley, John Morrow, James McMann, George Hersey, Jacob Kiser, Niah Wood, Lewis Cavil, H. C. Fisher, C. L. Welman, A. D. Hostetter, Andrew Engle, and a few others. The church, which cost about \$1,000, was erected in 1856, and is yet occupied, but not by the Universalists. Rev. William J. Chaplin was employed to minister to the spiritual welfare of the flock, receiving for his services \$150 per year for one-fourth of the time, and remaining about two years. The society borrowed money of Harrison Wood; but, neglecting to return the loan, was prosecuted, and a judgment of about \$350 was obtained by Mr. Wood. Soon afterward, or in about 1861, the church was sold at auction, and purchased by Mr. Wood for about the amount of the judgment; but, within a short time, a three-fourths' interest in the house was sold to members of the Disciple society for \$350. This is the condition of things at present, Mr. Wood reserving the right to have Universalist or other ministers preach there occasionally. The Universalist society has not since been revived. About five years ago, there was held in a tent on the public streets of Ligonier a number of religious meetings, conducted by Rev. Charles Woodworth, a Wesleyan Methodist, assisted by Rev. Mr. Woodruff; and a little society was soon formed. Mr. William Leuty, a resident of Ligonier, and a man of broad charity, philanthropy, and a very earnest Christian, immediately went to the head of the society. Many of the members came from the region of the Fair View Schoolhouse; where a society of the same denomination had been formed about the same period. Mr. Leuty furnished \$1,500, with which a small, neat brick church was built on the north side. A membership of about sixteen was secured. Afterward, Mr. Leuty purchased a parsonage with \$800, and turned it over as a gift to the membership. Revs. Worth, Dempsey and North have been the pastors. Too much cannot be said in praise of Mr. Leuty. He does not care to have his charitable actions heralded to the world, yet they are important matters of history. When the writer interviewed him for matters of interest connected with his life and labor, he politely and firmly said, "I have nothing to say," and the historian had to seek other sources. Mr. Leuty has given toward the M. E. Church here about \$1,600. He built a church at Ada, Ohio, which cost \$2,150. There is scarcely a church in Ligonier that has not been assisted from the "slough of despond" by this venerable and benevolent old man. These have apparently forgotten the donor of the gifts, and the cruel lesson of ingratitude has been publicly taught. It is stated, on good authority, that Mr. Leuty has given away to various religious organizations about \$15,000. Besides this, he has donated large sums to educational purposes and to eleemosynary institutions. He gave \$13,000 toward the "Carpenter Building," in Chicago, a structure designed to be used to antagonize Masonry. He has given several thousand dollars to "Wheaton College," Illinois. At least, \$30,000 has been given away in this manner. Too bad the world has so few such men as William Leuty.

A United Brethren society was organized many years ago, but did not survive long. In 1872, it was revived by Rev. F. Thomas, who became the pastor in charge. He has been succeeded by Revs. L. P. Dunnick, J. A. Cummins, J. F. Bartness and the present incumbent, J. Simons, an eloquent young divine. This society owns the finest church edifice in the town, the structure being a fine brick, erected on the north side in 1874, at a cost of \$5,500. The present membership is about sixty-five. The Sunday school was first organized in 1874. The present attendance is 125, T. Hudson officiating as Superintendent. The Seventh-Day Advents, under the direction of Elders S. A. Lane and H. M. Kenyon, erected a tent in the town in May, 1875, and began expounding their peculiar tenets to large audiences. The following persons organized themselves into a society during the following autumn: A. E. Stutzman, Mary A. Graham, William Culveyhouse, Ellen Squires, J. H. Graham, Hattie Cline, Eva Kegg, Catharine Clark, Viola Graham, Isaac McKinney, Maria Walsh, Emma Green and Elizabeth Skeels. The present membership is about sixty-three. Their church was built during the winter of 1876-77; but was not dedicated until December 23, 1877. It is a brick structure and cost about \$1,700. A Sunday school was organized in October, 1875. The society has been served by Elders Lane, Sharp and Rogers. A Jewish synagogue was established in the Hostetter building, in 1867, by the election of the following officers: Mathias Straus, President; Isaac Ackerman, Vice President; Jonas Decker, Treasurer; H. B. Faulk, Secretary; Solomon Mier, Leopold Schloss and F. M. Straus, Trustees. A small building was erected in September of the same year. Mr. Jacob Straus presented the society with a Jewish Bible valued at \$200.

The Catholics first began to assemble in about the year 1858, at which time Father Henry Force, an itinerant priest, began pilgrimages from Fort Wayne. But few Catholic families lived in Ligonier and vicinity at that time; but finally sufficient finance was accumulated to build a small frame church, which was done in about the year 1860. This building, with some little improvement, was used until a few years ago, when it was entirely remodeled at a cost of \$1,500. Perhaps the society has never exceeded twenty families. Father Holtz was the first priest. He has been succeeded by Fathers Deumick, Cuenlin, Eichtern, Moiser, Beckleman and Krager.

For the following excellent sketch of the Disciple Church, the historian is indebted to Rev. J. M. Monroe. The society was organized April 26, 1863, with the following charter members: Edmund Richmond and wife, S. N. Pence and wife, Jonathan Simmons and wife, C. R. Stone and wife, J. M. Knepper and wife, Nancy Shidler, Lucy Engles, Sophia King, Elizabeth Engle and Jacob L. Simmons. On the same day Edmund Richmond and S. N. Pence were elected Elders, and J. M. Knepper and Jonathan Simmons, Sr., Deacons. On the 8th of June, 1863, it was decided by the society to purchase the Universalist Church, which had been sold to Judge Wood at Sheriff's sale. Three-

fourths interest in the building was purchased for \$350. This house is yet occupied by the society. Rev. Charles Richmond served as pastor one year, portions of 1863 and 1864. George W. Chapman served one year, term ending in 1865. W. B. Hendry served from fall of 1865 to fall of 1867. N. J. Aylsworth from October, 1867, to January, 1870. James Hadsel served in 1870. J. M. Monroe was pastor from June, 1871, to November, 1872. J. E. Harris from December, 1872, to May, 1874; F. Grant, half of the year 1874; R. S. Groves, a year and a half, 1875 and 1876; Elder Heard, a year and a half, 1876 and 1877; O. Ebert, a year and a half, 1878 and until June 1879; J. M. Monroe, from September, 1879, until the present, having entered upon a permanent pastorate. Mr. Monroe is a very capable and energetic man, and is greatly beloved by his congregation. The first revival was held by Benjamin Lockhart, of Ohio, in May, 1863, two weeks after the organization, at which time J. M. Fry, wife and daughter, Misses Mary Simmons and Addie Shipman joined the society. The first important revival was held by W. B. Hendry, in February, 1866. It grew out of a debate between Elder John W. Sweeny, of the Disciple society, and Rev. Cooper, of the Methodist. After the debate the meeting was continued, and among the conversions were L. J. Dunning and wife, W. A. Brown and wife, Peter Sisterhen and wife, Joseph Braden and wife, Charles Stites and wife, Riffle Hathaway and wife, Jessie and Lucinda Dunning, Nancy Stansbury, Jonathan Simmons, Jr., and Rebecca Huber. About this time there joined the church Dr. Adam Gants and wife, H. R. Cornell and wife, David Miller and wife, Mrs. A. C. Jones, Dr. Landon, Sarah Himes, Abraham King and wife, Mary Vincent, Margaret Parks, Josephine and Bell Chapman, Mrs. Finley Beazel, David Simmons and George Kuhn and wife. The second important revival was held by W. B. Hendry, during the pastorate of James Hadsel, or in March and April, 1870. This meeting was also preceded by a debate between Elder Sweeny and Rev. Chaplain, of the Universalist Church. Thirty-nine persons joined the society: John S. Ohlwine and wife, Matthias Marker, J. B. Statsman and wife, Mrs. Fayette Peck, Mrs. Daniel Scott, Dickinson Miller and wife, Emmaret Stansbury, Jennie Hathaway, Lena and Rosa Sisterhen, Emma Dunning, Helen Mayfield, Tillie Wolfe, Mrs. Jacob Huffman, E. A. Keasey, Dolphus Teal being among the number. The third revival was held in January and February, 1872, by Rev. J. M. Monroe, Pastor. The number of conversions was eighty-two, being the largest in the history of the church. Among the additions were Albert Banta, Luzon Gilbert, John Speckun and wife, Mrs. Judge Wood, Mrs. N. R. Treash, Mrs. James Silburn, Orrie Sweetland, Pineo Pancake, Miss Madison, Mrs. Drumbeller and daughter, Isaac Todd, William Herbst, wife and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell, Hattie Parks, Mrs. Jonathan Simmons, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William Sisterhen, Thomas and Oliver Simmons, Moses Goshern, Allie Folk, Mrs. Niles, William Hays and wife and Sarah Meyer. Many others have since joined, until the society at present numbers



214 members, being the largest in Ligonier, if not in the county. It has received into its communion 442 persons, a majority of whom have moved away. An efficient Sunday school is conducted by J. H. Huffman, Superintendent; average attendance over one hundred. The society has organized a Woman's Christian Missionary Society, also a social society. The choir leader is Samuel Krashbaum; organists, Katie Brown and Jessie Stutsman.

The following interesting statistics of Ligonier were prepared for the year 1878, by John W. Peters, foreman in the *Banner* office, to whom the historian is greatly indebted for the privilege of using the same:

DENOMINATIONS.	No. of Churches.	MEMBERSHIP.		Admitted to Membership in 1878.	Value of Structures and Contents.	Salary of Minister.	Missionary, Charitable and other Contributions in 1878.	No. of Sunday School Teachers.	No. of Sunday School Pupils.	Average Attendance on Public Service.
		Male.	Female.							
Methodist Episcopal.....	1	42	84	...	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$111 00	13	125	200
Christian.....	1	40	77	...	2,000	700	195 40	9	70	175
United Brethren.....	1	19	42	5	4,500	600	265 73	11	179	100
Wesleyan Methodist.....	1	8	8	8	1,500	400	50 00	...	...	30
Ahavath Sholom.....	1	20	25	...	1,000	500	700 00	1	23	25
St. Patrick's (Catholic).....	1	50	50	3	2,000	200	400 00	...	...	70
Seventh Day Advent.....	1	16	27	5	1,600	370	115 00	4	38	35
Total.....	7	195	313	21	\$15,600	\$3,770	\$1,837 13	38	435	635

## NEWSPAPERS.

*Ligonier Banner*—Politics, Democratic; published weekly; established, 1866; circulation, 1,348; language, English; employes, 4; average monthly wages, \$30; size, 28x43.

*Ligonier Leader*—Politics, Republican; published weekly; established, 1880; circulation, 1,300; language, English; employes, 4; average monthly wages, \$23; size, 30x44.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Number of buildings.....	3
Value of all school buildings.....	\$20,300
Number of teachers.....	8
Male teachers.....	2
Female teachers.....	6
Average monthly wages for male teachers.....	\$72 50
Average monthly wages for female teachers.....	\$30 00
Male pupils.....	352
Female pupils.....	361
Total white pupils.....	713
Colored male pupils.....	1
Colored female pupils.....	1
Total colored.....	2

## PHYSICIANS.

Number.....	13
Value of library and furniture.....	\$7,000
Value of office business.....	19,400
Other expenses.....	3,525

## ATTORNEYS.

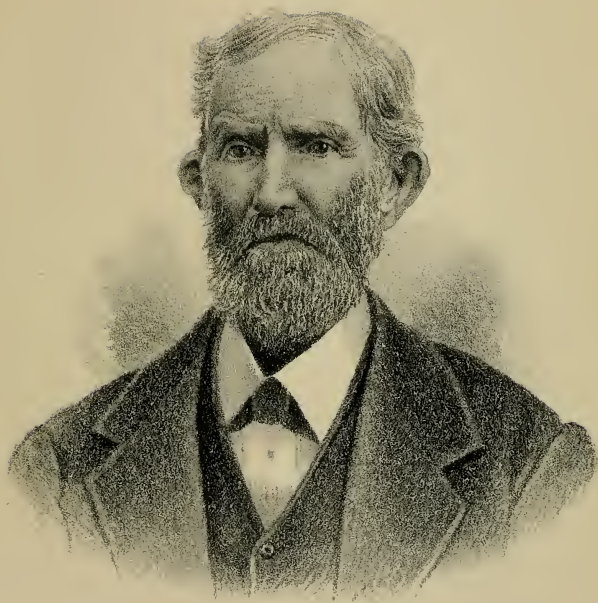
Number.....	5
Value of library and furniture.....	\$2,150
Value of office business.....	4,700
Other expenses.....	430

## BANKING HOUSES.

Number .....	2
Banking capital.....	\$110,000
Deposits to January 1, 1879.....	\$105,000
Employees.....	8
Salaries.....	\$14,000
Other expenses.....	2,000

CLASSIFICATION OF MANU- FACTORIES.	Number of Shops.	Capital In- vested.	Raw Mater- ial Used.	Value of Products.	Number of Employ- ees.	Wages Paid During Year.	All other Expenses.
Blacksmithing .....	8	\$2300	\$6980	\$22700	16	\$6996	\$615
Boots and shoes .....	4	6850	8500	17000	14	6300	375
Breweries .....	1	5000	.....	.....	...	.....	.....
Vehicles.....	4	10250	16600	39670	16	7820	1510
Cigars .....	1	400	350	1400	1	550	65
Cooper shops.....	2	4300	3400	7248	10	3018	410
Flouring mills.....	1	20000	58820	68391	6	3120	3329
Foundries .....	1	10000	4000	12000	11	4700	300
Furniture .....	4	9250	4300	10500	7	2972	700
Harness and saddles .....	4	2900	8500	15400	12	3504	555
Wooden handles.....	1	4000	600	2500	3	800	100
Marble works.....	1	2000	2000	7500	6	2184	175
Merchant tailors .....	2	3600	7500	18000	8	2540	275
Photographers .....	2	1350	425	2405	3	1110	400
Planing mills .....	3	16500	12000	26182	14	6898	400
Saw mills.....	2	1800	5000	7500	4	1808	183
Trunks.....	1	300	300	700	1	260	15
Totals.....	42	\$100800	\$136275	\$254096	138	\$54580	\$9407

OCCUPATIONS.	Number of Shops.	Average Value of Stock.	Total Pur- chases.	Total Sales.	Employees.	Wages.	Other Ex- penses.
Agricultural implements.....	4	\$3700	\$35900	\$50600	5	\$3400	\$1008
Boarding houses.....	2	800	2100	4900	5	1400	225
Books and news .....	1	3275	8000	9500	2	1000	325
Boots and shoes .....	4	11400	28675	31200	4	2300	850
Barbering .....	2	350	150	3796	4	2678	595
Clothing stores .....	4	20000	53000	63000	10	6700	1925
Coal and wood .....	1	60	720	720	1	25	35
Country produce.....	1	3000	51630	58130	8	3500	1850
Drug stores .....	4	16000	30800	40000	8	4020	1770
Dry goods .....	1	4000	12000	14000	3	1250	300
Furniture dealers.....	4	8200	13200	16900	4	1700	950
General merchandise.....	9	79600	196000	261000	33	22850	7800
Grain dealers .....	6	2900	469200	475900	6	1300	1025
Groceries and provisions.....	13	29275	99927	146938	26	12113	4890
Gunsmithing .....	1	1100	1363	2500	1	900	110
Hardware .....	4	17200	49200	60500	11	5750	1550
Hotels .....	1	6000	4000	5500	9	2200	2800
Jewelry, etc .....	3	3200	3600	6600	3	1550	400
Liquor saloons.....	4	2650	7100	17740	5	2460	1385
Livery stables .....	2	6100	2182	7500	6	2300	1065
Live stock dealers .....	4	2600	141000	156750	10	6200	2775
Lumber dealers.....	5	14000	49100	64442	6	2670	490
Millinery and dressmaking...	7	2425	8280	12775	20	2865	1091
Meat markets.....	2	250	21000	26500	5	3500	915
Saddles and harness .....	4	3900	12600	18100	4	2110	422
Sewing machines.....	1	250	3000	5000	1	550	300
Stove and tin dealers.....	1	400	3000	4000	1	824	25
Tobaccoonists .....	4	1300	7400	12400	5	2150	365
Wagons and buggies .....	8	4700	28870	40550	11	3625	1350
Well-digging and pumps.....	2	350	1550	6500	6	2302	250
Totals.....	109	\$251985	\$1371947	\$1623941	223	\$106202	\$38831



*Jacob Wolf*

LIGONIER





## CHAPTER VIII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

PERRY TOWNSHIP—ROLL OF EARLY SETTLERS—GENERAL GROWTH—DEER HUNTING BY NIGHT — ROCHESTER, WASHINGTON AND HAWVILLE—MILLS AND FOUNDRIES—A DISTINGUISHED FRENCHMAN—THE INDIANS—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

PREVIOUS to the year 1844, there had resided in Perry Township the following men: Hugh Allison, William G. Allison, Edward Bouser, Daniel Bouser, Sebastian Bouser, Valentine Burris, John Billman, John Buzzard, Edward Bailey, Andrew Bailey, William Bailey, Jacob Baker, William Bouzer, Allen Beall, Hartwell Coleman, John L. Conrad, Adam S. Conrad, Jeremiah Carstetter, Levi Carstetter, Isaac Caven, James Christie, Jonathan Caldwell, James Crook, R. D. Coldren, Francis Danner, William Denny, David Dungan, Francis Dungan, George Engle, Henry Engle, John Engle, Andrew Engel, Felix Grimes, James Gordon, James Givens, Christian Heltzell, Henry Hostetter, Jr., John Hostetter, Benjamin Hostetter, James Hamilton, John Hamilton, William Hamilton, William J. Hamilton, George Hamilton, Solomon Harper, James Hoak, William Hoak, Cyrus Hoak, Henry Kline, Michael King, Samuel Kirkpatrick, James Latta, Perry Lee, Thomas W. Morrow, James Marker, George W. Miller, Seymour Moses, John Morrell, Philip Miller, John Miller, Ambrose Miller, Solomon Miller, Henry Miller, Dickerson Miller, James McMann, James McKinney, Henry May, Linderman May, Perry McMann, Alexander McConnell, Andrew Newhouse, Jonathan Newhouse, Josephus Neff, North Neff, Hiram Parks, James Ramsby, Levi Reeves, Thomas Stone, Daniel H. Stukey, Jacob Stage, Gideon Schlotterback, Elijah Shobe, Daniel Shobe, Silas Shobe, Henry Shobe, David Smalley, James Smalley, John Summers, Isaiah Thomas, George Teal, Joseph Teal, John Tomlinson, Jacob Wolf, Jeremiah Wolf, Jacob Vance, Harrison Wood, Hamilton Wilmeth, Joseph H. Woodell, Reuben Warner, James Wilmeth, George Welker, and several members of the Harsh family. There were many others who resided in the township during the interval mentioned; but their names, unfortunately, cannot be remembered, those given having been placed on record at the county seat as owning land and entitled to their vote. The first settlement in the township, and, indeed, the first large permanent settlement in the county, was made in this township, beginning in 1830, at which time Levi Perry, Isaiah Dungan and Richard Stone settled on Perry's Prairie (named for the first settler, Levi Perry). In 1831, there came in Jacob Wolf (yet living), Henry Hostetter, Sr., and his family of boys, Adam Engle and his family, Jacob Shobe and family, Joseph Smalley and family, Henry Miller and

family, and a few others. These arrivals (all being excellent people) assured the permanency of the settlement on Perry's Prairie. Large crops were put in; and within two years these families had an abundant supply of grain and provisions. Those who located in the heavy woods in other portions of the county had a much harder time, as the forest must be cut down and consumed before crops of any consequence could be raised, and, even then, for many years, the growth was scanty and sickly, owing to the stumps, roots and re-appearing underbrush. The granaries of the new settlement became filled, like those of Egypt, with corn and other grains; and the impoverished pioneers throughout the surrounding country made "pilgrimages to Egypt" (as they called it) to buy corn and provisions. Thus Perry's Prairie became a famous place—famous for its excellent families—famous for its hospitality—famous for its generosity to those who came to buy or trade. Here, the first post office in the county was established; and here it was that selections were made for the first county court and for the first township officers. Others came in 1832 and 1833, during which time all the land of value on the Prairie was entered, and turned up by the plow. The land was filled with tough roots of brush, etc., but heavy plows, capable of turning over nearly a yard of earth, and drawn by eight or ten yoke of oxen, soon transformed the wild and irregular surface into smooth fields of growing grain. John Hostetter was perhaps the first to settle in the extreme northern part; but, in 1836, he was followed by many more, each selecting his home where it best suited him, and all going to work in earnest.

The first township election was held at the house of John Hostetter, but the names of the first officers are forgotten. There were twenty-five voters present. Reference is not made to the election while Perry was a part of La Grange County; but to the first one held after Noble County was created. Through this township the White Pigeon road was opened by the State in about 1835. The State devoted 3 per cent of the receipts from the sale of land to the opening and improving of roads. But it was many years ere the roads were made pleasant. The Elkhart River which meandered through the township was a beautiful stream in early years. Its banks were bordered with heavy woods or open glades; and its clear waters were filled with the finest fish. Some of the stories as to the number of fish taken out in a few hours seem marvelous. The ordinary wild animals were present, except the bear, which had retreated to the heavy pine forests in Michigan. One manner of hunting deer (and a very successful one) was to float down the river at night with a bright light; and the animals which came at that time to drink would stand perfectly still, and stare at the light until shot down. Harrison Wood and a companion were at this work one night, when, just as they were about to fire at a fine buck, they managed to capsize the canoe. Away scampered the deer, and the nocturnal Nimrods had a "sweet" time getting out of the river and home. The Indians were very numerous, and resorted to all sorts of devices to secure

provisions or whisky. As usual, they were badly treated by some of the whites. Mrs. Galbreth, who lived in the northern part, had been captured by the Indians in Pennsylvania many years before, had seen her mother and sister cruelly tomahawked and scalped, and had been dragged far off into the wilderness by the savages, with whom she remained many wretched years, though she finally either managed to make her escape, or was given up by her captors. The story of her captivity would be one of absorbing interest. Hugh Allison erected a saw-mill at Rochester about the year 1834. The dam was washed away several times; and, after running a few years, the mill was abandoned. In about 1842, Seymour Moses erected a saw-mill on Elkhart River, two miles northwest of Ligonier. He conducted the mill a few years, and then transferred it to the Miller Brothers, who neglected it, permitted the dam to break, and then dropped the whole business. In 1843, Seymour Moses began the construction of a carding mill near the site where his saw-mill was; but, just as it was about completed, he died, and the project died with him. An early saw-mill was operated at Rochester by the "Iron-Works Company." Adam Engle conducted an early "corn-cracker" at the northern extremity of Indian Lake. The mill was built about 1835, had one set of niggerhead buhrs, cracked a great deal of corn, and made the attempt to grind wheat. It was operated five or six years, when the dam was destroyed by some one whose land was flooded by the back water.

Rochester was laid out on Section 26, Township 35, Range 8, in November, 1836, by Simpson Cummins, proprietor. Fifty blocks and fractional blocks were surveyed on the river bank, each full lot comprising eight lots, four lots being donated for school and church purposes. The lots were immediately offered for sale; and the village grew rapidly. Several houses had been erected before the village was laid out. Powell (afterward joined by McConnell) opened an excellent store in about 1837, at which time some seven families resided there. Nelson Prentiss became their clerk. An iron factory was started about the same time, or a little later, by Baldwin, French, and, perhaps, others. Eight or ten teamsters were employed to haul iron ore from "Ore Prairie," in York Township; and the business began to thrive. Both Baldwin and Frank died about the same time; and then Mr. Lee assumed control. Richmond & Beall finally started a foundry about 1844, where plow-castings, pots, kettles, etc., etc., were manufactured in considerable quantity. These manufacturing interests called to the village a population, in 1840, of about sixty, and, in 1845, over one hundred. It was at that time one of the largest and most enterprising towns in the county. A number of years later, McConnell & Cummins erected a three-storied grist-mill, placing therein three run of stone. It became an excellent mill, and is yet there, having passed through many vicissitudes. A saw-mill has been there much of the time since 1834. A multiplicity of causes contributed to the death of Rochester, though the decay was lingering and painful. Ligonier grew from its ashes. In June,

1837, Isaac Caven laid out a village of sixty lots on Section 2, Township 35, Range 8 east, and named it Washington. The village was properly recorded; but, alas! the poor thing did not grow higher than the paper upon which it was platted. The little village of Hawville first found an existence many years ago, though but few families have resided there. The village is popularly known as "Buttermilk," a very euphonious cognomen, truly.

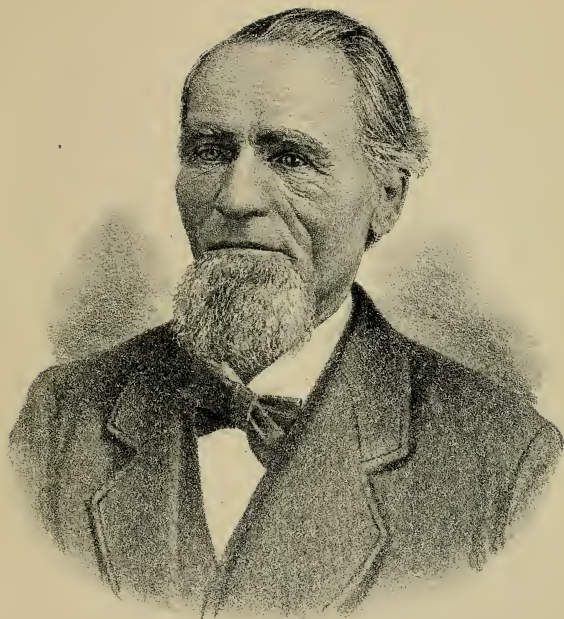
David P. Bourette (or Bourie), a Frenchman, whose father, L. B. Bourette, established himself as a trader among the Indians, at Goshen, in 1800, claims to have passed the winter of 1829-30 among the Indians in northern Perry Township. He packed several ponies with goods at Fort Wayne, and remained with the large encampment of Pottawatomies in northern Perry, disposing of his goods for money and furs. In 1831, he built a storeroom in Elkhart Township, in the history of which will be found a further account of this well-known man. He was raised among the Indians, and it is claimed that Indian blood flows in his veins, although this he indignantly denies. The report is probably a mistake or a slander, as no satisfactory proof has ever been produced to show that he is other than what he claims—a full-blooded Frenchman. Until such proof is obtained, the tongue of slander should hush. Bourie lived in southwestern Perry for many years. Mrs. Bourie composed a very popular song, which is sung at all the old settlers' meetings. It has five or six verses, one of which is:

"The wilderness was our abode  
Full fifty years ago;  
And, if good meat we chose to eat,  
We shot the buck or doe.  
For fish we used to hook the line;  
We pounded corn to make it fine;  
On Johnny-cake our ladies dined,  
In this new country."

Mr. Bourie tells many interesting stories about the Indians. One time, down on the Wabash, he says, the Indians, in some way, got possession of a considerable quantity of whisky against the orders of the men who had been appointed to treat with them; and an effort was made to recover the liquor ere the Indians were under the influence. Two old squaws were out in the woods drinking as fast as they could of the fiery liquor; when, seeing a white man looking at them, one, with wicked eyes, expressed herself as follows: *Kit-wassenock co-she-ah shin-go-lah hieco dosh-ish-ah caw-a-lah* (what does he want; I hate him, I detest him; I'll split his brains out). But the old lady of the woods came to time when a rifle was presented in her dusky face.

In about 1860, the big fires in the pine forests of Michigan caused many bears and other wild animals to come down into Indiana and Ohio. A large black bear came to Mr. Bourie's residence, and was first seen by Mrs. Bourie, from the window, but was thought at first to be a black sheep. The animal finally jumped over a fence, and then the truth was revealed. Mr. Bourie, and one or two others that were present, immediately started at the top of their





*George Keeton*

PERRY TP.



speed for the animal, which made for the river, but, by means of a boat, was driven from the island where it had taken refuge, but finally eluded its pursuers by entering a dismal swamp.

In the autumn of 1836, a small log building designed to answer the double purpose of a church and schoolhouse, was erected in the northern part, one mile west of where Salem Church now stands, by Seymour Moses, Isaac Caven and a few others. Mr. Moses was one of the first teachers in this house, as was also Miss Axy Kent. School was taught there after that without intermission. The Episcopal Methodists began holding their meetings there, but a little society had been semi-organized as early as 1834, and had met in the cabins. Of those belonging to this society were James Latta (a well-remembered local minister and a very worthy man), Robert Latta (of La Grange), Samuel Kerl, Abel Thomas, James Taylor (of La Grange) and John Thompson (of La Grange). Ministers of other denominations preached as freely in the house as the Methodists themselves, though the latter were the builders. A Sunday school was early organized, Seymour Moses being one of the first Superintendents. In about 1849, the old schoolhouse at Moses' Corners was abandoned, and a larger, hewed-log structure erected where the Salem Church now stands. This was used as a schoolhouse until 1856, when a frame house was built by Eli B. Gerber, at a cost of about \$350. In 1845, a rupture occurred in the Methodist society, and the Episcopalians went into Eden Township, La Grange County, where they built a church, while the Protestants remained in the old schoolhouse until 1849, when they built Salem Church. This building served the society long and faithfully, or until 1879, when the present fine structure was built, at a cost of \$3,200. The old log schoolhouse on Moses' Corners was used by all living in the northern part of the township. It was not until between 1845 and 1850 that the population had become sufficiently dense to warrant building others within two miles of it. On account of a schoolhouse in northern Sparta Township, at an early day, none was built on Perry's Prairie until 1841. The one where Henry Hostetter, Jr., used to live, was built a few years later.

A number of years ago, the Dunkards in the southern part transformed a schoolhouse into a church, where they now worship in their peculiar way. Some eighteen or twenty years ago, the Amish built a small church on the northern line, which they continued to occupy for a number of years; but finally the property passed to the control of the Dunkards, who, in 1879, put up a much better building. The United Brethren, about six years ago, became so strong in the northwestern part that they felt capable, financially, of erecting a church, which they did, constructing it wholly of brick. The society is now in good circumstances. Perry Township owns a third interest in the fine High School building in Ligonier. That was certainly a move in the right direction. Send your young ladies and gentlemen there to school.

## CHAPTER IX.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

TOWN OF ALBION—CATALOGUE OF PATENTEES—FIRST CABIN IN THE TOWNSHIP  
—PLATTING OF THE VILLAGE—EARLY HISTORY AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH—  
INCORPORATION — INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS — EDUCATION AND RELIGION —  
SCHOOLHOUSE BONDS—SKETCHES OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—THE FIRE  
FIEND.

THE founding of the town of Albion, and its rapid growth and promised permanence, gave rise to the conditions requiring the creation of Albion Township. About seven years after the county seat had been finally fixed, and Albion in swaddling clothes had been ushered into life, the importance of having a voting precinct other than the centers of York and Jefferson Townships became evident to the villagers, and proceedings were begun in 1854, having in view the creation of a new township that should comprise four sections of territory, with Albion at the center. If any opposition was encountered from the Trustees of the townships, that were to be mutilated in the operation of creating the new, such fact is not now remembered. It is denied by some that a petition, signed by perhaps all the citizens of Albion, was presented the County Commissioners, praying that Albion Township might be created; but the burden of evidence is in favor of the existence of such a petition. It was out of the question for the village to be so divided that the citizens living east of Orange street must go three miles east to poll their votes, and those on the west side, three miles west. There was too great a division of pecuniary interest in such a separation; for, according to the Scriptural judgment, "A house divided against itself must fall." It is possible that the remembrance of this injunction was in the minds of the citizens in 1854, and caused them to adopt the better policy of unity. At all events, during the June term (1854) of the County Commissioners, the following bounds were ordered set off, to be known thereafter as Albion Township; Sections 18 and 19, Township 34, Range 10 east (Jefferson); and Sections 13 and 24, Township 34, Range 9 east (York). This was the first step toward creating concerted action in public affairs. All the land within the present limits of the township of Albion was entered as follows:

NAME OF PATENTEE.	LOCATION.	Section.	Township.	Range.	Acres.	Cost.	Date of Entry.
Henry Harvey and William Baker...	N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ and S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ ....	18	34	10	319.91	\$389.89	June 4, 1836.
Winthrop Wright.....	N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	18	34	10	159.71	199.64	July 18, 1836.
Ira Harriman.....	S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	18	34	10	160.00	200.00	Oct. 5, 1836.
Winthrop Wright.....	N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ and S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ ....	19	34	10	319.65	399.56	July 18, 1836.
Henry Harvey and William Baker...	N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ and S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ ....	19	34	10	319.83	399.79	June 4, 1836.
John Sawyer and T. A. Johnson.....	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 20, 1836.
John Sawyer and T. A. Johnson.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 20, 1836.



NAME OF PATENTEE.	LOCATION.	Section.	Township.	Range.	Acres.	Cost.	Date of Entry.
Stephen Warner, Jr.....	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	Aug. 13, 1836.
Ephraim G. Bassett.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 23, 1836.
William F. Engle.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 20, 1836.
William F. Engle.....	W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	250.00	July 20, 1836.
William F. Engle.....	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	480.00	July 20, 1836.
James McConnell.....	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	13	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 21, 1836.
James McConnell.....	N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ and W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$	24	34	9	240.00	300.00	July 21, 1836.
William F. Engle.....	E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	24	34	9	80.00	100.00	July 21, 1836.
John Bonnar.....	S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	24	34	9	160.00	200.00	Aug. 11, 1836.
John B. Tinker.....	S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ .....	24	34	9	160.00	200.00	July 30, 1836.

Not one of these men built a house at the time of entering the land. Hiram Bassett, son of Ephraim, built a log house across the line on Section 14, early in 1837; and soon afterward a barn was built on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 13. The latter was undoubtedly the first building of any kind that was erected in Albion Township. The first dwelling was erected very probably by a squatter, named Isaac Brewer, as early as 1842, on the farm of Abel Barnum. Brewer was an excellent man, and had suffered the misfortune of serving a short time in the Ohio Penitentiary for a crime committed by another man, who had contrived to saddle the responsibility and punishment upon him. He did not own the land, but was suffered to reside thereon, until several years after the county seat had been located at Albion. He cleared and put under cultivation about twenty acres, and was informed that he could live there until he chose to leave, which time was not far from 1850. He has a daughter now living at Kendallville. Jacob Cordell located on Section 19 about the year 1844. He was probably the first man to erect a dwelling in Albion Township, the land being owned by the builder.

As stated elsewhere in this volume, the county seat was located at Albion, in 1846. Much of the land there had been entered by speculators, or afterward purchased by them, as it was naturally supposed that the county seat would not be far removed from the center of the county. As soon as the center was selected by the Commissioners appointed to locate the county seat, some important changes were made in the ownership of the land; and the center, which had previously been a wilderness, was visited by the curious and the speculative. Albion was laid out in November, 1846, by Samuel Hanna, William F. Engle, John L. White (by H. H. Hitchcock, his agent), Warren Chaffee and James L. Worden, County Agent. The land laid out on Sections 13 and 24, York Township, was owned by Samuel Hanna, William F. Engle, and John L. White, each of whom owned an undivided one-third interest. Mr. Chaffee owned the land on Section 18, Jefferson Township, and Henry Harvey that on Section 19, same township. A portion of the town was at first laid out on Mr. Harvey's land, but he died about the time the work was in progress, and, owing to the unsettled condition of his estate, that portion of the village

plat had to be vacated, and the street which had been projected from the west across the line on his land, was located several rods north to meet the street on the Jefferson side. His land was thus avoided. There was a difference of nearly three rods from where the Jefferson center line met the boundary between the townships Jefferson and York and where the center line of the latter met the same boundary, the former point being north of the latter. This was why the western street was thrown north to meet the eastern Jefferson street. The village plat, then, as corrected, shows fifty lots laid out on Mr. Chaffee's land, and eighty-two lots and the court house square on the west side of the township line, on both Sections 13 and 24. The additions have been Harvey's, Prentiss', Denny's, Black's, Stewart's, Kimmel's, Bowen's, Sallady's, Baker's, Acus', Seneca, Tiffin, Harkins', Clark's, and one or two others.

Not far from the same time, in about February, 1847, two dwellings were built, one by Mrs. Washburn, and the other by Isaac Swarthout. These were probably the first. During the same year (1847), the following citizens, among others, probably located at the center, or Albion: Mr. Reynolds, William F. Engle, who built the American House (the present Worden House); David Monroe, who built quite a large structure in which to board the workmen who were employed on the court house; Judge Worden, who built where Dr. Lemon now resides; H. H. Hitchcock, who built the Franks House; Dr. William Clark, Dr. Harkins, James Gillespie and Joshua Wade, a shoemaker. It is said that the Monroe boarding-house was owned by Ephraim Walters. Mrs. Washburn also kept boarders. During the summer and fall of 1847 there was a great rush into Albion, and a great demand was thus created for houses. There also came in, probably prior to January 1, 1848, Henry Bowman, Daniel Bowman, Erastus Spencer, William M. Clapp, Simeon Gillespie, Elijah Wright, Henry Barkelew, John McMeans, Jeremiah Low, Mr. Graden, and perhaps others. At the last-mentioned date, there were living in Albion at least seventy persons. In 1850, the population had reached about 250. County officers and lawyers appeared, and the court brought many strangers to the village.

It has been said that the proprietors of Albion gave every third lot to the county in consideration of having the county seat located there. This, it is said, was why James L. Worden, as County Agent, was interested in the laying-out of Albion. The growth of the new county seat was at first very rapid until a population of about 350 was reached, after which period improvements took place only as the surrounding country became more populous. During the summer of 1847, S. T. Clymer, sub-contractor of the court house, brought a few hundred dollars' worth of a general assortment of goods to the village. This was the first stock offered for sale in Albion. Two or three years later, he was succeeded by Dutton & Clymer, and they, in turn, by Clymer & Miller. Spencer & Barkelew, merchants, appeared about this time; also Clapp & Hitchcock. Since that time the following, among others, have been in busi-

ness in Albion : Dry goods—Day & Culp, Clark & Bronson, Black & Zimmerman, Owen Black, Black & Son, Phillips & Walters, Black & Foster, Black & Son, Love & Black, J. D. Black, Black Brothers at present, Prentiss & Cosper (about 1861), Nelson Prentiss, Prentiss & Trump, Prentiss, Trump & McMeans, Trump & McMeans, Prentiss & Landon, W. M. Clapp, Clapp & Phillips, Clapp, Phillips & White, Phillips & White, C. B. Phillips, Moltz & Bayer, D. E. A. Spencer, Charles Moltz, Worden & Son, grocers ; Adams, Palmer & Co., at present ; Markey & Walters, Frank Clapp, at present ; Hamlin & Jourdan, grocers ; Moltz & Hadley, S. J. Hadley, Adam Kimmel, Sloan & Tidball, W. K. Knox, agricultural implements ; F. Buetner, clothing ; druggists, Norman & George Teal, Henry Stoney, Alfred Stoney, Leonard & Denny, Dr. Cox, Barnet & Dunshee, Dunshee & Leonard, Leonard & Skinner, Skinner & Mendenhall, Mendenhall & White, Gray & Spencer, F. D. Spencer, Hamlin & Skinner and R. L. Stone, the last two at present. The Kimmels were in with hardware at an early day. Of course Albion has been represented from the first by the usual number of mechanics, artisans, professional and business men and numerous miscellaneous shops and pursuits.

George Powers, at quite an early day, began manufacturing shingles on a small scale. Jacob Bruner opened a cabinet shop as early as 1850. Various specimens of his workmanship may yet be seen in private dwellings in Albion. Elmer Dakan erected a shop in about 1854, and began making wagons. A few years later, Alpheus Jacquays undertook the same pursuit. John McMeans began a general pottery business in 1855, coming from Port Mitchel, where he had followed the same occupation. He continued the business in Albion nearly three years, turning out milk crocks, jugs, pots, pitchers, etc., but the enterprise proved unprofitable, as no suitable clay could be found near the village. Mr. McMeans and Owen Black burned brick in an early day. Elijah Wright burned brick in Albion in 1848. George Harvey burned the brick for the court house—the one standing at this writing. Mr. Reynolds, in about 1848 or 1849, built a hotel on the south side, where he sold liquor. In about 1851, Joshua Wade erected a hotel on the southeast corner, where the hardware store is now standing. In June, 1867, Singrey & Hass opened a sash, blind and door factory. Some time afterward, Mr. Hass was killed by being caught in the machinery in some manner. His head was horribly crushed, leaving his brain exposed, and permitting a portion to escape. Some time after this sad event, Mr. Eby became the partner of Mr. Singrey. Michael Beck began manufacturing wagons in 1860, and once in awhile turned out a buggy. In 1864, J. E. Huffman became his partner, and after this the business was greatly increased, continuing until about 1872. They manufactured as high as forty vehicles in one year. This was one of the most extensive enterprises ever in Albion. In 1876, William Dressel, of Tiffin, Ohio, erected a large brick building, intending it for a sash and door factory ; but his peculiar and untimely death caused the enterprise to collapse at the time of its incep-

tion. The building cost about \$4,000, and is standing unoccupied. In 1862, Owen Black erected the grist-mill now running in the northern part of town. The building was immediately rented to Fisher Brothers, who placed therein three sets of buhrs, and the other necessary machinery for grinding all kinds of grain. This mill has had a peculiar history. It has been sold and repurchased three times by Mr. Black. Each time Mr. Black would fit it up in excellent shape, and sell it at a good round figure; and then, after the buyers had tried the business and failed, he would buy it back for half he sold it for, and again fit it up to be sold. In this manner he cleared several thousand dollars. Askew & Miller now own it, and from appearances Mr. Black will not have another opportunity to clear several thousand dollars after the old fashion. The mill at present is furnishing excellent flour. In 1863, Mr. Black built a saw-mill close to his grist-mill. The saw-mill was rented, and has passed through a checkered career. Henry Shirk has been manufacturing carriages quite extensively for the last two years. Mr. Sim Conkle, a first-class workman, has charge of the painting department. Their shop is the old schoolhouse. In 1876, Harvey & Eby built a sash and door factory near the depot. Mr. Eby left the partnership two years ago. Mr. Harvey has been manufacturing staves for butter kegs. He is now making "Hogan's Propeller," a churn, patented by Mr. Hogan. Mr. Harvey has the exclusive right of sale in the United States. In 1875, Baughman, Hyter & Co. erected a brick foundry in the southeastern part of town. Here they remained until 1878, doing an extensive amount of general repair work, in the meantime manufacturing two fine engines, one of which is now used in the same building. A business of over \$3,000 was done annually. In 1878, the partnership was divided, Mr. Baughman taking the machinery, and Mr. Hyter, the building, etc. Mr. Baughman is yet in the same business near the depot. He has lately invented an ingenious and valuable safety railroad signal lamp, also a self-extinguishing lamp. After the dissolution of the partnership, Baughman, Hyter & Co., Mr. Hyter began the milling business with Mr. Ludlow, under the name, Ludlow & Hyter. The old foundry building was fitted up with four runs of stone, and the building has since been known as a grist-mill. Charles Boetcher, in August, 1880, purchased Mr. Ludlow's interest. Thus the partnership remains. R. B. Stone and E. J. Thompson, railroad men, are operating one of the finest saw-mills in the county. They are now preparing heavy railroad lumber, mostly for the roads west of Chicago. Some thirty "hands" are at work in the various departments of this mill. Large tracts of land are being stripped of timber. Harron Brothers are at present operating a saw-mill near the depot.

Among the tavern keepers in Albion have been Michael Coon, Mr. Reynolds, Isaac Swarthout, Joshua Wade, Jeremiah Low, William F. Engle, Alfred Jacquays, James Wright, Mr. Trussell, Charles Woodruff, Mr. Russell, Mr. Worden, J. H. Bliss, Eli Dice, John Sloan, Thomas Salsgiver, Samuel





Yours Truly  
Wm. A. Sever

COUNTY AUDITOR



Salladay, Haggarty & Bryant, Austin Jennings, Henry Tuck and Hiram Bradley. Among the physicians have been Drs. Clark, Harkins, Boetcher, Spencer (two), Dunshee, Barnet, D. W. C. Denny, Cox, Nimmons, Wheeler, Leonard, Lemon, Hays, Pickett and Martin. Among the liverymen have been John Sloan, John Bliss, William Coon, Stoops & Greenman, John Walters, Ed. Engle and Stoops & Hart. Among the Postmasters have been William F. Engle (perhaps Clapp or Hitchcock), Abel Warner, Nelson Prentiss, A. J. Kimmel, John Hiskey, James Evans, John De Camp, James Evans, Emma Jane Douglas, William Snyder, A. J. Kimmel and Isaac Mendenhall.

The Sons of Temperance instituted a lodge in Albion not far from the year 1852. The life of the organization was brief and short. The "Washingtionians" were present for a short period. The Good Templars have had one, and perhaps two, organizations in town. Albion, for many years, was one of the pleasantest towns in Northern Indiana, in which to reside. But little drinking was indulged in, scarcely a drunken man being seen on the street. There is more liquor consumed in the town at present than ever before. The fines for drunkenness and the license paid by the liquor dealers are at present an important source of revenue.

In 1875, W. M. Clapp began a general private banking business under the name "The Bank of Albion," continuing until his death in January, 1881. The business was then closed; but, as soon as the books and the estate could be settled, Charles M. Clapp, in September, 1881, again opened the bank for the transaction of business.

The Masonic Lodge at Albion, known as Albion Lodge No. 97, F. & A. M., was instituted in February, 1853, by S. D. Bayless, Deputy Grand Master of the State of Indiana. The charter members were Leander B. Eagles, Nelson Prentiss, Jacob Stage, Hosea Gage, J. W. Leonard, D. W. C. Teal and William M. Clapp. The first officers were: Nelson Prentiss, W. M.; Jacob Stage, S. W.; Leander Eagles, J. W.; Hosea Gage, S. D.; William M. Clapp, Secretary. The charter is dated the 25th of the following May. The hall rented by the lodge was dedicated by Dr. Collins, on the 27th of June, 1853. At the time "The Pinery" was burned, nearly all the lodge property was destroyed. Considerable money was lost by other misfortunes, until the present financial condition is not as good as might be expected. The present officers are: James Roscoe, W. M.; J. A. Hamlin, S. W.; Ezekiel Teagarden, J. W.; William Trump, S. D.; A. J. Doular, J. D.; C. B. Phillips, Secretary; George Hines, Treasurer, and S. M. Foster, Tiler. Out of the territory covered by this lodge have been instituted lodges at Ligonier, Avilla, Wolf Lake, Kendallville and Churubusco.

North Star Lodge, No. 380, I. O. O. F., was instituted September 13, 1871, by District Deputy Grand Master J. B. Kimball, under a dispensation from W. H. De Wolf, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana. The charter members were Eden H. Fisher, Isaac Mendenhall, William Z. Holver-

stoll, Hollabert H. Brown and William C. Williams. The first officers were William C. Williams, N. G.; Eden H. Fisher, V. G.; Isaac Mendenhall, Treas.; W. Z. Holverstoll, Sec. The total number of members admitted since the institution of the lodge is sixty-four. Of these, three have died, many have moved away and joined other lodges, some have been dropped for non-payment of dues, and some have been expelled. There are now in active membership thirty-nine—as many or more than at any one time since the organization of the lodge. The financial condition of the lodge is good. It has invested in hall furniture \$425, and in regalia \$75. It also has on hand and at interest \$345.49 general fund, and \$113.02 orphan fund. It is slowly and steadily growing, both financially and in membership, and promises to be soon one of the strong lodges of the State. Its present officers are: D. C. Baughman, N. G.; Charles Boetcher, V. G.; E. F. Coats, Rec. Sec.; Ed. P. Ray, Per. Sec.; Platt B. Bassett, Treas. The lodge has expended by way of relief up to December, 1880, \$237.80.

At the March term of the County Commissioners, in 1874, a petition, signed by seventy-eight qualified voters of Albion, was presented them, praying as follows that the village of Albion might be incorporated:

The undersigned qualified voters of Albion, Noble County, Indiana, would respectfully petition your honorable body to issue an order declaring that so much territory of Albion Township, of said county and State, as is embraced within the map and survey hereunto annexed, be organized as the "Incorporated Town of Albion," under the following bounds: The northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 34, Range 10; southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 34, Range 10; west half of northeast quarter of Section 19, Township 34, Range 10; northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 34, Range 9; southeast quarter of Section 13, Township 34, Range 9; and out-lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Section 13, Township 34, Range 9, in Clark's Addition to the town of Albion.

In accordance with the prayer of the petitioners, the Commissioners ordered an election to be held on the 24th of March, 1874, to ascertain the will of the citizens as to the incorporation of the village. At the June term (1874) of the Commissioners, James Greenman, John H. Bliss and Franklin B. Kiblinger, Inspectors of the Election, reported that eighty-five votes had been cast *for* the incorporation of Albion, and forty-four *against* the same; whereupon the Commissioners, on the 8th of June, 1874, ordered the creation of the "Incorporated Town of Albion." Notice was issued that, on the 23d of June, 1874, an election of town officers would be held at the court house. On this occasion, Alexander Fulton, Sherman J. Hadley and Jacob J. Fischer were elected Town Trustees, and Merritt C. Skinner, Clerk, Treasurer and Assessor. At the first regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Peter A. Sunday was chosen Town Marshal, and at the second meeting Thomas M. Eells was chosen Town Attorney. A town seal was ordered obtained on the 6th of July, and at the same and subsequent called meetings various town ordinances were adopted. Sidewalks were petitioned for and built, thus supplying a convenience and want that could not be satisfied by voluntary action on the



part of property owners. It is proper to add here that a number of prominent citizens stubbornly opposed the incorporation of the village from the start, for reasons best known to themselves. But the friends of the measure were too numerous, and, when the opening of the B., P. & C. Railroad gave Albion a decided "boom," and gave the citizens assurance that the county seat was fixed beyond a doubt (a circumstance in doubt previously), it was thought best to have a municipal government, and Albion was thus incorporated. Subsequent events have proved the wisdom of the majority. The first sidewalk petitioned for was the one on the west side of Orange street, from Main street to the depot. This was on the 27th of August, 1874.

The first term of school in Albion was taught during the winter of 1847-48, by Ephraim Walters, in a small log house owned by himself, and located on the west side of South Orange street. He had enrolled about twenty scholars, and taught three months. Miss Kedsie taught a short term during the following summer. By this time, the rush into Albion had become so great that about sixty scholars were ready to attend during the winter of 1848-49. Abel Barnum and his wife were accordingly employed to direct this large flock of innocents. The session was held in a log house owned by Mr. Pepple. During the autumn of 1849, a small frame schoolhouse was built in Albion by Samuel Devenbaugh. A young man named Abel Warner, who had been clerking in the store of Clapp & Hitchcock (?), was employed to teach in this house during the winter of 1849-50. This building, which is yet standing, adjoining the residence of Nelson Prentiss, was used continuously until 1863, when the large, two-storied frame building, now occupied as a carriage factory by Henry Shirk, was constructed by James Prouty, at a cost of about \$1,500. Abel Warner was also the first teacher in this house. Here school was held until the present building was erected in 1876. Two teachers were employed as early as 1848-49; but after that, and until about 1858, one teacher, save in a few exceptional cases, was capable of managing the attendance. Assistants have been added from time to time since the last mentioned date, until the instructors at present number six. In 1849, at the time the first schoolhouse was built, a number of the citizens, headed by William F. Engle, wished the house located in the northern part of the village; while another party, at the head of whom was Isaac Swarthout, insisted on having it built southeast of the court house. Considerable feeling was incited by the opposition of the two factions; but at last the Swarthout party gained the victory, and decided the question of location. At the time Albion Township was created, another mild outbreak occurred regarding the division of the school fund of the Townships York and Jefferson. Albion Township, having been created from those townships, claimed a share of their school fund, and was awarded a portion on the basis of population in the sections stricken off to form the new township as compared with that of the remainder of those townships. The question arose as to whether the new township had any just claim to the school fund arising from

the sale or rent of the lands of Section 16 in those townships ; and, if the writer is correctly informed, the right to a portion of such fund was denied Albion Township.

During the last few months of the year 1875, the old schoolhouse having become dilapidated and dangerous, the citizens began discussing the propriety of constructing a new and better one. Nearly all the citizens were at this time in favor of the project, or at least were neutral. The School Trustees selected a site for the building on the land of Owen Block ; but, owing either to some alterations in the price of the land, or some alleged imperfections in the deed of transfer, or both, they withdrew from the partially-formed contract, and purchased for \$1,100 the lots where the school building now stands. As soon as this purchase became known, and it became apparent that the School Trustees expected town bonds to be issued whereby to pay the expense of constructing a costly brick schoolhouse, a decided division in public opinion became manifest. A number of prominent and wealthy citizens, upon whom much of the burden of taxation would fall, stubbornly opposed the project, possibly from partly private, personal or pecuniary motives. Their real reasons remain to this day a matter of speculation. A little later, they brought suit in the Circuit Court to enjoin the collection of a certain school fund which might be applied toward the construction of the proposed house, but they were defeated. Just before the contract for building the house was let, a meeting of those opposed to the scheme was called at the court house, and numerous discouraging speeches were delivered to a room full of citizens. A paper was circulated and signed by nearly twenty opposers ; but the list was afterward increased to more than forty. Still, the majority were not shaken in their determination to build the house. The Town Board at this time were William Trump, J. J. Fischer and Owen Black. The School Trustees were Dr. W. Y. Leonard, William S. Kiser and C. A. Howard. The contract for building the house was let to John Lichtenberger, of Fort Wayne, and T. J. Tolan & Son, also of Fort Wayne, were the architects. The contract price was \$15,300. Work was immediately begun on the house, and the Town Board was asked to sell \$17,000 worth of the corporation's bonds to defray the entire expense. At this stage the opposition sued out an injunction to restrain the Town Trustees from issuing the bonds ; but, although the question of the right of the Town Trustees to pass an ordinance authorizing the negotiation and sale of bonds of the corporation to defray the expense of constructing a school building was taken first to the Circuit Court and thence to the Supreme Court, the case, in both instances, was decided adversely to the plaintiff. This was about the last stand made by the opposition. Town bonds to the amount of \$17,000 were ordered printed and sold, that sum being considered necessary to cover the cost of the house, the cost of the land, and some miscellaneous expense. The bonds were issued in sums of \$250 and \$500, bearing 8 per cent interest payable semi-annually, and were strictly 5-20 bonds. They were sold in various localities,



*Yours Truly*  
*James J. Lash*

COUNTY RECORDER





some in New York City, some in Ohio, and some to persons in different portions of Indiana. None of the bonds have been taken up, although the interest is promptly paid when due. Owing to the opposition to the sale of the bonds, and the distrust thereby incited, those first issued were sold at a slight discount. This caused a loss of several hundred dollars to the town.

The several law-suits growing out of the schoolhouse question cost the town nearly \$1,500; this expense was covered by the bonds. The terms of the contract were not complied with by the contractor, who fraudulently reduced the height of the upper story about nine inches, cut down the size of the upper windows, and failed to put the plaster on in the required manner. The fraud was discovered almost by accident by Dr. Leonard almost at the last moment. The work was permitted to go on until completed, and then the School Trustees at first refused to accept the building. This they were advised to do by the architect, who had himself failed to discover the error during the work of construction. The contractor became a beggar and importuned the Trustees to have mercy, and finally the building was accepted at a reduction of about \$900.

## TOWN ORDINANCE NO. 23.

WHEREAS, The town of Albion has a voting population of less than sixteen thousand, as shown by the votes cast for Governor at the last regular election, and, whereas, the said town has an indebtedness of \$17,000, evidenced by bonds to that amount issued for the purpose of purchasing ground and erecting thereon and completion of a schoolhouse owned by said town, and said indebtedness being now due at the option of said town, and all bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually.

Now, therefore, for the purpose of funding said indebtedness of said town, and for the purpose of reducing the present rate of interest on said indebtedness, the following ordinance be enacted:

SECTION 1. Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the town of Albion, in special session assembled, that for the purpose aforesaid, the said town do issue its bonds, with coupons attached, to the amount of \$17,000, said bonds to be of the denomination of \$500 each, numbered from one to thirty-four, inclusive, payable twenty years after the date thereof, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, interest payable at the First National Bank of the city of New York, in the State of New York, on presentation and delivery of coupons, said bonds to be redeemable and payable at the pleasure of said town after the expiration of five years from the date thereof, and further that all of the several bonds authorized by this ordinance bear date of January 1, A. D. 1882, and the interest coupons be due and payable on the 1st day of January and July of each year.

SECTION 2. That said bonds and coupons shall be in the following form to wit:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF INDIANA,

TOWN OF ALBION.

NUMBER.	}	{	DOLLARS.
_____			\$500.

FUNDING BOND.

Twenty years after date, the town of Albion, in the county of Noble, in the State of Indiana, promises to pay to the bearer at the First National Bank of the city of New York, in the State of New York, \$500, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually at the same place, upon presentation and delivery of the proper coupons herewith attached, without any relief from valuation or appraisal laws of the State of Indiana. This bond is redeemable at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees of said town after five years from

the date hereof, by said Board of Trustees giving notice to said bank, at the time of payment of any coupon, of their intention to do so at the maturity of the next succeeding coupon.

This bond is one of a series of \$17,000 in denomination of \$500 each, authorized by the said town by an ordinance passed and approved by the Board of Trustees thereof, on the 8th day of December, 1881, entitled "Town Ordinance No. 23, in relation to the issuing of bonds of the incorporated town of Albion, Noble County, for the purpose of funding the outstanding bonds of said town."

In witness whereof the said Board of Trustees of the town of Albion, Indiana, have caused this bond and coupons thereof to be signed by its President and attested by its Clerk, and the seal of said town hereto attached, at the town of Albion, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1881.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

ATTEST.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk.

It may not be improper to state at this point that the growth of Albion has been very much retarded by the lack of public spirit shown by some of its leading men. Capital from abroad has often sought investment, but has been prevented by the peculiar conduct of these men. Land upon which to erect business blocks could not be purchased at any price, and at Albion could be seen represented the sad, though familiar, spectacle of the dog in the manger. Better things are expected in the future.

The present Presbyterian society at Albion was organized on the 16th of December, 1848, by Revs. E. Bascom and A. H. Kerr. The first members were Erastus Spencer, Amanda M. Spencer, Adaline Wade, William Crispell, Sarah Crispell, Catharine Coon, Andrew Woodward, Polly A. Basset, Lucia Basset, E. M. Wright, Abigail Wright and Isaac Arnold. William Crispell became Ruling Elder. Of the above first members, Lucia Basset is the only one now living. The accessions to the society have been gradual, the greatest membership being seventy, about three years ago. The present membership is sixty-three, and the average, since 1848, about forty. Services were first held in the court house, but, later, in the Lutheran Church, toward the construction of which the Presbyterians contributed several hundred dollars. The present Presbyterian Church was constructed during portions of the years 1875 and 1876. The total cost, including the furnishings and the land, was about \$7,100. The work was begun in August, 1875, and the house was dedicated November 12, 1876, by Rev. James Pollock, of Tiffin, Ohio. The ministers in charge of the society have been E. Bascom, Mr. Snyder, William Boner (about eight years, beginning in 1851), Charles A. Munn, S. V. McKee, J. P. Moore (from near the close of the war until about five years ago), Preston McKinney (four years), and G. W. Barr, a young man of fine ability and promise, at present. This is the strongest society in town.

The Evangelical Lutheran society was organized in April, 1848, by Rev. J. Siedle, the first members being Phillip Bowman and wife, David Bucher and wife, Henry Bowman and wife, Stephen Pratt and wife, James Pepple and wife, and Abraham Hosler and wife. The pastors have been Revs. G. A. Exline, J. Siedle, G. Walker, R. L. Delo, J. H. Hoffman, J. N. Barnett, J. Boon, Sink, William Waltman, W. H. Keller, B. F. Stultz, O. W. Bowen

and J. Shaffer. For many years, during the early history of the society, it was the strongest in membership in town. The first church was built by them in 1855. From that on, for a number of years, four different denominations met regularly in this house. The church is said to have cost \$1,200. Considerable assistance was furnished by the other societies, with the understanding that they were to have the use of the house at stated periods. This building is yet occupied by the Lutherans. The above facts of the Lutheran society were furnished the writer by Mr. James Pepple. Elder Blanchard, of Wolcottville, established a Baptist society in about the year 1849, but the doctrine of salvation by the water route was accepted by only a few, who, after a few years, dispersed and joined other societies. Mr. Pepple says the Methodists organized the first class at Albion very early in the year 1848. Unfortunately, the writer was unable to learn the early history of this society. Mr. Spencer thinks the class was formed during the autumn of 1847, and that the parsonage was begun that year, but is not certain. Rev. Stout is said to have been the first pastor, and Rev. Hall the second. The class started out with a small membership, and at first met in the court-room, but finally used the Lutheran Church. The following have been the ministers since 1861, from records furnished by Mr. Woodruff: Rev. Nash (before 1861), Revs. Sell, Ayers, Barnard, J. M. Mann, J. S. Sellers, H. L. Nickerson, J. W. Smith, William Comstock, W. B. Graham, C. H. Wilkinson, James Greer, and J. W. Smith. In 1861, the membership did not exceed twenty, and has never been more than fifty. Probably the average is not far from thirty. The society has paid its minister from \$100. to \$260 per year, Albion being one of four points (formerly six) attended by him. The Methodist Church was built in 1875, at a cost of \$3,000, about one-third of the amount being furnished by members of other churches and outsiders. The last of this was paid off two years ago. In 1874, when the new railroad was opened, the Methodists ran an excursion to Chicago, and cleared over \$700 cash. This helped them out with their church wonderfully. Some two years later, they also, by the same means, cleared about \$300.

The United Brethren organized a society, probably in 1867, among whom were the following members: Samuel Woodruff, Emma (Woodruff) Black, Dr. C. Woodruff, Jane Woodruff, John Decamp, Deborah Decamp, Samuel Decamp and Elizabeth Decamp. There were five or six others. This society was really formed from the class of the Wesleyan Methodists. It was organized by Rev. George Wansbrow. Among the ministers have been Revs. Prouty, Jacob Albright, E. Johnson, Joseph Bechtel, J. V. Terflinger, L. Morrison, D. D. Bowman, J. G. Knotts and E. Seithman. The lot for the parsonage was furnished by Emma Black and that for the church by Charles Woodruff. The present church was built, and \$600 was raised by subscription on the day of dedication. The average membership is about thirty and probably has not exceeded fifty.

In 1874, Father Duehmig, of Avilla, began raising money to build a Cath-

olic Church at Albion. In 1875, the building was erected at a cost of about \$2,000. The leading contributors were William Storey and John Morehouse, Sr. The congregation numbers some fifteen families. Father Duehmig was pastor until 1878, when he was succeeded by Father Franzen, who remained for one year. Father Ege, of Girondot Settlement, has had charge of the society since. Fathers Duehmig and Ege are both prominent and able men. Perhaps Father Duehmig has done more than any other living man to build up the Catholic cause in Northern Indiana.

In about the year 1854, Rev. Bell organized a class of Wesleyan Methodists, east of town, at the Harvey Schoolhouse. This class, at first, consisted of George Harvey, Mary Harvey, Thomas Beyner, Jane Beyner, John Bailey and Susan Bailey. Others were afterward added. The class met in the old schoolhouse and occasionally in the court room at Albion, and at last, for about two years preceding the erection of their church, in the U. B. Church at Albion. In 1877, their brick church was constructed, the cost amounting to about \$2,300. The Harvey family paid of this about \$600. Among the ministers of this society have been Revs. Bell, Charles Wiggins, Paxton, Bassett, Henry Stoney, Armstrong, Teeter, Jesse Hyatt, — Hyatt, Aaron Worth, and the present pastor, Mr. Northam. The average membership has been about twenty; present membership, about thirty.

Albion has been visited by many disastrous fires. The following is an approximation of the losses:

Sidle House, 1857 .....	\$500
Court House, 1859.....	Indefinite.
Barns owned by Knox & Edwards, after the war.....	300
Owen Black, S. M. Foster, Leonard & Denny, Nelson Prentiss, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Munn, Dick Spencer, Mr. Haas, William Baughman and others, in the spring of 1867 .....	20,000
W. R. Knox, Fogleson & Stoops, Scott & Shessler and others, December 11, 1877.....	2,500
W. M. Clapp, R. L. Stone, Marquardt & Smith, Moltz & Hadley, Dr. W. B. Olds, Masonic Lodge, J. D. Black, John McMeans, Denny & Kiblinger, W. L. Hoff, Denlar & Frazure, J. C. Wolf, Nelson Prentiss, Fulton & Easterday, Samuel Freeman and others, Sunday morning, April 11, 1878.....	23,000
B. & O. Elevator, June 4, 1878.....	2,500
Owen Black, J. D. Black, S. S. Fitch, C. B. Phillips, S. J. Hadley, B. F. Frazure, J. M. Denny, John McMeans and others, July 20, 1879.....	24,000
Adam Kimmel, W. W. White, J. B. Prouty, Mr. Franks, Alexander Fulton and others, September 24, 1879 .....	2,500
Post office, etc., July 17, 1880.....	2,400
W. M. Clapp, C. B. Phillips, Charles H. Moltz, Bank of Albion, Adelphian Dramatic Company, P. A. Sunday and others, October 7, 1880.....	21,000
Dr. Lenmon, summer of 1881.....	9,000
Grand total, excluding court house .....	\$107,700
Owen Black's loss, about.....	32,000



## CHAPTER X.

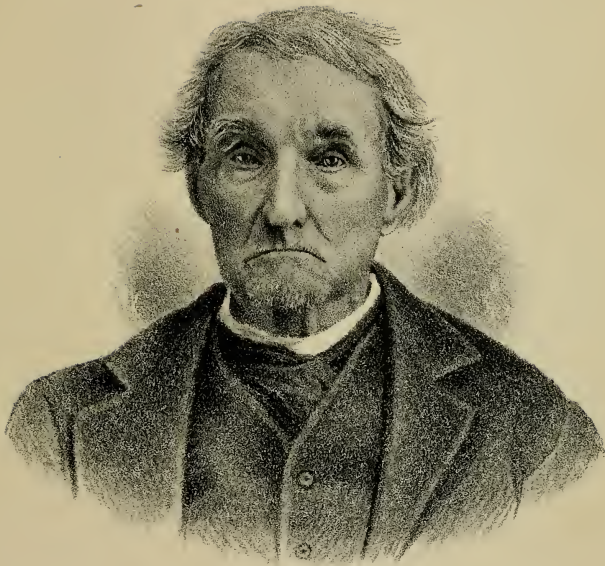
BY JAMES M. DENNY.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP—FIRST FAMILIES—JOURNEY TO THE WEST—INDIANS—PIONEER INDUSTRIES—ORGANIZATION—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—INCIDENTS—AGRICULTURE—ANTIQUITIES—MANNERS AND CUSTOMS—CEMETERIES—STOCK-RAISING.

IN this brief sketch, the writer acknowledges his indebtedness for many facts therein contained to Jehu Foster, Mitchell Potts, Alfred Skinner, Abram Carey, Mrs. John Ely, Frederick Acres, Luther Spencer, D. E. A. Spencer, James Sweet, John W. Moorhouse and others, who were all among the early settlers of the township. Much is necessarily omitted here which will appear in the biographical sketches and general history of the county, now being written.

The first land entered in the township was the northeast quarter of Section 5, by a man named Miller, and now constitutes a part of the large farm owned by William Huston. The first white settler was David Herriman, who, with his family, came from Richland County, Ohio, early in the year 1836, and entered and settled on the northeast quarter of Section 12. He lived thereon about one year, and sold it to Samuel C. Spencer, who came from Huron County, Ohio, in 1838, and took possession of the same. Mr. Herriman left the State immediately. Mr. Spencer resided there for many years, and sold it to George Harvey, the present owner. Mr. Spencer then purchased land one and a half miles southeast of Albion, upon which he resided until his death. It is now owned and occupied by his son, Luther Spencer. In October, 1836, Lewis Potts, Benjamin Potts, Jehu Foster, James Thompson and Manassa Thompson, from Richland County, Ohio, and James Skinner, from Huron County, Ohio, came with their families, purchased and settled upon Sections 10 and 11, and made fine improvements upon the same. Of the above settlers, Lewis Potts, Benjamin Potts, Manassa Thompson and James Skinner died several years ago, on their respective farms, much lamented by all. Jehu Foster and James Thompson still reside on their first-made homes, surrounded in their declining years with peace and plenty. John Peabody, in the spring of 1839, purchased and settled on land in Section 15, where he resided until 1848, when he sold it to Joseph B. Riddle, the present owner, and removed to Allen County, Indiana. Stephen Barhan came in 1837, and, being destitute of the means necessary to purchase land, he labored for James Skinner and others until the requisite amount was obtained, when he purchased the land upon which he now resides, which, by his unremitting industry, is at present one of the best-improved farms in the township. In 1838, John Call entered and settled upon the land now owned by John A. Singrey, at present

one of the County Commissioners, sold the same and moved to Albion when the town was first laid out, and where he died about twenty-five years ago. Between the years of 1836 and 1838 (exact date not known), Alfred Martin, Martin Smith, John Grubb, Smith Ashley and Henry Carothers settled in the township, near the settlement above mentioned. The aforementioned James Skinner, Jehu Foster, Benjamin Potts and Lewis Potts first landed in the county at the cabin of Jackson Sawyer, in Wayne Township, adjoining the present site of the city of Kendallville, and about six miles northeast of their place of destination. Mr. Sawyer received them hospitably, and, in common with the rest of his few scattering neighbors, rendered them all the assistance possible. Here they left their families, goods and teams for about a week, while they were cutting roads to their land. For the first month they camped together on the land of Mr. Skinner, under shelter of a large oak, sleeping in their wagons and cooking by a log fire, during the time they were building their cabins and making the necessary preparations for housekeeping. At the raising of these cabins there were present those living about eight or ten miles distant. The cabins were built of small round logs, the cracks between them being "chinked and daubed" with clay, while the floor was of puncheons. They were furnished with bedsteads, tables, stools and other necessary articles of furniture, made from split puncheons and small saplings. They each cut down a few acres of timber "eighteen inches and under," girdling all over that size; trimmed, piled and burned the brush, and cut the logs ready for rolling. From these "little patches" they raised enough corn, potatoes, buckwheat and "other truck" for their families the next year, depending mainly upon wild game for their meat; and for their horses and cattle, chiefly on pastures in the summer and marsh hay and browse in the winter. Each family, we understand, brought but one wagon, and that loaded with only such articles of furniture, provisions, etc., that they deemed absolutely indispensable. The roads during most of their journey were new, rough and muddy, and they made slow progress, being from four to six weeks on their way. Most of the way the families walked, and drove the few cattle and sheep they brought with them, preferring this to riding over the rough roads. They generally stopped one day each week to rest and do their washing. Between the years of 1838 and 1845, the following persons emigrated to this township, with their families: James Halfeerty, William Inscho, John Moorhouse, Benjamin Melvin, Amos Black, Joseph B. Riddle, William Skeels, John Barhan, Abram Carey, Jerome B. Sweet—who represented this county one term in the State Legislature—Abel Barnum, Henry Brewer, Joseph Ogle, John Cromer, Adam Sheffer, Adam Shafer, Lewis Cravens, Leonard Myres, J. Follett, Samuel Rayner and Jacob Lamb. Among these early settlers, Joseph Ogle was counted a great hunter, and as one of his neighbors once expressed it, "When Joe Ogle looked through the sights and pulled trigger, something generally drapped." And according to the testimony of other of his old neighbors, a good many deer,



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turkeys and squirrels, killed by him, "drapped" into the larders of his neighbors who were not so successful in procuring these necessities. But although Joseph's vision was by no means defective, in one instance his eyesight proved at fault. On account of the pressure of home duties his faithful old rifle had been permitted to hang upon the wooden hooks, nailed against the inner wall of his cabin, and consequently the supply of meat was not as plentiful as usual. So, late one afternoon, telling his wife that he would go to the woods and bring some venison, he started out, and, after traveling until twilight overtook him, he saw before him, partly hidden by the brush, what he supposed to be a fawn, and the longer he looked the more he became convinced he was not deceived. He even saw the young deer cropping the tender blades of grass, and admired its beautiful spots. Feeling sure of some nice tender venison for breakfast, he raised his unerring rifle and fired, and to his great astonishment and consternation he heard a hideous piercing cry, and at the same time a huge lynx bounded about ten feet up a butternut tree, and sinking its long sharp claws into one of the limbs of the tree, hung there until it died, which, from the description of the wound, was in about a minute, but to the terror-stricken hunter seemed much longer. According to his best recollection, he then and there made the lengthiest and most fervent prayer of his life, besides considering the probability of being called upon to exchange his rifle for a harp. But at last, to his great relief, the huge, savage animal relaxed its hold, and its lifeless body fell to the ground. Immediately the green fields "over there" faded from his vision, and all idea of becoming a harpist was abandoned, and he summoned the assistance of his neighbors in taking home his substitute for the "beautiful fawn." By honest, persevering industry, these early settlers managed to procure a competency of this world's goods. As the plan of the history forbids a more extended notice here, the reader is referred to the biographical department; and as the privations and hardships above enumerated, together with the brief allusions to the manners and customs already given of the few first settlers, are undoubtedly very similar to the experiences of those who followed them, their repetition here would be useless. We would remark, however, that from the best information obtainable, the pathway of the latter was in some respects smoothed by those who preceded them. In the expressive language of an early settler, "those who came first had gotten hold of the ropes, and could give them to those who came after."

But the early settlers claim that these privations were largely compensatory. They point back to the sociability that existed in those days, when every man they met was a friend who stood ready to help them in time of need. They refer with evident pride and satisfaction to the spirit of equality existing in their little society; they tell us that their wants were less numerous than now, and more easily satisfied. That broadcloths, silks and satins and costly diamonds were not then as now considered indispensable prerequisites to an entrance into respectable society, and that consequently the labor in procuring

the necessities of life was much less. Some of them claim that real cases of suffering from want were no more common then than now, and that they were able to raise their bread from their "little cleared patches," and, in case any were not, they were assisted in procuring it. "What," asked one of them, "was the use for us to go hungry when the earth brought forth, spontaneously and abundantly, wild fruits of various kinds, when the forest was full of wild game and the lake near us full of fishes?" Again, they refer us to the immunity, in those days, that the young enjoyed from many of the evil and demoralizing influences that surround those of the present, and, in short, they dwell upon those days with evident satisfaction and consider them the happiest of their lives.

Jefferson Township is bounded on the north by the Township of Orange; on the west by York and Albion; on the south by Green, and on the east by Allen. It was organized in the spring of 1838 by the election of James Skinner, Lewis Potts and Jehu Foster, Trustees; John Call, Justice; and Alfred Martin, Constable. At this election, there were nine votes cast. These officers had no competitors. As the emoluments of the offices, at that time, were very small, or, as an old settler expressed it, "as there was no money in the treasury to steal, office seekers were very scarce." These all had the implicit confidence of their neighbors, and were unanimously re-elected. The settlers usually got their grinding done at Stoufer's Mill, situated on the Elkhart River, two miles northwest of Goshen, in Elkhart County, a distance of about thirty-five miles. Several days were required to make the trip. Each load contained the grists of several neighbors. At that time and for many years after, Fort Wayne, about thirty miles distant, was their place of market. It took about three days to make the trip, as the roads were very rough and muddy, and the hills long and steep. Several went together, and joined teams in pulling through the deepest mud, and up the steepest hills. They took provisions for themselves and horses, and camped out at night. Their next trading point was Kendallville, which it continues to be for the northeastern portion of the township; and for the remaining portion Albion is the center point. Their first and only trading point in the township is a country store started by Ephraim Foster about fifteen years ago, in a part of his large farm dwelling house, and which is still kept by him. It consists of dry goods, groceries, notions and ready-made clothing, and proves to be a great convenience to the surrounding country, as well as profitable to the owner. The first saw-mill erected was by Samuel C. Spencer, in 1846, on a small stream called "Buck Creek," on Section 20, and on the farm now owned by his son, Luther Spencer. For a number of years, the sawing for several miles around was done at this mill; but it is not now in operation. There are two others in the township, however, now in operation, one owned by George Inscho, and situated at the geographical center thereof, and the other by Thomas Hudson, and situated near the southeast corner. Both are propelled by steam, and do a thriving

business. There are no grist-mills in the township, and never have been. The first schoolhouse was erected in the southeast corner of that part of the farm of James Skinner lying north of the Albion and Kendallville road and directly west of the Union Church. It was small, built of small, round logs, covered with the old-fashioned clapboards which were held in place by weight-poles, and with a floor made of split puncheons. The chimney was built outside of the house with logs and "sticks," and the back wall of the fire-place with "nigger-heads." For seats were benches made of split logs, with the split side up, which through motives of humanity were divested of the largest splinters. The windows were made by cutting out the greater portion of one log on each side of the house, and pasting in greased paper in the place of glass. This usually afforded sufficient light when the house was not full of smoke. The balance of the furniture consisted of writing desks made by boring two-inch holes into the wall, into which were driven wooden pins, upon which planks were placed. The walls were ornamented with wooden pegs, upon which were hung the scholars' extra clothing and dinner baskets; two, however, were reserved and sacredly set apart for the schoolmaster to keep his "gads" on. This structure served as a model for other districts for many years, until they erected frames. There are at present eleven schoolhouses in the township, and through the kindness of John W. Moorhouse, the present competent and efficient Trustee, we have been furnished with the following, as to the time of their erection and materials used: District 1 (not learned), brick; District 2, 1878, brick; District 3, 1871, frame; District 4, 1868, frame; District 5, 1859, frame; District 6, 1880, brick; District 7, 1872, brick; District 8, 1879, brick; District 9, 1876 or 1877, brick; District 10, 1873 or 1874, brick; District 11, 1875 or 1876, brick.

The above information is as full as can be given, owing to the defectiveness of the records. As Mr. Moorhouse is very zealous in the cause of education, the three frame buildings will undoubtedly soon give way to substantial bricks. As the record is silent as to the cost, it is estimated that the average cost of the brick buildings is about \$1,000. The schoolhouses are furnished with globes, charts, blackboards and other convenient and necessary appliances. The first school taught in the township was in a small cabin on the farm of David Herriman, in the winter of 1838, for the term of three months, by Orvin Watkins, of Orange Township. He was paid \$1.50 per scholar. As it was the usual custom in those days for the teacher to "board round," in frontier parlance, he lived like a "fightin' cock," for it was always known the week before where he would be the next, and as he was generally held next in importance to the preacher, great pains were taken to provide viands of a more delicious character than usual. Again, he always slept in the "high bed," which, as there was but one room in the cabin, was always curtained, in order to protect the stranger while retiring.

The first sermon in the township was preached by Elder Spears, of the

Close Communion Baptist Church, at a private house, very soon after the first cabins were erected. The ministers in the Western country in those days were generally missionaries, and made it their business to follow the new roads, believing that their divine commission required them to go wherever sinners were to be found, and yellow-legged chickens crowed, even into the depths of the wild, gloomy forest. They always traveled on horseback, with "saddle-bags" under them, which contained a few articles of wearing apparel, notes of sermons and a Bible. And especially in this particular locality were they made welcome, as these settlers were all from moral neighborhoods, where the Gospel was regularly dispensed every Sabbath. These, therefore, generally threw open their rude cabins for preaching in the winter and during bad weather in the summer, "God's first temples" being preferred in pleasant weather. This custom prevailed until schoolhouses were erected, which were afterward generally used. As hymn books were scarce, the preacher lined two lines of the hymn at a time. In place of a choir, there was a Clerk, whose duty it was to start tunes. We are told that neither time nor melody was particularly required, only that they "sung with the spirit and understanding." Soon the pride of some of the Clerks led them to "send East" and procure a tuning fork. As for instrumental music, it was out of the question. True, some of the old settlers brought their fiddles with them; but in these, it was generally considered by the ministers, the devil made his headquarters; and while it is true that most of the churches in the township have organs and well trained choirs, still the introduction of instrumental music was necessarily slow and gradual, owing to the deep-seated prejudice of many of the churches against it. Not many years ago, a minister in an adjoining township, while the people were assembling, was observed to "look daggers" at the choir and organ; but, being a stranger in the neighborhood, said nothing until he arose to read the hymn, when his sense of propriety gave way to indignation, and he gave expression to it in the following language: "The choir will please fiddle a tune to hymn 289." But such prejudice seems to have fled with the wolves and Indians. Elder Spears preached in the neighborhood occasionally, and was succeeded, we believe, by Elder Blanchard, who also remained with them a number of years. This denomination has members residing in the township, but no regularly organized church. The next minister of the M. E. Church was named Miller, and at the close of his first sermon informed his congregation that exactly four years from that time he would preach to them again, and he punctually kept his appointment and preached to them several times afterward. The first church edifice erected in the township was Hartman Chapel, by the M. E. society, in 1856, about one mile east of the residence of John Foster and on the Albion and Kendallville road. It is a frame structure, plain but commodious, in which religious services are held every two weeks. The church, we understand, is in a flourishing condition. The second church building, "Rehobeth," was erected by the Lutherans in 1857, a small, neat, frame house. The third was





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"Zion Chapel," a frame building, built by the U. B. denomination. It is situated near the northeast corner of the township and is regularly used. The fourth was erected by the Old School Baptists, some ten years ago, about one and a half miles east of Albion. It is a frame, tasty and commodious, and is in constant use. The fifth and last, the "Union Church," was erected in 1876, situated north of the Kendallville and Albion road, directly opposite the Skinner Cemetery. It is a brick structure and cost about \$3,000. In this all denominations have the privilege of worshipping.

The population of the township in 1880 was 1,226. The total value of taxable property for the year 1881 is \$598,770. There is one blacksmith shop in the township, belonging to Uriah Trumbo, at Baker's Corners, on the Avilla road. The first white settler in the township under five minutes of age was "little Johnny Andrews." His parents came from Huron County, Ohio, in the spring of 1837. Johnny landed at the house of his grandfather, Samuel C. Spencer, January 12, 1840.

It is said that, on his arrival, he was received with greater hospitality, and had more kind attentions paid him, than had been given to any other early settler, and that his example in braving the hardships of the wilderness was imitated by many more immigrants of the same age, to that immediate neighborhood.

The number of volumes in the township library is 230. The total amount of revenue for school purposes, for the year 1881, is \$3,484.40. Amount of common fund expended since September 1, 1880, \$1,981.70. Amount of special fund expended since September 1, 1880, \$1,091.53. Average daily attendance of children in schools of the township for the year 1880, 229. Average length of schools taught within the year in days, 143. Total number of male pupils admitted in the schools within the year, 168; that of females, 161. From the slight investigation recently made by amateur archæologists, unmistakable evidences have been discovered of a once extensive settlement within the boundaries of Noble County of the pre-historic people called "Mound-Builders." Mounds have been found containing human skeletons, with ashes and charcoal, and in some instances implements and ornaments. In this township, a few mounds have been examined, with like results as above, and many more believed to exist. Those examined are situated near the east banks of the Sweet and Skinner Lakes. Another discovery about two years ago, in this township, was made by Mr. Lewis Seeley on his farm in Section 7, which seems to point back to a very remote period. In boring for water, and when at a depth of ninety-nine feet, the auger entered a piece of timber which, as evidenced by the auger chips, was in a sound state of preservation, and on the same evidence was pronounced pine. It is probably a portion of the glacial deposits of the great Mississippi Valley, brought down from the north by ice. From the time of the arrival of the first settlers, the Indians, until 1840, were numerous, and some traces of their trails are yet to be seen. During all that

time they were peaceably disposed toward the white settlers, and, in fact, we have learned of but one incident that their conduct savored of barbarism. This is related by eye-witnesses as having occurred on the east bank of Sweet Lake. Late one pleasant afternoon, while one of the squaws with a long wooden paddle was stirring a pot of hot mush, a little Indian boy annoyed her to such a degree as to give her passion control of her better judgment. Snatching the mush-besmeared paddle from the pot, she severely chastised the little red boy. The effect of this hot mush poultice upon the little naked denizen of the forest can be better imagined than described. It created quite a commotion in the camp, and in a few minutes after the painful occurrence, the loud screams of the frantic little sufferer had brought a large assembly of both sexes, who became very much enraged and cried for summary vengeance on the cruel offender. Some were in favor of blows, while others, more merciful, suggested the application of a poultice of the hot mush. As the witnesses left previous to the settlement of the vexed question, it is not certainly known what disposition was made of the cruel female.

Perhaps there is no township in the county more attractive to the agriculturist than this. It is gently rolling, with but very few marshes or swamps. The general character of the land is a rich black surface with a clay sub-soil, which produces excellent crops of wheat, oats and clover; also peaches, apples, and various other kinds of fruits. It is, or was, covered with a large and valuable growth of timber, such as black-walnut, poplar, oak, cherry, ash, beech, hard maple, etc. It is well improved, and perhaps no township in the county possesses a more thrifty set of farmers. A majority have large and comfortable dwellings, together with good barns and stable room, and, in short, all conveniences and appliances possessed by the thrifty farmer. The soil shows as little evidence of impoverishment from the removal of mineral constituents by crops, as any township in the county; such waste being generally carefully supplied each year by barnyard compost, and when this is not sufficiently abundant, resort is had to mineral fertilizers. For several years past, considerable attention has been paid to the subject of drainage, and resort is being had to artificial drainage where nature has left this important task unperformed. In visiting the various portions of the township, our attention is attracted by the rapid improvement in stock within the past few years. Many importations of the best blooded stock to be found are being made by farmers. The township is well watered by a considerable number of small streams and springs, that afford water for stock. All the stock in that early day was turned loose, and ran unrestrained in the woods. When wanted, they had to be hunted, the cows at least every evening. This task was usually performed by the smaller members of the family. Two sons of William Inscho, George and Hugh, the former twelve and the latter nine years of age, after about a year's experience, became adepts in the Indian art of telling the right direction when it was unknown. One afternoon, they started for their cow somewhat later than usual, and, just



after finding her and starting for home, darkness overtook them, and they were compelled to remain in the woods until morning. Rover, the faithful companion of all their forest rambles—a large, courageous black dog—was with them, as usual. Being unable to proceed further, they all lay down together—the boys, dog and cow. Egyptian darkness so thoroughly shut out every object from their vision, that the presence of the dog could only be determined by the friendly beating of his tail against their little bodies. The boys fell into a deep slumber, and were only once interrupted during the night, and then by the fierce growls of the faithful dog as he had chased away some animal which had approached them. At early dawn, they were awakened by “old whitey” and the fondling of Rover, who seemed to understand the responsibility that rested upon him in the care of his assumed charge. They started the cow, and by her were led homeward. The mother, who had spent a night of grief closely bordering on despair, in her close watch for the least sign of their coming, upon the first glimpse of their presence rushed to receive them in her arms, overjoyed at their rescue. The anxious father and several of his neighbors, who had spent the night in fruitless search, were called home by certain signals. There was joy and thanksgiving in the little household, and it is needless to say that the faithful dog then and during his life-time was fondly cared for. During those early times, as now,

“Death rode on every passing breeze  
And lurked in every flower.”

Therefore, in a short time after the settlers had cleared spots for the rude cabins of the living, it became necessary to prepare one also for the windowless houses of the dead. In the year 1838, the death-angel made his first visit to this little colony, and mercilessly snatched the fairest little bud from the home of Alfred Skinner. At that time, no spot of earth in the township had been set apart for a burial place, and, after the death of his child, Mr. Skinner's brother, James, kindly tendered an elevated sandy spot on the northeast corner of his land, lying south of the Kendallville road, in which to deposit its remains. In a short time, another of his little children, as if to relieve the loneliness of the first, was laid by its side. This spot was shortly afterward dedicated exclusively to the burial of the dead. It is one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the county. It is filled with beautiful marble slabs and monuments, two or three of which cost about \$500 each. Some of these point back to the earliest scenes of the township, and pour into the ears of the writer the sad and solemn story of the final rest of the old pioneers. There is one other cemetery in the township, near Rehobeth Church, which was established many years after the one above described. It is neatly arranged, and also contains many beautiful marble tombstones.

## CHAPTER XI.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

ORANGE TOWNSHIP—INTERESTING FACTS OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENT—EARLY PIONEERS—INCIDENTS IN THE BACKWOODS—SAW-MILLS, GRIST-MILLS, TANNERIES, WOOLEN FACTORIES, ETC.—ROME CITY AND THE RESERVOIR—BRIMFIELD AND NORTHPORT—THE TEACHER AND PREACHER—ISLAND PARK ASSEMBLY.

IN the year 1844, the following persons owned land in Orange Township: Eri Allen, Jonathan Alexander, Samuel Alcott, Josiah Arnold, Oliver Atwood, Jeremiah Andrews, Leonard Appleman (Northport), John B. Bowie, Leonard Barber (Northport and Rome), David Bratton, Henry R. Burnam (Northport), Rufus Berry, Samuel Booth, John Beam, John Riley, Chester Baxter, David Bidlock, Alonzo Bashee, Asa Brown, John Barrett, William Barrett, David Bixler, Samuel Comstock, James Cummings, Hiram H. Chipman (Rome), Levi Cunningham, Stanfill Corbin, John Corbin, Joshua B. Cushman, Joseph Comparet, David H. Colerick, Joseph Caldwell, Constant Cook, William Callett, James Crofoot (heirs), Chancey Carter, Francis Comparet (Northport and elsewhere), Joseph A. Crosby, Joseph Calkins, James Campbell, Joel Doolittle (Northport and Rome), Calkin Disbrue, John Dunbar, J. F. Dunbar, Arthur Dunbar, Lewis Dunbar, William M. Dales, Ichabod Dickerson, William Dickerson, William Denny, Lewis Druillard, William Dunlap, Mason Dunlap, Christian Eaton, Levi Eaton, William Engle, Alexis Edwards, David S. Fields, Joseph Frelove, Benjamin F. Fields, Christian Foster, David Fulton, F. N. Fellows, R. H. Fowler, Anson Greenman, David Gardner, David B. Herriman, Samuel Hitchcock, William Hitchcock, Hall Hubbard, John Hardy (Rome), Jacob Heater (Northport), Stephen Harris, Ira Hovey, N. G. Hale, Jacob Holdren, John Hofferma (Northport), Comfort Hiller, G. W. Hatch, John M. Herndon, Benjamin Jones, R. M. James, Alexander Johnson, Ebenezer Jessup, T. A. Johnson, Rufus Reeler, Thomas Koon (Rome), Homer King, Jonathan Law (Rome), John Lamm, William Latta (Rome), George Lymore, William Leverick, William Lady, William Long, Peter Lampson, Henry Lotz, R. L. Longwell, H. P. Lampson, Charles Mitchell, D. A. Munger, James Madison (no land), John Myers, J. A. McQueen, Thomas McLeland, Don C. Mather, Abel Willington, William Matthews, William Morris, Ezra Morse, Archibald McVickers, Hiram Mucker (Rome), Robert Mucker (Rome), George McIlvain (Rome), Joseph B. Martin, George Nichols, William Nesbit, Oliver Osborn, Daniel Price, Benjamin Potts, Margaret Perkins, Ebenezer Pierce, Sanford Pierce, Betsey Parker (Rome), Lorenzo Payne (Rome), Isaac F. Rice, Charles W. Rockwell, Gideon Reynolds, Moses Rice, John Rup, Thomas H. Roberts, Daniel Rice, Finley Stephens (Northport), John Strous

(Rome), Abraham Shears, Ezra Sanford, Joseph Steinbarger, William Taylor, Peter Thatcher, Herman Thatcher, Richard Thomas, William Liff (Rome), Joseph Thompson, John Vancelder, German Warren, Samuel P. Williams, Ozias Wright, Timothy Watkins, Orlin Watkins, Phineas Williams (Rome), Levi Wildman (Rome), George Wolcott (Rome), Christian Wolf, H. W. Wood, Francis Woldbald and John Winton. Among the very earliest settlers in the township were the following: Eri Allen, William Wright, David B. Herri-man, David Bidlock, Samuel Smith, David Law, Charles Law, David S. Field, Luke Diggins, Timothy Gaby, T. M. Watkins, Joseph Doolittle, William Imes, Stephen Harris, John and S. Corbin, J. F. Brothwell, Abraham Shears, Orlin Watkins, J. A. Waldron, Archibald Crofoot, James Kelley, James Madison, William Latta, David P. Bowrie, Jacob Heater, Francis Comparet, William and Samuel Hitchcock, and many others, some of whose names appear above.

It is not known who was the first permanent settler in Orange Township. Several have claimed the distinction, but no one has successfully proved his claims. It is likely that the first came about the year 1833, or perhaps 1834, probably not sooner, as no evidences now exist of an earlier occupation of the soil by white men. It is probable that white hunters, those who followed that pursuit exclusively, had dwelt temporarily in the township before the appearance of the first white settler. This is always the case in a new country. A band of hardy hunters and trappers move over the country between the van of the army of civilization and the rear guard of the army of barbarism. They are a sort of a connecting link (not Darwin's) between the Indians and their white successors. Orange evidently furnished good hunting, as the numerous swamps, forests, lakes and oak openings clearly prove. Hundreds of wary deer wandered across the woodland, cropping the rich June grass which grew in abundance at each little opening. It was no trouble to shoot them, and each cabin had its choice venison steak. Wolves were numerous, and proved a serious drawback to the rearing of sheep. Many a fine flock of the latter have been attacked in the night, and when the fond owner went to feed them the next morning have been found mangled and dead. Then it was that the owner violated one of the injunctions of the decalogue. Bears were rarely seen when the settlers first came in. They had been driven off by the appearance of white men. The Indians were still numerous, two of their temporary villages being in Orange Township—one near the "Narrows," at Sylvan Lake, and the other in the western part, near Waldron Lake. They mingled freely with the settlers, but were not feared unless when drunk. Then their savage and vicious dispositions came out in their true colors, and people had to beware. On one occasion they had had a shooting-match at their village on the "Narrows," and many of them had become intoxicated on whisky which had probably been obtained of Jacob Heater at Northport. Two drunken Indians passing by the cabin of James Madison came to the door just at night, and wanted to come in, but were prevented by the inmates. It was cold weather, and they

were evidently suffering severely. They insisted on coming in, and kept saying, as their frames shook with cold, *Ca-sin-e-ah* (meaning very cold). When they found that they could not gain admittance, they became loud and boisterous, but, finally, took their departure. The Indians were notorious beggars, rivaling the modern tramp in skill and expediency. They were in the habit of resorting to all sorts of tricks and connivances to secure whisky or provisions. They would enter a cabin without warning or invitation, and quietly demand *pin'-e-ack* (potatoes), *daumin* (corn), *nop'-e-nee* (flour), *co-coosh* (pork), or whatever their wants or fancy indicated. If they were refused they would probably scowl and say: *Me-ah-net shi-mo'-ka-mong kin-a-poo* (very bad white man, me kill). If their wants were supplied, their dark eyes would gleam, and they would say: *Nish-a-shin shi-mo-ka-mong* (very good white man). Several of the old settlers had fights with them, and many interesting stories relative thereto will be found narrated in various parts of this volume.

The settlers first built rude log cabins, as there were no saw-mills nor lumber in the country. A large, rude chimney was built on the outside of one end of the cabin, and one or two small windows furnished the only light for the dismal room. The ample fire-place and a few pots and kettles were all that were necessary in preparing a bountiful repast. A small clearing was first made around the cabin, and this was gradually enlarged as time passed. The men spent their time in clearing, fencing and improving their land, while the women had all they could do to make clothing for the family and prepare the meals. There were no loafers in those days. All were as busy as bees, and no one waited for an invitation to assist at a log-rolling or cabin-raising. Waving seas of wheat and corn were soon seen where erst the song of the red man resounded. Cabins dotted the forests, and the step of progress could be heard through the land.

So far as now known, the first saw-mill in the township was built by William Latta, in about the year 1836; it was located on the river near the head of Sylvan Lake, and in its time became a noted place. It did good work for a number of years, sawing large quantities of lumber for the dam at Rome City and culverts over the canal, but when this work was finished the usefulness of the mill had gone. It became a notorious resort for the "blacklegs" during the dark days, when counterfeiters and horse-thieves overran Noble County. John Weston built a saw-mill quite early, locating it on the outlet to the "reservoir;" it was a frame mill with an over-shot wheel, and up-and-down saw; it was afterward owned by John Kessler, who sawed shingles, lath, etc.; it afterward went to the Geisendorffs, who permitted it to run down. This was an excellent mill in its day, and sawed large quantities of lumber from native wood. Leonidas Jennings also owned a saw-mill on Section 14; it was operated by steam, and was finally destroyed by fire. Mr. Jennings owns a saw-mill at present. Murray Cazier owned and operated one on John Corbin's farm many years ago. It was also a good mill. Other mills have arisen from



time to time, as they have been called for by the demands of the citizens. William Mitchell and John Weston built the grist-mill at Rome City in the year 1851, Samuel Hosler being the architect. It is yet standing and running, and has been one of the best mills in the county, and, indeed, in Northern Indiana; it has a twenty-seven foot head of water, and, in later years, has run day and night, furnishing the surrounding country with fine flour, and shipping large quantities to distant points; it was one of the first industries to quicken Rome City into life, and the village may date its first noted impetus to the time of the erection of this mill. The Geisendorffs owned it for a number of years. J. M. Shackelton owns it at present. It is ordinarily the case that each township can boast of having had within its borders more than one grist-mill; but not another one in this county can boast of having had a better one than the Weston Mill. There has been no necessity for more than the one, as it was amply sufficient, with its three sets of buhrs and facility for rapid grinding, to furnish five times as much territory as Orange Township with flour and meal. Its presence at Rome City was a lodestar to immigrants seeking homes in Northern Indiana. It has thus been the means of attracting into the township excellent men and women from Eastern States, together with many who were not so excellent. In truth, Rome City and vicinity has had a checkered career. It became a principal rendezvous for the "blacklegs," who congregated there by scores to carry on their unlawful practices. The old log schoolhouse in the village was transformed during the night into harbors for counterfeiterers and horse-thieves. It is stated that at one time it was not safe for an honest man to walk the streets of the village with \$5 in his pocket, if such a fact was known to the blacklegs.

No distilleries have ever been conducted in the township, although, of course, the early settlers, and some later ones, have managed to consume large quantities of "the drink which inebriates." Temperance societies have sprung up to counteract the influence of the consumption of liquor; but time alone has partly neutralized its effect. Whisky was looked upon in early years as one of the necessities of life. When people came into the backwoods, if they had no cow, whisky was brought along and was regarded as an excellent substitute for milk. Children learned to cry for it, and tired mothers braced themselves up on the stalwart arm of King Alcohol. We surely, to a large extent, inherit our appetites, and is it any wonder, then, that the generations of to-day can scarcely resist the tendency to drink? Kill the appetite and the traffic is ended.

The village of Northport was laid out in December, 1838, by Francis Comparet, owner and proprietor, on Section 9, Township 35 north, Range 10 east. It was surveyed into blocks of twelve lots each, there being a total of 103 lots. Mr. Comparet expected that his village would become a populous place. He offered the lots for sale at reasonable prices and endeavored to induce mechanics and artisans to locate there; but he soon found that it was

easier to build a town on paper than in reality. In 1839, there were some five families living in the village. Comparet was a Frenchman, who had traded with the Indians for many years. He, immediately after the village was laid out, opened a small store, and began selling whisky and a small amount of calico and groceries to the whites and Indians, the latter going in large numbers to his store for whisky. Or perhaps they went to the hotel of Jacob Heater, as such an institution was opened to the public about the time that Comparet began to sell goods. At least, the bar-room of Heater's Hotel became a noted resort for convivial spirits, who were wont to assemble there to crack jokes, drink whisky, sing songs and tell tales that would test the credulity of those present. It is said, that Mr. Heater had a mysterious jug from which he could sell any kind of liquor desired. The jug required no special preparation, but seemed to possess the singularity of holding any number of mixed or pure drinks; at least, so the story goes. Comparet continued to sell goods until the canal enterprise collapsed. Heater kept an excellent tavern for that day and made considerable money. Goods have been sold in Northport much of the time since, until the last few years. David Law, one of the oldest settlers, opened a store there quite early, and sold goods for many years. A man, whose name is forgotten, sunk three or four vats and began tanning hides as early as 1837. He did not continue long, however, for reasons unknown. Perhaps no more than twelve families have ever lived in Northport at any one time. It bid fair, at one time, to become a large and thriving place; but Rome City came into existence, with its water-power, lake, springs, etc., and soon overshadowed the former village. It is now deserted, and the epitaph of Carthage may be inscribed on its monument.

Rome (or Rome City, as it has since been called) was laid out in June, 1839, about six months after Northport started up. The proprietors were John C. Mather and Ebenezer Pierce, who laid out 216 lots of the usual size and seven out-lots, on the northwest quarter of Section 16. This was the school section, and the men above named, who were Township Trustees at that time, were obliged to get the consent of the School Commissioners before they could lay out the town. The Trustees could derive no profit from the sale of lots, as every cent thus realized properly belonged to the school fund. It was the usual case that Section 16 of each township was the last to be taken up, and, for that reason, the fund with which to support the early schools was missing. Not so with Orange Township. The land was not only sold early, but was sold as town lots (a portion of it) and the proceeds devoted to the support of the early public schools. The first school taught in the village of Rome City (that sounds paradoxical) was supported by funds from the sale of lots. It is said that Joel Doolittle built the first house. It was a low, long frame structure, and in it were placed a few goods, perhaps \$300 or \$400 worth. Here he remained a few years, selling goods and some whisky, and then erected another building, a short distance east, and opened a hotel. He soon gained a pay-



*Capt Eden H. Fisher*

ORANGE TP.





ing patronage. Of course, he kept a bar-room and sold all sorts of liquors. A hotel without a bar-room, where liquor could be obtained, was not a successful investment, and, for that reason, the man who was sufficiently in advance of his age as to be an abstainer was careful not to open a hotel, as he would receive but little or no patronage. Mitchell & Weston are said to have opened the second store in Rome City. When this was done cannot be definitely ascertained, although Doolittle probably began selling soon after the village was laid out. Mitchell & Weston had a fair stock of goods and were well patronized. They bought some produce, or rather gave goods in exchange. George L. Gale was another early merchant. He was a strong anti-slavery man from principle, and, after the enactment of the fugitive slave law, assisted runaway slaves to the dominion of the British Queen. He is known to have helped off fifteen or twenty slaves. He was intelligent and had great force of character, especially as regards the propriety of human conduct. It is related that on one occasion, just at dark, a travel-worn runaway came into his yard, and in the most abject and servile manner took off his hat and bowed himself into the presence of Mr. Gale, who was probably sitting in the yard. The poor black man called him "Massa," and begged for food and protection. Mr. Gale immediately told him to put on his hat and stand erect, and not call him "Massa" any more, as he was not his master. The runaway was treated like a man and sent on his way rejoicing. Such a man could not help becoming a good merchant. Other merchants have been Edward B. Parkman, Arthur Miller, Andrew J. Cullum (who was in business during the last war), Geisendorff & Gower, Kettel Brothers, Hamlin Brothers, Alexander Brothers (who kept the first express office), Adam Rickel, Mr. Adee, John Bigler, H. G. Cobbs, F. N. Miller and others. John Hardy was an early blacksmith. He also kept hotel. A man named Rose manufactured wooden bowls quite early, but only for a few years. O. F. Rogers & Son manufactured clothes' racks quite extensively and made a great deal of money. Doolittle was the first Postmaster in Rome City. The office was first established in Northport, and David Law was appointed Postmaster; but after Rome City killed Northport, the office was removed to the former place. Dr. Stephens was an early physician at Northport. Dr. Barber was also in early. Both men were good doctors, and traveled over extensive sections of country. Early doctors rode twice as far as they do at present. It was no fun to be a good physician in early days, as many an old doctor with a broken-down constitution has declared. Dr. W. W. Martin, an excellent man and an eminent physician, practiced at Rome City over thirty years ago. He finally moved to Kendallville, where, borne down by cares and reverses, he suicided. Dr. Hersheiser is another physician of the township. Dr. E. W. Myers was in quite early. Soon afterward came Dr. James Gower. A great many have come in since. The railroad company, which owns the mineral springs at Rome City, is at present, and has been for the last few years, endeavoring to fit them up, in order that

their full value and virtue may be given to invalids. The various springs (about a dozen) are said to contain bicarbonate and protoxide of iron, carbonate of lime, chloride of sodium, bicarbonate of magnesia, phosphate of lime, sulphur, carbonic acid gas, organic matter, etc. The railroad has established a "Mineral Springs Therapy and Surgical Institute" at the place, and will have suitable buildings erected by next year, all to be in charge of Charles A. Wilson, M. D., a graduate of Harvard College and an eminent young physician. The railroad company is fitting up Sylvan Lake, intending to make it the "Chautauqua of the West." Some two hundred small boats have been placed upon the lake, as has also a small steamer. Various buildings have been constructed, and the work is going rapidly forward. There is no reason why Rome City cannot become a widely celebrated watering-place.

When the project for building the canal was abandoned by the State, Mitchell & Weston succeeded in getting a lease of the water-power at Rome City (the reservoir was originally constructed as a feeder to the canal, and is really nothing more than a huge dam), for the term of ninety-nine years at \$33.33½ per year. It is said that they managed the terms of the lease in such a manner that they succeeded in avoiding making any payment. The lease is equivalent to a title in fee simple, because every time it is transferred, there is also a renewal of the period of the lease—ninety-nine years. These men leased the water-power about the year 1840 or 1841, and kept it until about 1859, when the lease was purchased by William Geisendorff (he bought the grist-mill, the water-power and the necessary land, paying something like \$5,000) and his brothers, perhaps; but some time afterward, about the close of the war, William transferred his interest to his brother J. C., in whose name the title remained until two years ago, when, J. C. having died, the title passed to his wife. The writer cannot say whether the title is clouded or not. The dam has broken three different times, and each break has been attended with great destruction of property, not only at Rome City, but for miles down the valley of the Elkhart, together with loss of life. Eleven persons, including several women, have been drowned in the treacherous waters of the reservoir; but this has often been owing to their own carelessness.

In 1855, Bliss, Poole & Co. erected a large, three-storied, frame wool-en factory, in which were placed "three sets of machines." The building was about 60x110 feet, and soon became the great center of attraction. Stock in the enterprise was subscribed by large numbers of the farmers, who pledged their farms as security for the payment of the subscribed stock. The factory under the management of Mr. Bliss entered upon a season of great prosperity. Some sixty employes, nearly half of whom were women, were hired to operate the different departments, and soon there were turned out large quantities of flannels, yarns, cassimeres, jeans, broadcloths, fullled-cloths, shoddy, satinet, doeskins, etc., etc. Under the stimulus of the presence of this important industry, the village of Rome City began to grow, and soon the population was

doubled and trebled. The grist-mill first roused the town into activity; but when the factory was built, the village received an impulse that has been permanent. An annual business of nearly \$70,000 was done for some four years, when, for some reason or other, the enterprise seemed to fail for lack of funds, and a number of the farmers who had pledged their farms as security for the payment of their stock were compelled to sell out in order to get means to settle the claims against them. Many of the citizens living at Rome City are bitter in their denunciations of the management of the enterprise. The property was finally sold at Sheriff's sale, and was purchased by Mr. Bliss, who soon afterward traded the factory to Clement & Kennedy for another factory in Charleston, Ill. These men did not accomplish much with the factory, and it soon fell into the hands of William Geisendorff, who ran it successfully for a few years, when the title was transferred to his brother J. C., who owned it until it was destroyed by fire in about 1871. As soon as William Geisendorff sold the factory to his brother, the former immediately erected another woolen factory at the village; but it was not so large nor extensive as the other. It was a two-storied frame building about sixty feet square, and gave work to some thirty employes. This was operated some two years, when it was vacated, but started up again after the other had burned, under the ownership of Clapp, Fisher & Zimmerman, who continued it until 1877, doing an annual business of from \$30,000 to \$40,000. Some say it was destroyed by fire generated by spontaneous combustion, while others assert that it was a case of incendiarism. The truth will probably never be known. These factories were the most important industries ever in the township, and were the making of Rome City. The Masons organized a lodge at the village some ten years ago, and the Good Templars started up about twenty years ago.

The village of Brimfield was laid out by William Bliss, owner and proprietor, on the south part of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 29, in March, 1861. Twenty-three lots were laid off by E. B. Gerber, County Surveyor. The first house was built by Daniel Brumbaugh, who had located there as early as 1840. Soon after this, Jacob Long located in what is now the village, as did also a little later Reason Dye. David and John Seeley opened a store immediately after the laying-out of the village. They owned a small stock, and were soon followed by Kinney & Rhodes, who began selling hardware. John Seeley became the first Postmaster. Other merchants have been George Gale, Mr. Wilbur, Huston & Mahood, Jones & Weaver and Andrew McCollum. Judge Seeley built the saw-mill at an early day. It has been an excellent mill in its time. The boiler bursted on one occasion and killed William Collett, three Cooper boys, and a young fellow named Hewett.

The Odd Fellows at Brimfield were organized August 25, 1881, with the following charter members: A. C. Emahiser, J. W. H. Chamblin, A. J. Niswander, C. P. Hart, T. L. Imes and C. B. Hart. The first and present officers are: A. C. Emahiser, N. G.; C. B. Hart, V. G.; J. W. H. Cham-

blin, Sec.; A. J. Niswander, Treas. The lodge is doing well. The business of Brimfield is as follows: Hart Bros., general merchandise; Coldren & Gaby, same; G. W. Cospers, same; A. J. Niswander, druggist; W. B. Dunn, groceries; J. W. H. Chamblin, groceries; C. W. McMeans, hardware; Cora D. Reynolds, millinery; A. C. Emahiser, hotel; H. G. W. Briggs, hotel; A. Waddel, livery; Mr. Briggs, same; W. C. Lane, saw-mill; J. S. Dusler, wagon-shop; M. Hart and F. M. Parks, blacksmiths; J. L. Trader, physician and surgeon. The pride of the town is a literary society which has an admittance fee of \$5.

In 1839, a combined church and schoolhouse was built at Northport. Every one turned out and helped erect it. The Presbyterians and Methodists were to use the building, which was built of logs, while it was not devoted to school purposes. The name of the first teacher is not remembered. This old house was used until 1843 or 1844, when a log schoolhouse was erected at Rome City. Mr. Babcock and Mr. Barnum were two of the early teachers at Northport. Good teachers were employed at Rome City, as there was considerable money from the sale of town lots to pay them, and to support the school. The bar-room of Hardy's Hotel was fitted up for a school-room, and Miss Aurelia Andrews was employed to teach the first term of school held in Rome City. This was during the summer of 1843, but during the fall of that year, or perhaps the next spring, she was employed to teach the first term held in the old log schoolhouse. She thus enjoys the distinction of having taught the first two terms in Rome City. Mr. Greenman was one of the first teachers. Miss Marilda White, now the widow of Hon. J. F. Brothwell, remembers of attending spelling-school in this house in 1844. This building was used until 1856 or 1857, when the schoolhouse now used as the town hall was erected. This was used until some ten or twelve years ago, at which time the present commodious structure was built. Prof. Watts Denny, of Albion, is the present Principal. After the erection of the first schoolhouse in Rome City, the school at Northport slowly died out. The best school in the township is at Rome City. The room in which the Principal teaches is said to have the finest apparatus of any in the county. A log schoolhouse was built half a mile north of Brimfield at an early day, probably about 1842. Among the early teachers were James Lake, Joe Warner and Mary Ann Nash. Ten years later a frame schoolhouse was built just south of the railroad bridge, and was used nearly twenty years, when the present two-storied frame structure was erected. The second house is now used as a dwelling in the village. Brimfield has had good schools from the beginning. It was about 1844 that various log schoolhouses were built throughout the township. The first rough experience of backwoods life had given way before the march of progress, and the youth growing up must have schools. Parents, though at first careless, soon realized the value of schools for their children, and soon ceased to say, "Why, I got along without any 'edication,' and I guess my children can do so,



if I did." That idea was soon discarded, and the schoolhouses began to dot the forests. The schools were at first taught by subscription, and the teacher was doomed to pass through the terrible ordeal of "boarding around." That is perhaps the most cruel trial to which an inoffensive teacher can be subjected. Each scholar paid from \$1 to \$2 for the term, and the old log houses with their puncheon floors and desks, their two or four small windows, their large mud chimney and huge fire-place, were filled with tow-headed urchins, eager for fun and frolic. A log school house was built on Dutch street quite early. Another was soon seen two miles northwest of Rome, and still another southwest. The township is well supplied with good schools. The history of the seminary at Wolcottville will be found in another department of this volume.

Probably the first church in the township was the combined church and schoolhouse at Northport. As above stated, it was built in 1839 by the Presbyterians and Methodists, and was used for a number of years after it was disused as a schoolhouse. Rev. Cory, of Lima, quite an able man, was the Presbyterian minister. The Methodists employed the Rev. Hall. These men were the typical backwoods ministers, possessing great enthusiasm in their calling, and constitutions capable of sustaining any amount of hardship and exposure. They traveled on long circuits, preaching to pioneer assemblies every day of the week, and completed the circuit at the end of the month. In 1841, one of the largest revivals ever had in the township was instituted and conducted by these men. Almost every person in the neighborhood was converted, and the excitement spread to more distant localities. Boys and girls were converted, and prostrated by the "power." Speaking meetings were organized at the private dwellings, and all—old and young—were called upon to tell their religious experience. The society was so strengthened that the influence has endured until the present day. Mr. Shears was one of the early church leaders. A log church (Close Communion Baptist) was built at an early day one-half mile south of Wolcottville. Among the early members were the Taylors, McQueens, Mungers and Pierces. A Deacon named White was prominent. Members of other denominations met with the Baptists, and all together made a large, fine congregation. This old building was used until a short time before the last war, when a frame structure was built in Wolcottville to take its place. The present church at the last-named village was built a few years ago, and the society which assembles there has the reputation of being the largest and strongest in the township. The German Lutheran (and possibly the German Reformed) Church, on what is called Dutch street, was built at an early day. The old settlers speak of great revivals in early years at this house. It was used to some extent as a schoolhouse, as several terms were taught there, one of the teachers, a very homely German, teaching the mother language to the children in attendance. This old schoolhouse was one of the first frame buildings in the township, and was regarded as quite a curiosity when first built. The Free-Will Baptists built a church in the northeast part early, and this

church is yet occupied by a thriving congregation. It was built about the beginning of the last war. The Methodist Church at Rome City was erected not many years ago, the United Brethren assisting in the cost, with the understanding that they were to have the use of the building. The last-named society has slowly scattered, and now but a few of the old members remain. The present town hall, erected first for a schoolhouse, was used as a church by a small society of Baptists. A number of years ago the Methodists began holding meetings in the schoolhouse at Brimfield; but, although the attendance was quite large, no effort was made to build a church until the spring of 1875, at which time a start was made, but the building was not completed until the following year. The building Trustees were William Bliss, William Huston, James H. Fisher, Charles Beidelman and Joseph Bailey. The house cost about \$2,700, the society receiving much outside assistance. The first minister was the Rev. Mr. Hartman. The present one is the Rev. Mr. Johnson.

Early in 1878, Mr. W. B. Cory, of Lima, called on Rev. A. H. Gillet, of Sturgis, Mich., to talk of Sunday school matters. In the course of conversation, the many attractions of the lake and island at Rome City, as a place for Sunday school gatherings, was alluded to, and the conclusion reached to invite a number of Christian men, interested in Sunday school work, to meet them at an early day, and consider the propriety of forming an organization for the holding of annual gatherings in the interests of Sunday school work and Christian culture. The meeting was held early in May, an organization formed entitled the "Rome City International Sunday School Congress," and, in the succeeding month, a congress of four days was held, which was largely attended, and gave great satisfaction to all. Finding the plan of organization not adapted to permanent work and to the laws of the State for incorporation, the association met October 15, 1879, and re-organized on a more substantial basis, and with a wider plan, modeled after the great Chautauqua assembly, of New York. The name was also changed to the "Island Park Assembly." The incorporate members were at first limited to fifty, but has now been extended to seventy-five. The Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company, owning the island, at once began extensive improvements, building a large tabernacle capable of seating some three thousand people; put up a building to cover a model of the land of Palestine, constructed by Rev. W. H. Perine, of Albion, Mich., laid out avenues, built bridges, a boarding-house, docks, etc.

In June, 1880, was held the first assembly, distinctly on the Chautauqua plan. It was in session fourteen days, holding from day to day a Pastors' Institute, a Sunday School Normal, a Secular Teachers' Congress, Musical Convention, Oriental exhibitions, lectures on the models of Palestine, and three platform lectures each day. The men in charge of the several departments of instruction were all of distinguished reputation, and on the platform appeared some of the ablest speakers of the land.

The second session of the assembly was held from June 29 to July 15,

1881, with improved and still larger programme. Before this session, the Assembly bought some eighteen acres of land of John Kerr, adjoining the lake on the south, and leased a body of woodland of Isaac Barber, cornering on this. These lands have been platted, and a number of lots sold, and it is expected that the year 1882 will witness marked improvements in the way of cottages and suitable arrangements for the accommodation of the people disposed to seek rest and recreation, where they may, at the same time, enjoy the most favored opportunities of improvement in all that pertains to the development of Christian manhood and higher culture. The managers have all worked without fee or compensation for time or labor, and besides have incurred personal liabilities to the extent of thousands of dollars to start this institution—one they fondly believe will eventuate in much public good.

Rev. A. H. Gillet, of Michigan, has so far been, and is now, the Superintendent of Instruction, having charge of the preparation and execution of the programme. Dr. J. H. Rerick, of La Grange, has been and is now the President of the association. Rev. C. U. Wade, of Roann, Ind., was Secretary until August, 1881, when, declining renomination, P. N. Stroop, of La Grange, was elected. The present Board of Managers are: Rev. A. E. Mahin, Fort Wayne, Ind.; F. W. Keil, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Rev. C. U. Wade, Roann, Ind.; Rev. R. S. Goodman, Kendallville, Ind.; John Mitchell, Kendallville, Ind.; G. W. Mummert, Wawaka, Ind.; O. B. Taylor, Wolcottville, Ind.; H. L. Taylor, Wolcottville, Ind.; J. H. Rerick, La Grange, Ind.; P. N. Stroup, La Grange, Ind.; Rev. T. E. Hughes, La Grange, Ind.; W. C. Glasgow, La Grange, Ind.; S. D. Moon, La Grange, Ind.; R. S. Hubbard, La Grange, Ind.; W. B. Cory, Lima, Ind. And the officers are as follows: President, Dr. J. H. Rerick, La Grange, Ind. Vice Presidents—Rev. T. E. Hughes, La Grange, Ind.; George W. Mummert, Wawaka, Ind.; Rev. A. E. Mahin, Fort Wayne, Ind. Secretary, P. N. Stroup, La Grange, Ind. Treasurer, John Mitchell, Kendallville, Ind. Executive Committee—W. C. Glasgow, La Grange, Ind.; H. L. Taylor, Wolcottville, Ind.; S. D. Moon, La Grange, Ind. Auditing Committee—W. C. Glasgow, La Grange, Ind.; O. B. Taylor, Wolcottville, Ind.; G. W. Mummert, Wawaka, Ind.

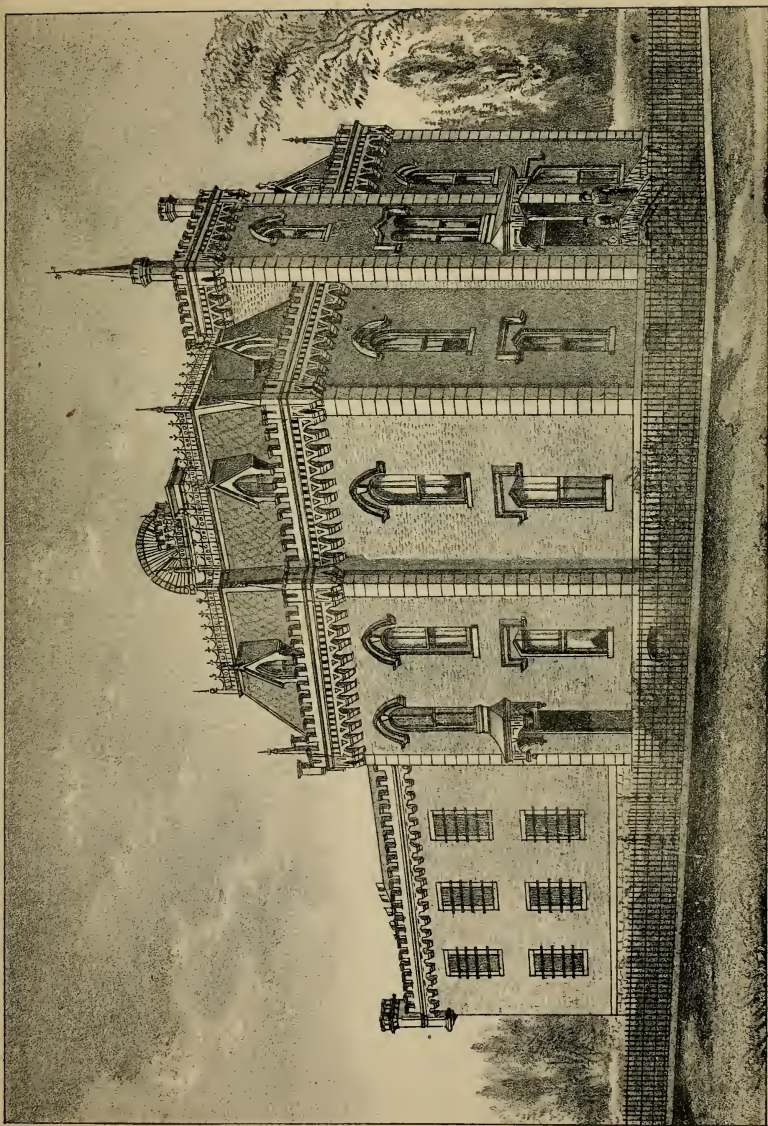
## CHAPTER XII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

ALLEN TOWNSHIP—FIRST WHITE SETTLER—CATALOGUE OF PIONEERS—GROWTH AND DECAY OF INDUSTRIES—VILLAGES OF LISBON AND AVILLA—THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD—MR. BAKER AND THE INDIAN SQUAW—OUTWITTING A BEAR—THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS—TEACHERS AND PREACHERS—THE CATHOLICS.

ALLEN TOWNSHIP has a history essentially similar to that of every other in the county. There was the coming of the first settler, the rearing of log cabins and the clearing of the land, the adventure in pursuit of wild animals, the struggle to make an honest living in the woods, the erection of mills, schoolhouses, churches, etc., and the gradual increase in population. The name of the first settler is always a matter of interest, yet, unfortunately, it cannot in all cases be remembered. This is not true of Allen, for it is certain that George T. Ulmer, who settled in the township in 1834, was the first. Mr. Ulmer, a native of the Pine Tree State, came from Summit County, Ohio, with his family drawn by a large yoke of oxen, and with a few young cattle driven along by a member of the family, and located on eighty acres, which he entered on Section 4. With him came a young man named Alvord, of whom but little is known, as he shortly departed for some other locality. Ulmer had a wife and several children, and it is remembered that to these parents was born the first white child in the township, though nothing further than that can be told for want of information. The second child was Chloe Wadsworth, whose birth occurred on the 6th of November, 1836. The second settler was Samuel Weimer, who appeared in the spring of 1836. He located on what he thought was his farm, but soon learned he was improving gratis some other man's land, whereupon he moved to what he again thought was his claim; but again was doomed to disappointment, and had to try the third time, which proved to be the charm, as he had at last found his future home. The third settler was Alpheus Baker, who came to the township during the fall of 1836, while about a month later, in the month of October, Elihu Wadsworth, who is yet living on the old farm, appeared with his family, and began to improve his land. He pointed to the writer of this chapter, within a few rods of his house, a white oak stump, from which the tree was cut, during the winter of 1836-37, by himself and a young man named Dorus Swift, who had come with him to the county, the stump being yet in a fair state of preservation. Soon after the arrival of these men, and prior to 1844, there came in, among others, the following settlers: Ryland Reed, Asa Brown, Edward Adams, John Geiser, Hiram Iddings, Francis Boerck, Evan Jones (the first one in the southern part), M. P. Rickett, Alfred Rice, Orrin Rice, Alvin Rice, Alonzo D. Whitford, Har-





NOBLE CO. JAIL



Whitford, Augustus H. Whitford, Matthias Woodruff (the first blacksmith), George Berry, Washington Bidwell, Clark Bidwell, Joel Berry, Andrew Bixler, William Broughton, Joel Carpenter, Daniel Hide, Charles Harding, N. I. Hill (the first settler at Avilla), S. P. Haynes, Hosea Hunter, Jackson Iddings, Lewis Iddings, Ezra T. Isbell, Philander Isbell, A. E. Littlefield, Barnett Laller, John McBarns, W. H. Potter, L. D. Payne, Reuben Ross, Edwin Randall, Hiram Roberts, Matthias Saylor, John Steele, Moses Tryon, Albert Wilson and James Roth. Others were in before 1844, but their names are not remembered.

The settlement of the township, when well begun, was very rapid. Improvements of all kinds were swiftly pushed to completion, and very soon the old log cabin was replaced with one of better appearance and pattern. The first marriage was contracted between William Hill and Mary Keeler. It is said that Mary had some property of her own, which was used in making their home comfortable after marriage. William probably thought as did Robert Burns :

"Awa wi' your witchcraft o' beauty's alarms  
The slender bit beauty you grasp in your arms;  
O, gie me the lass that has *acres* o' charms,  
O, gie me the lass wi' the weel stock it farms.  
Then hey for a lass wi' a tocher, then hey for a lass wi' a tocher,  
Then hey for a lass wi' a tocher—the nice yellow guineas for me."

The marriage was celebrated in 1837, but the Justice of the Peace who performed the ceremony lived at Wolf Lake, whither William went for him. He made the two "one flesh" (very difficult of execution if considered literally), and then left them to enjoy the wedding supper, which consisted of Johnny cake, baked beans, pork, etc. At the third marriage that took place in the township, music and dancing ruled the hour. A few pioneer boys in homespun and girls in ditto assembled to enjoy the event, and perhaps to institute new marriage contracts for—

"I've often heard my father say, and so I have my mother,  
That going to a wedding will bring on another."

The "French four" and the "Scotch reel" and other varieties of reel were indulged in, and the boys with their heavy "brogans" came down on the "double shuffle," and cut the "pigeon's wing" like masters of the art. Going home with the girls! Ah, that's what captivated the boys, and on that question all degrees of courage were exhibited. Of course, the girls must look demure and modest, and wait the approaches of the sterner sex. And then came the walk or drive home through the dark woods. It is the old, old story—ancient and antiquated—yet, withal, it is new, because the characters are new. The stage is the same, the scenery the same, the shifters the same, but the troupe of actors are not the same.

On the 6th of March, 1838, David Wadsworth died and was buried in Elihu Wadsworth's orchard; this was one of the first deaths. In the month of August, 1837, the first township election was held at the residence of Mr.

Ulmer, on which occasion, although there were nine persons present, but two—Ulmer and Hill—were entitled to vote, they alone having been in the township and State the requisite time. This election, therefore, was not an election. The second election was held during the following year, and was more of a success. It was held at Asa Brown's cabin, and at its conclusion the returns were sent to Sparta, then the county seat; but as they had to go *via* Fort Wayne, it was three weeks before the Spartans received them. At that period there were two mail routes through the county, one extending from Fort Wayne along the Goshen road, and the other from the same place, toward Lima, along what afterward became the plank road.

Soon after 1840, Samuel Haynes built a water saw-mill on Sycamore Creek, securing water-power by means of a dam. This is said to have been the first mill in the township. Not long afterward, Gilbert Sherman also built one on the same stream, and his was also operated by water-power. A few years later, Asa Brown, who had located where Lisbon now is, and had built the first frame house in the township there, erected a steam saw-mill, which, for many years, did good good work. Mr. Brown was an enterprising man, but he was grasping in financial matters, so much so that he finally ruined Lisbon by his refusal to sell corner and other valuable lots in the village, and by steadfastly denying that he was under any obligations to use his influence in securing the location of a railroad through his town. Further than that, he said he did not believe in railroads, and his infidelity on this question wrought his ruin, as Kendallville succeeded in getting the road, which, properly managed and influenced, would, beyond doubt, have passed through Lisbon. Mr. Brown had money. He came into the wilderness well supplied in this particular; but his knowledge was greater than his wisdom. His house had been erected in Lisbon in 1837, from lumber obtained, if reports are true, at Stephen Sawyer's mill, then operating near the present site of Kendallville, but in Wayne Township. Some say that Asa Brown's saw-mill was the first in the township, and that it was built within a year or two after the erection of his frame house. In 1840, he built an ashery, and began, on an extensive scale, to manufacture black and white salts, and a fine article of pearl-ash, continuing the pursuit for several years, until the quantity of ashes failed, manufacturing in the meantime, per annum, some twenty tons of the ash, which was shipped by wagon to the market at Fort Wayne. He continued some ten years, and during a portion of this time, Hiram Roberts, an experienced ash-burner, was in his employ. About the time the ashery was started, Mr. Brown built an addition to his house, designing it for a store-room, into which he placed a large and handsome stock of goods, too large and costly to be profitable in the backwoods. Goods were given in exchange for ashes, and sold on credit, which proved to be long and troublesome. Brown also opened his house for the entertainment of the public, and his hotel became widely known on account of the hospitality of the landlord. The ill success of the mercantile



enterprise compelled Mr. Brown, after many years of ups and downs, to sell his farm to pay his debts and remove the incumbrances. In about the year 1845, a traveling circus and menagerie came through and "showed" at Lisbon. The advertisements were flaming, rivaling in hideous exaggeration those of to-day, while the real merits were generally inferior, though in some particulars superior. There was a herd of five performing elephants. Mr. Brown had his town, Lisbon, surveyed and platted in October, 1847, at which time, twenty-four lots were laid out along the Lima and Fort Wayne road. From the fact that he had an abundance of ready money, he was enabled to command a wide influence, which had the effect of bringing to the village mechanics and artisans of all descriptions. But these men were too poor to pay several hundred dollars for a small lot upon which to live, and so they were compelled to go to some other locality. At first, Mr. Brown did not observe the injury he was doing his town, as he thought that the village must grow, and that sooner or later the prices demanded for the lots must be paid. But he suffered for his want of foresight, and when it was too late his prices for lots were lowered. But then other towns had sprung into existence all around him, and the death song of Lisbon had been sung.

Ryland Reed built the second house in Lisbon soon after the town was laid out. Samuel Minor was the first Postmaster. Other men who sold goods were Lorenzo Tyler and Abraham Warner. These men were partners, and began soon after 1852, or about the time that Brown went out of business. James Walker conducted a good store there for many years, beginning not far from 1853. T. P. Bicknell opened with a drug store soon afterward. Robert Hay sold goods there for a few years. Mr. Baughman also had a good store there. In about 1852, the village was visited by a conflagration, which, in a short time, destroyed seven buildings, and a considerable amount of furniture and other property. There has been no store there since the last war. The epitaph of Carthage may be appropriately written on the monument of Lisbon.

A man named Taber owned and operated a saw-mill between Jefferson and Allen at quite an early day. Mr. Littlefield conducted an ashery near Avilla moderately early, and after him Jefferson Smith followed the same pursuit for a short time. At a very early period, as Mr. Wadsworth was one day walking through the woods near his house, he saw a large log which had been so split that the upper portion was a slab, and was pinned down by means of horizontal cross-pieces held in place by posts on either side of the log; thinking it was a bear-trap he struck his ax into the slab and split off a portion, and then saw that the log had been hollowed out by human agency, after which the slab had been fastened to its place as stated. Mr. Wadsworth peered into the opening, and saw lying within the well-preserved corpse of an Indian woman. Death had occurred but a few days before, as decay had but just set in. The slab was re-adjusted and the dead was left at rest. Not long afterward, the log and its occupant were burned by Mr. Baker, who covered both with a heap of brush.

wood, after which the fire was kindled, and the first cremation in the township took place.

It is related that one of the Whitfords was one day in the woods with his gun, when, in walking along, he suddenly saw on the opposite side of a large log a dark animal that appeared to be a hog rooting in the leaves, and making quite a noise. A closer inspection revealed the fact that the animal was a bear. It suddenly raised its head, and, seeing the hunter, reared up on its hind feet, the position always taken by a bear in close quarters. Mr. Whitford quickly fired, and the bear dropped, but immediately arose and started in fury toward the hunter, who took to his heels down a long hill, closely pursued by the infuriated animal; the hollow was soon reached and the ascent on the opposite side began; the hill began to tell on Mr. Whitford, who recollected, as he strained and panted along, that it was said that a bear could run up hill as fast as down. As he could make better speed down hill than up, he took a circle and went down again at a furious rate, closely followed by the bear. In order to run down hill, it was necessary to also run up on the other side, and this was done, although the wind of the settler was almost gone. Upon looking around at the summit, the exhausted man saw the bear below in the hollow whirling round and round like a drunken man. At the same instant some of his folks put in appearance, and the bear was quickly dispatched. It had been mortally wounded, but had possessed strength enough to give Mr. Whitford the longest and best race he probably ever made. Had the bear's strength held out, there would probably have been a funeral in the Whitford family.

At quite an early day Noah I. Hill built the first house in Avilla, converting it into a tavern, and opening in one room a small stock of goods, which was offered for sale. In the bar-room of his tavern, liquor, old and young, was kept for the thirsty travelers, who stopped for refreshments while on the Lima road. The goods which were unceremoniously offered for sale did not exceed \$300 in value, and were soon closed out, or, rather, driven out, by the appearance in the village of experienced and capable merchants, with fair stocks of a general assortment of goods. Mr. Hill not only sold liquor, but enjoyed the glass himself, and drank a great deal in social conversation with travelers and customers. The bar-room of his tavern became well known to all the teamsters along the road, and is yet remembered by old settlers in the neighborhood as a noted resort for those who loved the flowing bowl. In winter evenings, while storm and darkness were intense without, and the angry wind dashed the rain or snow into every crack or crevice, the old bar-room was lighted by the ruddy glow of the blazing logs, and the travelers and host beguiled the lagging hours with drinks, jokes, stories and songs. Bumpers were filled, and the ruby liquor was drained to the dregs, while over all arose the merry voice—

“No churchman am I for to rail and to write,  
No statesman nor soldier to plot or to fight,  
No sly man of business contriving a snare—  
For a big-bellied bottle's the whole of my care.

"The peer I don't envy, I give him his bow;  
 I scorn not the peasant tho' ever so low;  
 But a club of good fellows, like those that are here,  
 And a bottle like this, are my glory and care.

"I once was persuaded a venture to make,  
 A letter informed me that all was to wreck;  
 But the pury old landlord just waddled up stairs  
 With a glorious bottle that ended my cares."

The old hotel, though subsequent improvements have greatly altered its appearance, is yet standing in the village, and is known to all the citizens. Hill was a good man, and an enterprising citizen of excellent judgment; and was accordingly honored with the then prominent official position of Justice of the Peace, and was continued thus for a long period of years. Among the early business men of Avilla were Jefferson Smith, Baum & Walters, Mr. Stewart, Henry Vogading, H. H. Haynes and others. Later have been Mr. Randall, Henry Fryer, Mr. Hartman, Lewis Scutt, Mr. Johnson and others. The Yeiser brothers built a steam saw-mill a number of years ago, which has been operated since. A planing-mill connected with it dresses a considerable quantity of lumber, much of which is used at home, and the balance shipped to other localities by rail. Wood & Haynes built a hoop factory some two years ago, but, although it was pushed in the work, it was not as profitable as expected. They are now manufacturing a large number of pumps, and have several wagons on the road selling all the time. They also manufacture cider, cane sugar, jelly, etc. The large grist-mill erected by John D. Shafer a number of years ago, is one of the best in the county, for quality of flour. The mill is a large frame structure, and is a credit to the place. Considerable flour is shipped by rail. Twenty years ago, Maternus Blust began burning brick a short distance north of Avilla. During the first year, 280,000 were made, and 112 cords of wood were consumed in the process. The business was steadily increased under a splendid sale, both at home and abroad, until, at the end of twelve years, it was found that an average during that period of 500,000 brick had been burned, each year's burning requiring on an average 150 cords of wood. Mr. Blust then moved his factory to Avilla, where he has since continued—some seven or eight years—to manufacture on even a greater scale than he did north of town. Seven years ago, he began burning tile, from two and a half to eight inches opening, and since the first year has manufactured a yearly average of 25,000. The great bulk of this vast business is shipped away, though the number of brick buildings of all kinds in the town and vicinity show that the citizens appreciate the importance of the industry. Many assistants are employed to carry on the business.

Noah Hill was the first Postmaster at Avilla, and was succeeded by Mrs. Elizabeth Swarhouse, Postmistress. S. P. Stewart, a genial gentleman, is the present agent of Uncle Sam. Dr. Fryer, whose death occurred but a short time ago, appeared in the village in 1857, and practiced his profession until his death.

After he had been in town a few years, Dr. Weisen appeared. Since then have come Drs. Wright, Maloney, Scutt and Cessna, the last three being yet at the village. Eight or ten years ago, a Masonic lodge was organized in the village, and about two years ago, the Good Templars sprang to arms to resist the followers of King Alcohol. The latter has too many vassals in the town and vicinity. Tavern has been kept since Hill first threw open his doors to the public. There are three at present, the last—St. James House—having an excellent reputation among experienced commercial men. Within the last few years, Avilla has developed wonderfully as a grain market. It is asserted that, owing to freightage and a competition of markets, a higher price can be paid for grain at Avilla than at Kendallville. At any rate, farmers often find that they can get more for wheat at the former place than at the latter; and hence, many of those living near and north of the latter convey their grain to the former market. Vogading & Son have been buying grain extensively since the completion of the railroads. S. K. Randall has undertaken the same pursuit within the last few years. In 1876, a petition signed by a large majority of the legal voters of Avilla was presented to the Commissioners of the County, praying for the incorporation of the town, and, as no special objection was presented, the prayer was granted, and an election of town officers ordered. This was done with the following result: Trustees, S. P. Stewart, Maternus Blust and Henry Yeiser; Clerk and Treasurer, E. D. Haynes; Marshal, Samuel Hoke. In 1878, these officers were re-elected. In 1879, Mr. Hoke took Mr. Blust's place, L. A. Lobdell took Hoke's place, and W. D. Carver supplanted Mr. Yeiser. In 1880, Thomas Story took Stewart's place, and Jonas Strouse took Hoke's. In 1881, Matthew Stewart supplanted Carver, Enoch Johnson Lobdell, and Saul Baum E. D. Haynes. It is related that for many years before the last war, a well-traveled line of underground railroad extended across Allen Township. Many a load of fugitive slaves has been seen conveyed along this line, stopping here and there for refreshments. Augustus H. Whitford is said to have been in the employ of this celebrated road, serving in the capacities of station-master, engineer, conductor, and train dispatcher. Mr. Waterhouse, residing in La Grange County, was a sort of a Tom Scott or William H. Vanderbilt on this road, and at all hours would order out special trains. Mr. Wadsworth one day saw a load moving rapidly along, when, upon turning a corner swiftly and suddenly, the wagon very nearly overturned, causing several woolly heads to appear in alarm from the covering. Mr. Wadsworth called out to the driver, "Ah, here's your Underground Railroad!" "Yes," answered the driver, "they're going it almost every night." Many an unfortunate colored man or woman, aiming by the north star for the dominion of the British Queen, has received much-needed assistance from the John Browns and Owen Lovejoys of Allen Township.

In 1837, Messrs. Ulmer, Baker, Wadsworth and two or three young unmarried men assembled, with axes and ox teams on Ryland Reed's farm on



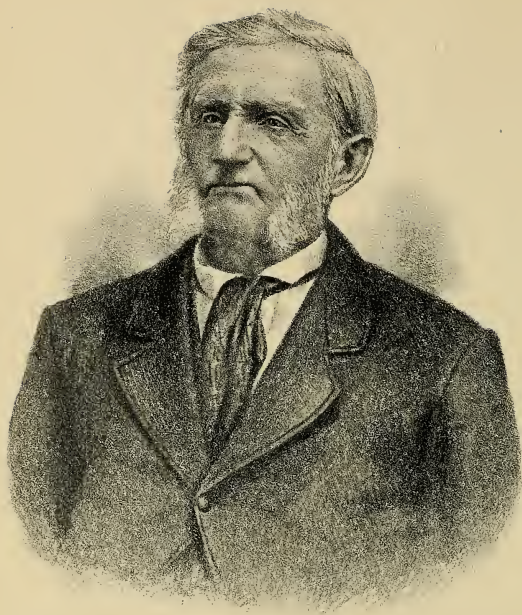
Section 4, and erected, in one day, the first schoolhouse in the township. The building was rudely constructed of round logs, and, from the fact that no window was made, the logs were all peeled, that as much reflection of light as possible could be secured within the dark room. A rough clapboard floor was put down, and on the roof clapboard shingles were held in their place by weight-poles, while at one end of the building a large opening was left, over which was afterward erected a huge chimney, built of a mysterious mass of sticks, stones, mud, and hay used to hold the mud together. The building was not over 15x20 feet, and on dark, warm days, the teacher, it is said, would adjourn her classes to the door-yard, that a better light might be obtained. The first teacher was Miss Julia Burnam, who taught during the summer of 1837, for \$1 per week and boarded around, her scholars, eight or ten in number, coming from the families of Ulmer, Baker, Wadsworth and perhaps one or two others. This house was used for the purposes of education some ten years, when a better building was erected on the farm of Hiram Iddings, to take its place. A number of years ago, this house was abandoned and its successor occupied. The second schoolhouse in the county was built in the northeast corner, in the Whitford neighborhood, and must have been erected soon after the one referred to above. The following men were interested in this school: Ross, Whitford, Isbell, McBarns and Adams. They, or the most of them, assembled one day and built a small log schoolhouse, that was used a number of years, both for school purposes and for those of religion, as several of the aforesaid men were earnest workers in the vineyard of the Lord. The best early schools in the township were taught in this house. Many rousing spelling-schools were held, as several of the old settlers well remember. A log schoolhouse was erected at an early day in Avilla, about where the livery barn now stands. But little is remembered of the early schools there. After a number of years, a better house was built near the Randalls, about half a mile west of town, and soon afterward another was built half a mile east. Children living in the eastern part of the town went to the house east and those in the western part went to the Randall house. This state of things continued until the erection of the brick schoolhouse in Avilla, a few years ago. The building cost \$2,700 and is a credit to the town. Two teachers are employed and the enumeration of pupils is over a hundred. This is large, considering the fact that the Catholics have as many more. Lisbon had an early school, as did also the southeastern part of the township, the first house in each case being constructed of round logs. Father Schaefer, the first resident priest, established a school in 1855 for the Catholics. In 1878, a parish school building was erected. It is a two-storied brick, 23x58 feet, and cost \$2,000. The school was taught by secular teachers until 1873. It is now taught by the Sisters of St. Francis, about one hundred children attending regularly. It is known as "St. Augustine's School."

The first schoolhouses were also the first churches. In quite early times

religious denominations were organized in various parts of the township. These continued, until the erection of the first churches, when the shifting of meetings from house to house ceased. In 1873, a talented young man—Rev. E. D. Einsel—a professor of the Albright faith, began holding a series of meetings in Avilla, and was warmly assisted by Jacob Beckley, Samuel Hoke and others. A small society was soon organized, which, within the next year, attained a membership of about thirty. This little society went to work in earnest, and erected a neat frame church at a cost of about \$1,400, locating it on a lot which cost \$200. A Sunday school was organized about the same time. The membership of the church is now about thirty-five. The Lutheran Church in the western part was built quite a number of years ago. The Whitfords, in the northeastern part, were instrumental in organizing a Methodist society in their neighborhood at a very early day. They and the Adamses, the Isbells, the Roberts, the Warners and others used the old schoolhouse for many years, until at last their church was built. A Disciple church was partly built at Lisbon many years ago, but was then removed to Kendallville, where it now stands. "The Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin" (Catholic) was first organized about the year 1854, and was attended by Father Faller, of Fort Wayne, about eight families belonging. The first church, a small frame building, was located about half a mile north of town. The leading members at this time were Thomas Storey, F. Bork, John Morehouse, John Geiser and Albion Myers. The first pastor was Father Henry Schaefer. His successors have been Fathers Deipenbrock, Wenhoffe, Oechtering and Duehmig. The latter is yet pastor. The first church was dedicated in 1855 by Rt. Rev. De St. Palais, Bishop of Vincennes, Ind. On the 22d of February, 1867, Father Duehmig became assistant on the Avilla charge; and on the 12th of May, same year, was installed pastor of it and its various missions. The present church was begun in 1876; the corner-stone was laid May 27, 1877, and, on the 19th of May, 1878, it was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Joseph Dwenger, Bishop of Fort Wayne. The new church is located in the northern part of town, on the old Weimer farm; and its site, six and one-fourth acres, was donated by Mr. Thomas Storey. The church cost only \$9,000, as the brick were made within a few yards of the church. Some eighty families now belong. The present officers of the church are Frederick Bork, President; M. Blust, Vice President; A. Vogeding, Secretary; George Drerup, Treasurer. The Sunday school has been conducted since the society was organized; D. Duehmig, Superintendent; 160 children attend it. Too much cannot be said in praise of Father Duehmig, who more than any other man, has built up the charge and its various missions. He is a man of great usefulness, intelligence and influence.

In 1876, four Sisters (Anastasia, Brigetta, Barbara and Zilla) of the Order of St. Francis came to America to look up a location for a convent. Through the influence of Rev. D. Duehmig, they were induced to locate at





*John Parake*

ELKHART TP.



Avilla. They immediately purchased 200 acres of Thomas Storey for \$12,000; and, in June of the same year (1876), took charge of the premises, upon which was the residence previously occupied by Mr. Storey. Not long after this, twenty more Sisters came; and, since then, ten others have been added, making a total of thirty-four. These Sisters have established the following branch missions; one in Swan Township, Noble County; one at Hesse Cassel, Allen County, Ind.; one at Crown Point, Ind.; another at Dyer, Ind.; one at Joliet, Ill., and one at St. Joseph, Mich. In the spring of 1881, the Sisters purchased forty acres of Mr. Weimer for \$2,600; and are now engaged in building thereon a house to cost not less than \$30,000. It is intended as a home for the aged, unfortunate, crippled, etc. There are ten resident Sisters at the convent at present, who have charge of eighteen aged and helpless persons, two being hopelessly insane. Nine orphan children are cared for by these good Sisters. The new building will be called "The Convent of the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

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## CHAPTER XIII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

ELKHART TOWNSHIP—LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS—MR. BOURIE AND THE INDIANS—ANECDOTES OF THE CHASE—THE EARLY RESIDENTS—TIBBOT AND THE WOUNDED BUCK—PITTSBURG, SPRINGFIELD AND WAWAKA—EDUCATION AND RELIGION—PIONEER PREACHERS AND TEACHERS—INCIDENTS.

THERE is some conflict of opinion as to who was the first settler in Elkhart Township. It is quite certain that Samuel Tibbot built his dwelling there as early as 1832, and it is equally certain that the Knights and a Mr. Austin and David P. Bourie were in about the same time. Isaac Tibbot did not reside permanently in the township until 1834. It is certain that Mr. Austin built his log-cabin near the bank of Elkhart River, in the southwestern part, during the year 1832, and immediately thereafter, Mr. Bourie erected a rude log storeroom within a few yards of the Austin mansion(?), and began selling from a stock of goods valued at about \$1,000 at first, but subsequently (within three years) increased, until worth \$4,000. Mr. Bourie owned the land and gave Mr. Austin permission to build and reside there, as the former, being then single, wanted a place to board. Mr. Bourie did not enter his land at first (1831), but postponed that event until almost too late. In 1832, after his store was established, two men appeared and examined the premises, arousing a suspicion in Bourie's breast that all was not right. He suspected that the men intended to proceed to Fort Wayne and enter his land, as, after they had examined the premises, they started in the direction of the land office. Mr. Bourie immediately assumed the garb of an Indian, with blanket and feathers and tomahawk and war paint, and mounting his pony, as a true Indian should, he

started, hoping to pass the men before they reached Fort Wayne, trusting that his disguise would prevent them from recognizing that he was the owner of the premises, from whom they had just parted. He met several of his old acquaintances along the road, none of whom recognized him. He met McIntire Seymour and John Hall in Noble Township, to whom he revealed himself, much to their astonishment. On he went, like the wind, whooping and swinging his tomahawk and reeling on his pony like a drunken Indian. He came up in this manner with the two men, both of whom thought him to be what he pretended—a drunken Indian. He reached Fort Wayne long before they did, entered his land and had the pleasure of seeing the land hunters discomfited when they discovered that they had been outwitted. The following is a portion of one of the bills of goods bought by Mr. Bourie in 1833:

FORT WAYNE, August 15, 1833.

*Bought of Merriam & Bourie:*

4 pair calf-skin boots, fine, @ 28 shillings.....	\$14 00
8 pair thick boots, @ 19 shillings.....	19 00
3 pair calf-skin shoes, @ 12 shillings.....	4 50
4 pair calf-skin shoes, @ 10 shillings.....	5 00
5 morocco pumps, @ 9 shillings.....	5 63
4 seal-skin pumps, @ 9 shillings.....	4 50
6 Prunell boots, @ 12 shillings.....	9 00
7 pair thick shoes, @ 8 shillings .....	7 00
3 fine hats, @ 32 shillings.....	12 00
1 piece white list blue cloth, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards.....	27 50
1 piece yellow list blue cloth, 24 yards .....	66 69
1 piece scarlet list blue cloth, 13 yards.....	22 75
1 piece super-blue list cloth, 6 yards.....	31 50
3 pieces fancy calico, 84 yards .....	24 36
8 pieces Merrimac calico, 160 yards.....	27 20
Etc.,	Etc.,
Etc.,	Etc.,

And so the bill continued until nearly \$800 was reached, all sorts of good being purchased at enormous prices. To the amount of one of Mr. Bourie's bills, the merchants of Fort Wayne added 25 per cent for transportation. The greater portion of these goods went to the Indians, who were inordinately proud of display, and clothed themselves, at whatever cost, in the gaudiest and most costly apparel. The three silk hats mentioned above were sold to chiefs, who, when they had on a breech-clout, a blanket of fancy colors, and one of those hats, were enrobed in the height of Indian fashion, and would strut before the dusky maidens of their acquaintance like turkey-cocks before Christmas. After the Indians had had their selection from these goods, the white settlers took the remainder. Bourie's brother was one of the partnership from whom he bought. Bourie failed in business in 1835, and then went to Good Hope, in northern Sparta Township, where he opened a small grocery with one of the Knights as a partner; but the latter fleeced him in a short time of all he had, and he has been a comparatively poor man since.

Mr. Bourie had a favorite dog that had been trained to do almost anything. It would bring the cows from the woods, go across the river and bring

back a canoe, and carry articles here and there. It was so trained that, if anything was taken from the store, the animal would soon discover it, and would trace by its keen scent the spot where the article had been hidden. One day a number of Indians were at the store, and one of them, not thinking his rifle was loaded (or at least declaring that he did not, afterward), placed the ramrod in the barrel, and playfully snapped the gun at the dog's head; this he did several times, until an old hen belonging to Mrs. Austin ran by him, when he turned and snapped the gun at it; a sharp report followed, and the unfortunate fowl went squawking away, transfixed by the ramrod; out came Mrs. Austin, with fire in her eye, and a rolling pin in her hand (possibly), and demanded who had treated her fowls foully. Seeing the trouble, she immediately went to Bourie, and told him that he must take care of his Indians, and not let them trouble her fowls again. Bourie, when he learned the truth, was so incensed at the Indian for snapping at his dog (which had narrowly escaped being shot), that he seized the unfortunate redskin and butted his head again and again against a log until his face and scalp were covered with bruises and blood. He also seized the gun (a fine silver-mounted rifle) and bent it almost double across a log, utterly ruining it. The Indian came back the next day, demanding amends for the loss; but Bourie shrewdly stated that he (Bourie) had been drunk the day before, was sorry if the Indian was, and there the matter was dropped, as the Indians forgave wrongs done while under the influence of liquor.

The following is as complete a list of the early settlers as could be obtained. The names are taken from the records at Albion, and indicate those who owned land in 1844. The names of the earliest, who lived in the township before 1844, but sold out before that date, cannot be given: Isaac Arnold, William Albert, William Bradford, John F. Brothwell, Abraham Brown, James Boyd, Daniel P. Boner, Francis Brown, Moses Ball, John Bird, William Caldwell, Andrew Curry, George Domer, Moses Domer, Samuel Domer, Jacob Domer, Perry Dempsey, Jacob Gerber, David Gibson, W. K. Gibson, John Gibson, Hosea Gage, Fred Hartsock, W. H. Herriman, Luther Herriman, Jonathan Hoak, Jacob Holden, W. H. Holden, Jacob Hoff, Abraham Hoff, Nathaniel Hamilton, W. H. Hall, Thomas Inks, Ralph Hardenbrook, Daniel Lower, William Maywhorter, Lewis Mills, George Moore, David Ream, William Stienberger, John Smith, Fred Schlieff, D. M. Shoup, Joseph Stewart, James Scrivener, Isaac Tibbot, David Tuttle, James Thayer, William Waldron, Lewis Waldron, Hiram Waldron, Wesley Waldron, Wilson L. Wells, Henry Walker, David Woodward, Nathaniel Woodward, George Woodward, John Zimmerman and others.

But little need be said regarding the general growth and improvement. The earliest settlers in any new country are a courageous class of men known as "squatters," whose occupation is hunting and trapping, upon which they almost wholly depend for subsistence. As soon as the game begins to disap-

pear, they likewise disappear, following the retreating animals out into the wilderness. In their places came the vanguard of the grand army of settlement and progress. It is always the case that the enterprising, the energetic and ambitious, are the ones who first brave the hardships of a new country; and who thereby write their names on the most prominent page of the history of their locality. It is always the venturesome, the daring spirit, that swings off from the great army, and battles desperately and singly in new fields of achievement. Such men are not imitators; they are imitated. They do not follow; they lead. They do not wait, like Micawber, for something to turn up; they turn something up. They are the initiators of genuine progress, the sons of genius, and the founders of civilization. The faces of these men are yet seen in the county, though their traps and rifles have been exchanged long ago for plows and reapers. Every stream knew them; every hill and dale felt the pressure of their feet; every grove re-echoed with their shout, or with the report of their rifle. Their rude dug-out canoes swept silently across the lakes beneath the strength of their sturdy arms. All is changed. Waving seas of grain flood the uplands and the lowlands; the stealthy footfall of the Indian hunter is no more; the busy hum of human life has taken the place of silence and shadow.

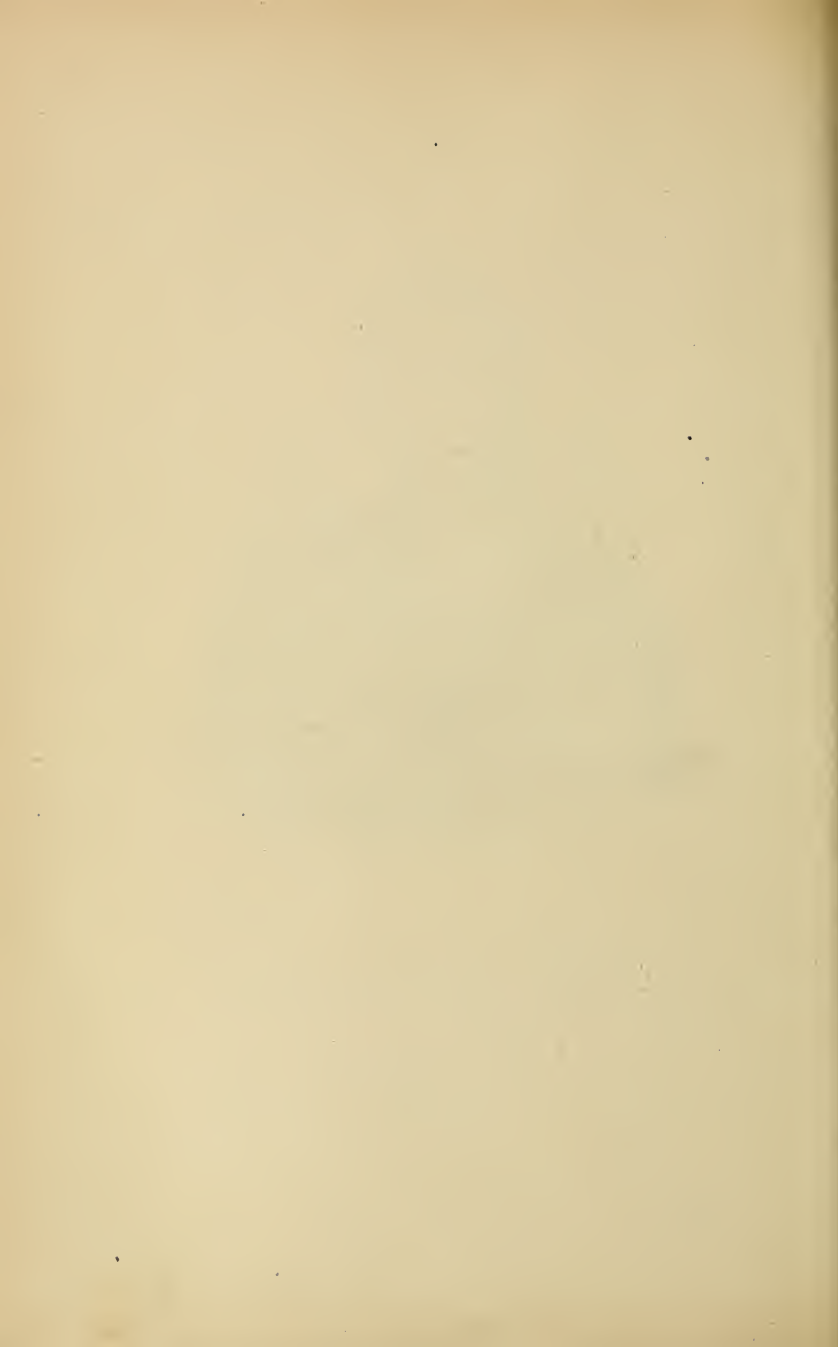
Mr. Isaac Tibbot, about whom a great deal has been written, has resided permanently in the township since 1834. He is a man of enormous will power, in whom a settled conviction amounts to reality. He tells many interesting stories concerning the early settlement of the county. One day in mid-winter he saddled his horse, and started out to hunt deer. He soon ran across the fresh "spoor" of two very large bucks that apparently had gone into a swamp not over five minutes before. He tied his horse and started in with rifle ready; but a moment later the wary animals, hearing his footsteps on the snow, ran out of the swamp and away at a rapid rate into the forest. He hurried back, mounted his horse, and swiftly followed. He saw them far ahead, in open land, turning at right angles to their former course; and, knowing that he could head them off, he ran across (leaving his horse), and, stopping behind a tree, shot the leading buck dead, knowing that by so doing he could get the other, as it would wait for its comrade. The living animal came up to its companion, but was so concealed by brush that the hunter could only succeed in wounding it in the ribs, at which it made off in short bounds, being badly hurt, and stopped a short distance to look back for its mate. Again the brush was so thick that a second shot only wounded it in the jaw, but the animal was brought to the ground. Mr. Tibbot ran forward to cut its throat, but it scrambled to its feet, and, with fiery eyes, and fur erected along its back like a cat, dashed headlong at the hunter, knocking him violently into the snow. He quickly recovered, and, leaping up, with one blow severed the jugular vein of the angry animal standing over him, whereupon it fell and was soon dead. Mr. Tibbot also tells that he one time chased on horseback, on "Ore Prairie," in





*John Zimmerman*

ELKHART TP.



York Township, a large bear, and was often within a few feet of it: but, having no gun, the animal escaped.

The village of Pittsburg was laid out by John and William Knight, proprietors, on the east half of the northeast quarter of the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 30, Township 35, Range 9 east, in June, 1837; and was about eighty rods from the juncture of the two forks of the river. Ninety-six lots were laid out in blocks of eight lots each; and a number of the former were donated for public purposes. An effort was made to sell the lots, and build up the incipient village; but, beyond the partial erection of a single building for Jacob Kessler, nothing was done, and Pittsburg died on paper.

In about 1838, Joseph Steinberger erected a saw-mill at what is now Springfield. Although the mill was a good one, it ran slowly, like those of the gods, often continuing during the entire night, so great was the demand. In a few years, Mr. Steinberger died, and his son William assumed control; but, after a number of years, the property was destroyed by fire, probably by an incendiary. William Colwell erected a "corn cracker" on the river, farther west, about the time the county was organized. The event was celebrated with a country dance. Gideon Schlotterback was the fiddler, and, it is said, he acquitted himself in the most superb manner. A floor of puncheons had been laid and some seven or eight couples were present to enjoy themselves. The boys filled themselves with the proper quantity of the "extract of corn," and then the way they came down on the "double shuffle," the "Virginia reel" and the "French four" was a sight to behold. If you want any further particulars, dear reader, you must question Isaac Tibbot, who swung himself on that occasion. Ask him about those pies. The mill, in addition to cracking corn, also tried to crack wheat into flour, but the specimen turned out, unbolted and unclean, was not regarded as the best that could be done, even in the backwoods. The mill ran about two years. About this time, the Stumps, father and son, erected a saw-mill on the same site. It did not amount to much and soon ceased running. Mr. Steinberger also built a grist-mill at Springfield and operated it from the same water power that ran his saw-mill. It had two run of stone and was an excellent mill for that day. It was destroyed with the saw-mill. John Colwell conducted a distillery in the western part for a short time, at a very early day. The first bridge in the township, across Elkhart, was constructed, in about 1838, by six or eight of the old settlers. It was nearly a month before it was finished. John Zimmerman erected a tannery a short distance north of Wawaka in 1842, and conducted it until 1869, making large quantities of excellent leather, which found a ready sale. Mr Zimmerman is now a merchant in Wawaka.

If the plat of the village of Springfield was ever recorded, such fact is not known to the writer. Lots were laid out, probably by William Pierson, who built the first dwelling at quite an early day. David Chapole started the first store, having a small stock of dry goods, groceries and whisky. A Mr.

Farver opened the first store of any consequence. He sold from a large, fine stock of goods. Mr. Smith probably came next with goods. Then came John Knepper, William Stienberger and others. The village reached the pinnacle of its fame in 1845, at which period it was considered a promising town, having two stores, a saloon, a grist-mill, a saw-mill, a church, a schoolhouse and about fifteen or more families. A post office was established early, being a station on a mail route extending from Good Hope to Lima (probably). The lots were first laid out not far from 1838, very probably by Mr. Pierson. After 1845, the town began to decay, new buildings failed to appear, old ones became dingy and dilapidated, the streets became almost deserted and Springfield remained but the ghost of its former fame. The ghost yet lingers, reluctant to leave the old place, so fraught with dim but cheerful memories.

Wawaka owes its life and existence to the Lake Shore Railway. Eighty lots (a portion on each side of the railroad) were laid out in February, 1857, by Isaac Tibbot, proprietor. Tibbot's residence was the first at the village, having been erected in 1834. William Knepper built the next house, early in 1857. George Stienberger (the miller) erected one about the same time. The growth was slow but sure, as still waters run deep. Mr. Tibbot erected the first store-building, into which Mr. Miles placed an average stock of dry goods and notions. After a few years, David Hale succeeded him, and finally, Elias Strous, of Ligonier, obtained possession of the building. John Knepper was the second to begin merchandising dry goods and groceries. John Thomson soon appeared and began labor at the same pursuit. Since then, many changes have been made. Dr. Goodson went into the Strous building with a stock of drugs. Carpenters, blacksmiths and business men of all kinds appeared, and the outlook of the village was bright. In about 1867, Ellis & Mummert (the latter owning a one-fourth interest) erected a large, frame, three-storied grist-mill, placing therein four run of stone, the whole structure completed costing \$15,000. This was an excellent thing for the village, and the mill soon received an excellent patronage. Farmers from all quarters came to mill and, of course, traded more or less with all the business men. All this had the effect to infuse life into industrial pursuits in the village. The mill manufactured as high as 100 barrels of flour daily, much of which was shipped East. The plan of the owners was to buy their wheat at the board of trade in Chicago at times when the markets were very low, shipping the grain to Wawaka, where it was made into flour, then re-shipping it, in the latter form, to the Eastern market. The railroad company permitted them to do this, charging them for freightage as if the grain had not been unloaded at Wawaka. This enabled the owners to make handsome profits from their sales. By an unfortunate accident, the mill and all it contained were destroyed by fire in 1874, and has not since been rebuilt, greatly to the misfortune of the village and surrounding country. At the same time, a shingle factory and saw-mill were also burned. It is said, that the erection of the mill enhanced the value of



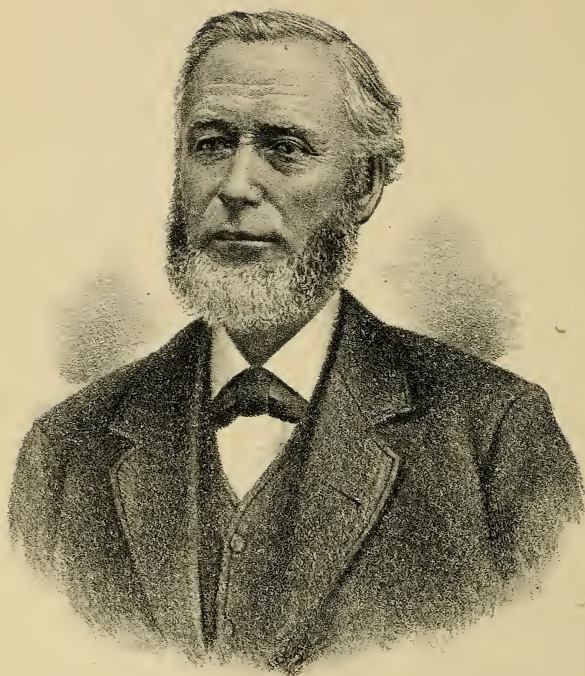
real estate for several miles around, and that when the property was destroyed by fire, town and country values slightly depreciated. If this is true, it would be profitable to the citizens to offer some man a bonus to build another mill of the same kind. Immediately after the destruction of the grist-mill, Mr. Mummert built his present saw-mill, placing therein a fifty-horse power engine and a double circular saw. This is an excellent mill. Mr. Mummert is manufacturing handles of all sorts, and large quantities of "shims." Quite a number of years ago, Mr. Dodge built his saw-mill, which, in its time, has done good work. He has added to this a planing-mill, and is now manufacturing wooden handles, "shims" and staves. Solomon Mier, Strous Brothers, Sheets & Wertheimer and Welt, Beck & Co. are buying grain. They shipped about 50,000 bushels of wheat from the village in 1880. In 1872, a conflagration swept away the depot and a number of other buildings; loss, several thousand dollars. A few years ago, another fire destroyed several buildings on the east side, north of the railroad. The present population of the village is nearly four hundred. Dr. W. H. Simmon was probably the first resident physician. After him, among others, have been Drs. Martin, Ward and Bartley.

Isaac Tibbot says, the first schoolhouse in the township was built by himself, his brother Samuel, John and William Knight, Thomas Pierson, John Coder, and two or three others, as early as the summer of 1834, or prior to his marriage, which occurred late in the autumn of 1834. The house was built of round logs, was 16x16 feet, was located in the southwestern part, and was used until a larger and better one was erected in about 1837, at Springfield. The house was intended only as a temporary affair, to last a year or two, or until a better one could be built. It was probably the first building in the county erected wholly as a schoolhouse. Thomas Pierson taught a term of school in this building during the winter of 1834-35, having some twelve scholars, who came to him from three miles around. He did it more as a matter of accommodation than as an expectation of pecuniary return. The house at Springfield was built of logs, and was located on the land of Mr. Pierson, the founder of the village, who donated the lot for the purpose. After being used about eight years, a frame, combined church and schoolhouse, was built near it, and this building was used many years. The third schoolhouse was erected about a mile and a half east of Wawaka, but was not finished nor occupied. The fourth was built in the Jones neighborhood, in the extreme northeastern part, but the date of its erection could not be learned by the writer. The fifth was a log structure erected in Wawaka, on the west side of Main street, north of the railroad; this house was built not far from 1847. It is thought that Enoch Kent was the first teacher. The large b(h)oys did not like Mr. Kent; Mr. Kent did not like the large boys—mutual antagonism! Mr. Kent was afraid of the large boys; the large boys were not afraid of Mr. Kent—fear not mutual! Large boys told Mr. Kent to "git" out; Mr. Kent wisely and rapidly obeyed. The school ceased then and there. (*Is brevity the soul of wit?*)

This house was used but a few years, another being erected a half mile south of town, and it, also, was used but a few years. A short time after the village of Wawaka was laid out, the combined church and schoolhouse (yet standing) was built. This was used until the present frame school building was constructed, a few years ago. It was between 1845 and 1855, that the schools of the township began to show the first important improvements. Better houses were built then, and better teachers employed at better wages.

The first church in Wawaka was the schoolhouse referred to above. It was occupied by the Methodists for many years, until finally their frame church was built by subscription. There is an industrious little society here working patiently in the vineyard of the Master. The German Methodists have just erected a fine church in town at a cost of about \$3,000. Elkhart Township, as all others in the county and surrounding counties, was visited by circuit ministers as soon as there were a sufficient number of settlers to warrant such a visit. They appeared as early as 1831, and held little meetings in the log cabins, where the neighbors for miles around gathered to listen to the rude eloquence of pioneer preachers. In those days, Baptists met Methodists and Presbyterians, and others, all on the one basis of Christian character and life. The worship was quaint and homely, but the happy hearts were there; the bright faces, filled with visions of the angels of God, were turned heavenward; the rude speech was the song of the spirit, and the joyous acclamations were the release of the weary soul from the burden of sin. Neighbor met neighbor, as the Nazarene directed two thousand years ago, with brotherly affection. Bitter reflections—temptations of the evil one—were cast back into the chasm of sin; and the earnest worshipers sang hosannas on the summit of the mountain of God's holiness. Ah, there is an inexpressible joy, a bewildering hope, in the blissful re-action from death in sin to the happy health of Christian life. Our forefathers realized this when they met in God's temple. They loved to assemble thus, as we do now; and to their faith in God do we owe the happy homes we now enjoy, and the numberless churches that dot our land as the stars in heaven's dome. It may be said, to conclude, that the old schoolhouse at Springfield was used by various Christian denominations for many years. Great revivals were held there that yet linger in the memory and heart like the recollection of a new sweet burst of music. James Latta, well known to everybody, was often there; and his face will remain, while life lasts, in the grateful hearts of hundreds who were converted under his ministrations. Rev. Posey often came there, as did Revs. Miller, Hall and others. A few years ago, the Free Will Baptists built a church—a neat frame structure—in the northeastern corner. The society had been organized many years before, and had worshiped in another building. Rev. Nicholas Jones, an excellent man of great energy, had much to do with the life of this society. Many years ago, the Lutherans living in the northern part became sufficiently numerous to render the erection of a church necessary. A frame structure was





*jos Calbeck*

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soon built, at a cost of about \$1,200. A Sunday school was organized, and efforts were made to enjoy the Christian religion in the new house. Ministers were employed, and the membership began to increase. There have been times since when the society was very weak, financially and in numbers, but it still lives on, as it should—in faith—that many sweet hours may yet be spent in the old house.

## CHAPTER XIV.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

SPARTA TOWNSHIP—REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD SETTLER—FIRST OFFICERS AND ELECTION—MILLING AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS—THE FIRST COUNTY SEAT—VILLAGE OF CROMWELL—EXPERIENCES OF AN EARLY PEDAGOGUE—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

SO far as known, the first man to locate within what is now Sparta Township was John L. Powers, who had previously lived in a small log cabin, 8x10, in the southwestern part of Perry Township, where he kept tavern. Some time during the year 1832, he established himself and family a short distance north of where the railroad crosses the Goshen road. He was not only the first permanent settler in Sparta Township, but was also one of the first in the county, perhaps about the sixth. This man also lived for a time in the western part of the township, in a cave, which is known to this day as "Powers' Cave." Powers was eccentric, and seemed capable of sustaining himself and family "where birds would almost be compelled to carry knapsacks." After a few years, he moved West, and his subsequent movements are unknown. About the time that Powers located in Sparta (1832), John Dillon also appeared and built his cabin in the eastern part, where he resided for a number of years, but finally removed to his present residence in Washington Township. Here he yet lives, hearty and hale, with active mind busy with the memories of other years.

Soon after these settlements, and prior to the organization of the county in 1836, there came to the township the following settlers: John Conklin, Richard Bray, Richard Jeffries, James Mael, Robert McAfee, Mitchell Mc. Clintock, John Johns, Jacob Baker, Charles Murray, Obadiah Tilton, Hartwell Coleman, Daniel Ohlwine, Andrew C. Douglass, Henry Weade, John Davis, and perhaps others. Immediately afterward, there came Aaron Noe, Michael Beam, Daniel Beam, Charles White, Andrew B. Upson, Nathaniel Prentice, Richard Stone, William Weade, John Spear, John C. Johnson, Jacob Kiser, Daniel Stall, John Moore, G. W. Mitchell, James Marrow. Elisha Mayfield, Lawrence Miller, Samuel Dungan, Alexander Doud, John Earnhart, William Glayd, Andrew Humphreys, James Smalley, John Spencer, William H. Upson, Thomas H. Wilson, John Pollock, James Pollock, Samuel Mars, Henry Miller, Richard Noe, George Prentice, George Platter, Erastus Atkins and others.

A few of these men owned land in the township, but did not reside there. All immediately began to prepare their farms for cultivation, and their homes for comfort. The following, from the pen of John Conklin, is given in full, as it admirably represents the obstacles that were surmounted by the backwoodsman. He says: "I left Ohio in the year 1835, and came to the State of Indiana. I was quite a boy, but soon got me a young wife, and then life commenced in earnest. I had only \$20 in my pocket, but we were both well and hearty, and provided with plenty of good pluck. I worked out, receiving 40 and 50 cents per day, and bought some corn on Elkhart Prairie for \$1 per bushel, and was glad to get it at that. We moved into a shop owned by Esquire Baughman. Its dimensions were fourteen feet square, but it was large enough to contain all our furniture, which was not the finest in the world, though I made it myself. Our bedstead had but *one leg*, and was corded up with linn bark. A clapboard was our table for the first meal, but as that was a little too primitive for comfort, I went to work the next day and made a table. My stove was a big hole cut in the side of the house, about eight feet wide, and the pipe was run up with sticks and mud, and inside was a nice big 'niggerhead' rock and—more mud. Our cooking utensils consisted of a little bake-oven, which we managed to convert, as occasion required, into a mush-kettle, tea-kettle, stew-pan, frying-pan, and sometimes a coffee-pot. My 'chattels' consisted of a three-year-old heifer—a present from my mother-in-law—a pig which weighed about one hundred pounds, and which I bought and paid for by clearing up an acre of heavily timbered land. These and a few chickens made me feel pretty rich. I bought sixty-eight acres of land, and made the first payment with my \$20. But I was not satisfied with my location, so I traveled for another piece of land, one mile from the first. It was in heavy woods, but we were not easily frightened, so, taking my wife, I moved into my new place, camping under a big beech tree in the thickest of the timber, where the woodman's ax had never sounded, and the spice brush and papaw were so thick you could not see three rods before you, and wolves howled on all sides at 12 o'clock in the day. I cut and hewed the logs for my house, and in two weeks had a 'jubilee.' A large log heap answered the purpose of a stove to cook by, and a table was built, twelve feet long and three wide, upon which were spread the eatables for our neighbors, who had come to assist at the raising. A neighbor sometimes lived five or more miles away. Our house was raised that day, and we moved into it the same night. Then commenced the clearing up. I chopped down the trees, and my wife helped to pick up the brush. I still had to work by the day to make a living, but when my day's work was done I could come home, where I always found plenty of good cheer in a substantial supper and a smiling wife. We would then often work until 10 or 11 o'clock at night, picking up and burning brush, but we always obeyed the commandment and observed the seventh day, or rather the first. I helped to clear on Perry's Prairie after the following fashion: As will be remembered, the oak

grubs were as thick as they could stand. We would first chop them down, then take ten yoke of oxen and one team of horses, and hitch them to a big plow that would run one foot deep and three feet wide. When everything was ready, the word to start was given, and then it was hurrah boys! whip! crack! smash! and the way the grubs would get out of the way was a caution to earthquakes. Thus it was that the prairie land was first cultivated, and thus it was that we got our start in the woods."

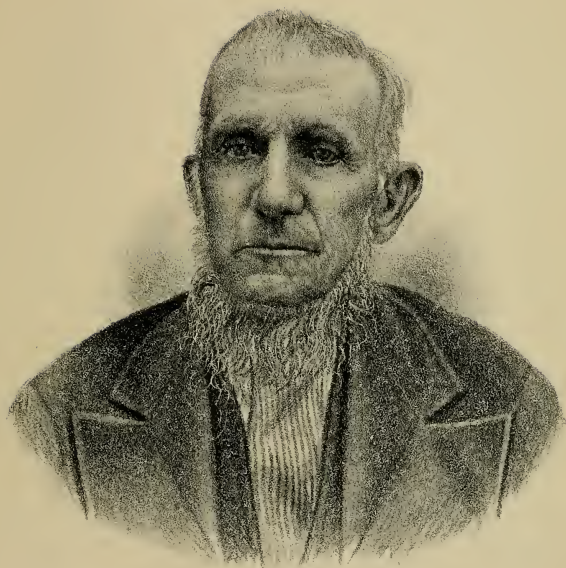
John Johns moved west to Iowa after many years, and was finally made a delegate to the Chicago Convention when Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency. McClintock and Tilton were both squatters on the Indian reservation, and when the land was thrown into market, George Platter entered both of their farms before either had an opportunity of going to the land office for the same purpose. McClintock soon after died, and it is said his death was largely due to his being cheated out of his land. His house is said to have been haunted, and at the solemn hour of midnight passers-by could hear in weird, sepulchral tones the command, "Pay the widow, pay the widow!" Tilton returned to New York. Charles White, when a child two years old, was made an orphan by the massacre of his parents at Wyoming, Penn. He was rescued from the savages by a man named White, and, as his real name was unknown, he adopted that of his benefactor. David Stall passed through a similar experience. When an infant in his mother's arms, both of his parents died on the voyage across the Atlantic from Germany to the United States. He was adopted by a man named Stall, whose name he bore, as his was unknown.

Improvements went on in this township as in others. At the first election, in about 1838, only seven votes were polled, although there must have been living in the township then more than twice as many voters. Richard Bray had been appointed Inspector of Election by the County Commissioners, and the election was held at Sparta. He appointed two judges and two clerks of election, and then the first political "log-rolling" in Sparta began. There was not that gluttonous greed for office then as now, as official position was a hollow honor destitute of any remuneration. It is said that at a subsequent election, when two men received the same number of votes for the same office, they played eucher to see which should serve, the one playing the poorer to take the empty honor. At the first election, James Mael was elected Constable and Thomas H. Wilson Justice of the Peace. The men present at this election are said to have been: James Mael, Thomas H. Wilson, Isaac Spencer, Wesley White, Richard Bray, William Baker and Charles Murray. On that occasion all enjoyed the distinction of holding some office. Another election was held in August, on which occasion Aaron Noe and James Mael served as Judges and Wesley White and Nathaniel Prentice as Clerks. The election was held in the office of the County Clerk at Sparta. When the first court in the county convened at the house of Adam Engle, on Perry Prairie, there was present one Thomas Eckles, who carried more whisky than he could, if such a thing was

possible. In his drunken carousals, Eckles disturbed the court, whereupon Engle, after endeavoring to induce him to remain quiet, offered \$1 to any one who would take the drunken man home. James Mael, of Sparta Township, who was a powerful man, accepted the offer at once; but Eckles demurred, whereupon Mael picked him up and carried him until tired, and then dropped him on the ground. After this had been repeated a few times in a very rough manner, Eckles gladly recovered his equilibrium and agreed to walk. At the election of 1840, considerable political antagonism had been incited, and when it was discovered that a young man named Smalley, being under age, had polled his vote, it was thought best by some to contest the election of the day, and for that purpose the Judges of Election were taken in limbo, and the books examined. While it was clearly proved that Smalley was under age, and that he had cast his vote; yet, no other evidences being disclosed, the matter was dropped. Forty votes were polled at the election of 1840.

In about the year 1847, Thomas H. Bothwell and Thomas H. Wilson built the first saw-mill in the township, locating it in the southwestern part on Turkey Creek. It was a water mill, with an up-and-down saw and an old flutter wheel, and had a capacity of about two thousand feet per day. A dam had been built across the stream, and a narrow race conveyed water to the wheel. The mill was quite well patronized; but, like those of the gods, "ground slowly," if it "ground" at all. This mill was operated until about the year 1862, when it was in some manner replaced by another, erected about half a mile down the stream, by Leander Eagles and Thomas H. Bothwell. The mill was a frame, with a circular saw, and was operated by these men for some three years, and then sold to David Gauz and George Mellinger, who removed it to Kosciusko County. The present mill on the same site was erected in the spring of 1865, by Leander Eagles. It is operated by a thirty-five horse-power engine, and has a capacity of 6,000 to 8,000 feet per day. In 1853, Mr. Stall built a saw-mill one mile west of the residence of Nathaniel Prentice, but in a short time it was removed to Cromwell. Here it was owned and operated for a number of years by various parties, and finally its timbers were used in the construction of the only grist-mill ever in the township. This mill is a large, low frame building, located at Cromwell, and was built by the Miller Brothers. Steam was employed to operate the two run of stone, and for a few years considerable flour was manufactured, a portion of which was shipped to distant points by rail. The mill was closed last April. A number of years ago, Hezekiah Mayfield moved his saw-mill from the eastern part of the township to Cromwell. Here it has remained ever since under the management of different owners. It is an excellent mill, and turns out large quantities of native lumber, which is shipped to other localities. The old mill was practically replaced by the present one a short time ago. The Mayfield Saw-Mill had been built by Andrew and Cyrus Pollock, about one and a half miles east of Cromwell. It afterward went to George Hart, and finally to the Mayfields. A Mr. Cavanaugh operated a saw-





*Jacob Riser*

SPARTA TP.



mill in the southern part a number of years ago. He also manufactured some furniture, bedsteads, etc. Joel Sechrist also owned a saw-mill in the southern part, as did a Mr. Herron. These mills were amply sufficient to furnish all the lumber required for building purposes in the township. At first, water-mills were the only ones to be seen, but when steam was harnessed they disappeared.

“ Listen to the water-mill  
Through the live-long day ;  
How the clanking of the wheels  
Wears the hours away !  
Languidly the autumn wind  
Stirs the greenwood leaves ;  
From the fields the reapers sing,  
Binding up the sheaves ;  
And a proverb haunts my mind,  
As a spell is cast :  
‘ The mill will never grind  
With the water that has passed.’ ”

“ Take the lesson to thyself,  
Loving heart and true ;  
Golden years are fleeting by,  
Youth is passing, too ;  
Learn to make the most of life,  
Lose no happy day,  
Time will never bring thee back  
Chances swept away ;  
Leave no tender word unsaid,  
Love while life shall last—  
‘ The mill will never grind  
With the water that has passed.’ ”

Sparta Township can boast of having had the first brick-kiln in Northern Indiana. David Bourie says, that a man named Beers, in accordance with instructions from the United States Government, manufactured enough brick from the soil of Sparta to build a brick house for the Chief Wah-wa-es-sa, or Flat Belly, as he was more familiarly known. All the facts in the case are unknown, but it is quite certain that at the time Flat Belly reserved the tract of land six miles square, the Government agreed to build him a brick house. The treaty was signed in 1816, but the exact date when the house was built is a matter of doubt. Mr. Bourie thinks it was erected in 1816, while others, who seem to know what they are talking about, place it as late as 1821. The workmen who erected the house came from Fort Wayne ; but their work was not of a first-class order, as, within a few years, the building tumbled down. The early settlers used the brick for chimneys, hearths, etc.

The village of Sparta, which afterward became the first county seat of Noble County, was laid out on Sections 13 and 24, Township 34 north, Range 8 east, in June, 1836, by Isaac Spencer and R. I. Dawson, owners and proprietors. Two hundred and thirty-six lots were laid off into blocks of twelve lots each, and certain lots and blocks were donated to the public for school and

church purposes, as was also a public square. The village did not grow as rapidly as the proprietors desired, and perhaps its population never exceeded twenty-five. Col. John Spencer and Wesley White both kept store there, one of them beginning not far from the year 1838, or perhaps the spring of 1839. They kept for sale a few groceries, dry goods, notions, liquor, etc. A post office was secured at Sparta as early as the fall of 1836, and Isaac Spencer figured in the capacity of Postmaster. Although this village was the county seat, no court house or jail was built, but there was a small building erected for the county offices. Immediately after the county seat was re-located at Augusta, Sparta became almost deserted, and soon afterward wholly so. In 1838, Nelson Prentiss, Esq., opened a small store at New Hope, a name applied to a post office in the northern part of the township. He soon abandoned the undertaking. Prior to that time and in the same place, Isaac Spencer sold goods that had been obtained at Toledo, Ohio. These were probably the first sold in the township.

Cromwell, the only other village in the township except Indian Village, was not laid out until June, 1853. Harrison Wood, the proprietor, employed the County Surveyor, and laid out at the juncture of Jefferson and Orange streets twenty-eight lots from the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 16. Lots were offered for sale, and the village began to grow slowly. In the year 1849, Abel Mullen had built a log house where the village now stands, and had also erected a small building and begun the manufacture of black salts, from ashes obtained from the surrounding cabins and log-heaps. His buildings were located about fifty rods north of the cross-roads. His ashery was not a very profitable venture, and was abandoned within a few years. He did not manufacture more than twelve tons while thus engaged. He was the first Postmaster. Mr. Wood gave the name to the village from the following reason; as stated by himself: "Cromwell was a good Republican, and I'll name the town in his honor." Some time after the village was laid out, Aaron Moore opened a store of dry goods, groceries, notions, etc., valued at about \$1,000. Moore continued selling until about the time the railroad was completed in the township. A. D. Maggert also opened a store of groceries and liquor, and secured a profitable business, but did not continue longer than a few months for reasons best known to himself. James Parks is said to have been the first Postmaster, though he was soon succeeded by Aaron Moore. Mr. Vanderford is Uncle Sam's agent at present. Jeremiah Carstetter sold goods at an early day; his stock was valued at \$600, and Jerry is said to have made a graceful appearance behind the counter. Mr. Mullen also followed the same pursuit. The village was never larger than at present. It has good stores, and has become quite a point for the shipment of grain. Saloons, of which there are several, are patronized better than accords with the wishes of the villagers, who long to blot them out effectively and immediately. Isaac McCammon was the first blacksmith. George W. Reed manufactured wagons, sleighs,



etc., beginning some sixteen years ago, and continuing ten or twelve years. Dr. John Sants located in the village in the spring of 1858, where he has remained practicing since. Dr. Tucker was in early, as was also Dr. Crump. Scott & Wylie are selling dry goods and groceries at present. Charles Gran opened a grocery, but sold to Enos Messimore, who yet continues. Elias Jones began selling drugs about nine years ago, but sold to Samuel McAuson, who later sold to Richard Hersey. Jesse Berger opened a hardware store some four years ago, but six months ago sold to Richard Mason. The village, which is scattered like the hypothetical old woman's eggs, has a present population of over four hundred.

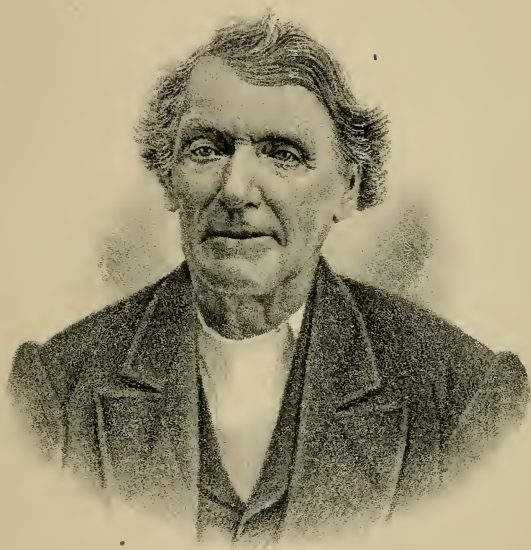
It is the design in these pages to record township history, with enough incident to lend attraction to the narration. Those who look for interesting incidents merely, or for the romance of backwoods life, have no right to expect such when history only is promised. People must distinguish between history and biography, and also between these on the one side and romance and sickly sentiment on the other. The latter will be left to the novelist, who may or may not find a fruitful field in Sparta Township, in which to labor. History is not poetry, nor romance, but records with unvarnished emphasis the sober facts which control the destiny of communities. It is a record of man's experience, as one of a social family; and is expected to be of value, as the past is an index of the future.

The historian in the Noble County Atlas says that the first school in Sparta Township was taught in 1837 by Achsah Kent. The writer has been unable to learn anything regarding this school. If such a school was taught, it was undoubtedly the first, although others sprang up soon afterward. Nathaniel Prentice says the first schoolhouse was built near where the depot stands at Cromwell by Messrs. Baker, Upson, McAfee, Duncan, Morrow, Converse, Douglass, Murray, and others, in the year 1840. The building was constructed of round logs, and was about twenty feet square. It was similar to all the early ones, descriptions of which are found in this volume. Ross Rowan was employed to teach the first term, which he did for \$10 per month and board. Rowan had a family, and lived out of the neighborhood, and, therefore, was compelled to submit to the indescribable punishment of "boarding around." Those who have not passed through that ordeal can have no idea of the tortures which man can bear. The punishment is severe enough, heaven knows, in civilized communities; but in the backwoods, among backwoods people, tongue fails to paint the picture in fit colors. Mr. Rowan was the fortunate possessor of a good constitution, and survived. He knew how to use the rod, as his scholars often found to their sorrow; and when his stentorian voice thundered commands, implicit obedience was promptly rendered. The school was a success for that day, and gave satisfaction, a statement that is not true of some of the other early ones. This house was used but a few years. The wife of John C. Johnson taught in this building in about the year 1841. During the winter of

1841-42, David Bauckman taught. On Christmas Day he was barred out by the scholars, and as he refused to furnish them what was desired, he was kept out of the schoolhouse for several days. He lingered in the vicinity hoping to catch the scholars off their guard, but they were vigilant, fastening the door and windows, and keeping possession of the building during the night. Finally, the teacher agreed to a modified proposal of the scholars, and school began again. Leander Eagles was employed to teach the session of 1842-43, which he did for \$10 per month and board. On the occasion of his birthday, which was the 20th of December, the scholars barred him out, and handed him through the window a paper, upon which was written a demand for a peck of apples, a peck of candy, and a gallon of whisky. There were several large scholars, among them being Jackson Morrow, Frank Duncan and two young ladies, sisters of Jackson Morrow. Mr. Eagles refused to furnish the whisky, but agreed to treat to apples and candy if the scholars would admit him; but they positively refused unless the liquor, as well as the other articles, was forthcoming. After the teacher had tried several flank movements on the scholars to gain possession of the room without success, he repaired to the Trustees for instruction and advice, and was informed that he had properly refused to furnish whisky, and was told to break down the door with an ax, if the scholars still refused to admit him. Under the stimulus of this advice, he again appeared at the schoolhouse, armed with an ax, and after again promising the scholars a treat of apples and candy, but no whisky, and being again refused admittance, he deliberately battered the door down, and strode into the midst of the astonished children with uplifted ax, ordering them to take their seats immediately or there would be trouble. The scholars saw that their citadel had been taken, and realizing that discretion was the better part of valor, they surrendered unconditionally and took their seats. They missed getting the expected treat on that occasion; but as they behaved themselves thereafter, their teacher treated them on Christmas to apples and candy; but the large boys were not contented, for they went into the woods where they had hid a gallon of whisky, and were soon under the blissful effects of King Alcohol.

The sessions of school in this house were not the first in the township. It was a common thing all over the county to transform vacated dwellings, and sometimes those that had not been vacated, into schoolhouses. During the summer of 1838, Zillah Eagles, then in her thirteenth year, taught school in the New Hope District, in an unoccupied part of a double log cabin. She received \$1 per week and boarded around, and to this day the old settlers speak of her school as having given excellent satisfaction. The children of Richard Bray, Richard Stone, Henry Miller and others were in attendance.

In 1838, Mrs. Edgerton, daughter of John Spear, taught the children of T. H. Wilson, James Mael, John Johns and a few others, in an addition to Mr. Mael's house; but this was the only term there, as a vacated log dwelling was fitted up and used a few years. It was located on the south side of Indian



*John Earnhart.*

SPARTA TP.





Creek, and was used until the erection of the first schoolhouse in the district (No. 9), in about 1844. The first teacher in this house was Augustus Frink, who received \$12 per month and board. No real schoolhouse was built in the New Hope district until about twenty-five years ago. Mr. Stone's old log dwelling was used several years, as was also a tannery building owned by John Davis. The second term taught in District No. 9 was during the summer of 1839 by Myra, daughter of Nathan Frink. She received \$1.25 per week and boarded around. The session was held in an old dwelling. During the winter of 1840-41, William H. Prentice taught in the last mentioned building, receiving \$10 per month and was offered his board free, but chose to board at home. The first school in District 4 was taught, in about 1855, by William Hersey, in an old log dwelling. After the old log schoolhouse at Cromwell was abandoned, no other was built where the village now stands until about 1860, when a frame structure was erected, which was used until about four years ago, when a two-storied brick house, about 28x48, was built, at an estimated cost of \$2,000. Two teachers are now employed in the village. When the citizens of Cromwell desired to build themselves a separate schoolhouse from Districts 4 and 5, they met with bitter opposition, and it was only after several years of maneuvering that the desired results were accomplished. The village now has an excellent school. It is known as School District 10. Almost every district in the township now has a fine new brick schoolhouse and creditable schools.

There are two churches in Cromwell, Lutheran and Methodist, the former being built a year earlier than the latter, and both about twelve years ago, at an approximate cost, each, of about \$2,200. Efforts were made at first, by members of both organizations, to build a union church; but it was soon discovered that this could not be accomplished, owing to the rigid views of several of the most prominent members. Among the leading Methodists were Abraham Mayfield, David Pollock, Porter Green, Dr. H. G. Tucker and Richard Mayfield. Among the Lutherans were A. D. Maggert, Thomas F. Taylor, George W. Reed, Adam Conner and Jonathan Houtz. The Lutherans first organized in the schoolhouse, about sixteen years ago. Each society has a prosperous little Sunday school. In about the year 1860, the United Brethren, assisted by outsiders, built a frame church, about 24x38, at Indian Village. Among the leading members were Henry Shulty, John Hartzell, David Stoll, James Miller and their families and others. This house was used until three years ago, when a fine new brick church was built at a cost of nearly \$3,500. The society is at present in a prosperous condition. Ten years ago, the Christian denomination, with the help of outsiders, built a fine brick church in the southern part, at a cost of some \$2,000. Leading members were the Ohlwinés, Nathaniel Prentice, William Weed, Perry Galloway, Harrison Galloway and others. Their first minister was Rev. Henry Winebrenner, of Noble Township, who preached for the society once a month. They have a fair organization and are

doing well. The first United Brethren minister was Rev. Joseph Miller, but he was soon succeeded by Rev. Mr. Forbes. Sparta Township thus has four churches, and all are doing well.

## CHAPTER XV.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

NOBLE TOWNSHIP—NARRATIVE OF ISAAC TIBBOT—NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS—A BEAR STORY—JOHN G. HALL'S "CORN CRACKER" AND SAW-MILL—OTHER INDUSTRIES—THE LEADING TOWN OF THE COUNTY—BRISTOL AND NOBLEVILLE—SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

A MAN named Joel Bristol, well known by every one, was the first white man to enter what is now Noble County, for the purpose of permanent settlement.\* The following concerning this important event is narrated by Isaac Tibbot, of Wawaka, who, though at that time a stripling of seventeen, came to the county with Mr. Bristol: "After the death of my mother, we (her children) found ourselves stripped of about everything, whether by fraud or otherwise I will not say. Mr. Joel Bristol, who had married my mother's sister, took charge of us, and we accompanied him to what is now Noble County, where we located on what is known as the Bristol Farm, three and a half miles southeast of Wolf Lake, on the 4th day of April, 1827, since which time I have been a citizen of Noble County. After we settled here, the census of what is now Noble County, if taken, would have been as follows: Joel Bristol and wife, Samuel Tibbot, Isaac Tibbot, William Tibbot and three sisters, in all eight persons. Our nearest neighbor was on the Blue River in the direction of Fort Wayne, six miles distant. The nearest on the west, on the South Bend trail, was near Benton, in Elkhart County, about twenty-five miles distant. Days and weeks would pass, and we would see no human being except our own family and the natives, who were plenty all around us, and who were generally friendly; but they would sometimes pilfer what they could get hold of. Of those who came with me, Bristol and his wife are dead; all my brothers and sisters have left, and I alone remain of those who first located in this wilderness, which has since become one of the most desirable counties of Indiana. We were shut out almost from the world, but we saw in the future a better state of things. Our nearest post office was at Fort Wayne until 1831, when an office was established on Perry's Prairie, at Henry Millar's, but was shortly afterward removed to Jacob Shobe's. I think the first family that settled in the county after we came was that of Levi Perry, which settled on the south side of the prairie. The next was John Knight; the third, John L. Powers; the fourth, Richard Stone; then Isaiah, Samuel and James Dungan, and Charles

\*Mr. Prentiss, of Albion, states that the village of Wolf Lake was laid out much earlier than is generally supposed, and before any written or printed authentic date recorded of the fact. The editor has been unable to discover traces of any such settlement. If Mr. Prentiss is correct, it is unfortunate that the facts either have not been recorded before this, or have not been discovered by some of the historical force.

Murray, a son-in-law of Isaiah Dungan. The principal reason why I think Perry settled first is that I helped to raise all the cabins, far and near, and Perry's was the first I helped to raise. It was in the winter, either the latter part of 1829 or first of 1830. I went on foot from where I then lived about twelve miles, through snow one foot deep, and carried a piece of bread and meat for my dinner, which was frozen solid when I was ready to dine. I carried up one corner of the building. There were but few persons present, and the men on the corners had to come down and help put up the logs. This was no unusual case. We went to help raise all the cabins within ten or twelve miles, and here I publicly make the assertion that I have helped to raise more cabins, have carried up more corners, and built more stick chimneys than any other man in Noble County."

No other settlers located in the township until some two or more years had elapsed from the time of the Bristol settlement. Several families then came in. Prior to 1836, the year the county was organized, the following men appeared and settled in the township: Joel Bristol, John G. Hall, John Skinner, John Shannon, Humphrey Nichols, Jacob Busz and his sons John, Simon, Henry and Jesse, S. Sandford, Peter Becker, David, William and Washington Sandford, David Winebrenner and his sons Peter, Jacob and David, S. W. Murphy, Mr. Benner and a large family, Newman Scarlett and his sons Horace and Almon, Barney Scarlett and his sons Henry, William, Chester and Albert, Jacob Marker, Samuel Jones, J. W. Elliott, Alexander Swaney, Thomas J. Pickens, Rolan Stewart, Ephraim Scarlett, John Skinner, Ephraim Skinner, Mr. Driver, Mr. Lonker, John Muncey, McIntire Seymour, Patrick C. Miller, Thomas Smith, Esquire Knowles, Thomas Shepard, Jacob Haynes, Dr. Elias Jones, Andrew Humphrey, and many others. In 1844, the following men, the greater number of whom lived in the township on land outside the village of Wolf Lake, then the only village in the township, owned land in the township: Otis D. Allen, Henry G. Allen, Cyrus Armstrong, Joel Bristol, Jacob Busz, Richard L. Britton, Robson L. Broome, T. K. Breckinridge, James Baird, Joel Benford, Samuel Butterbaugh, John Butterbaugh, T. H. Botts, Leonard Collier, James Carter, Julius Coleman, Henry Cooper, David Douglass, Jonathan Elliott, Jonah Evans, John Edgar, Robert E. Fleming, Joseph Foster, Benjamin Grabille, John G. Hall, Jacob Haynes, Arba Harda, John M. Herndon, Andrew Humphreys, Joseph Hackman, John Horning, Mr. Henderson, F. A. Harris, Elias Jones, Thomas Mitchell, John Muncey, John Mayfield, Patrick Miller, Abel Millington, G. W. Moore, Humphrey Nichols, Lewis Nichols, John Olinger, Martin Overly, William Perry, John Rollins, Sylvester Ross, A. L. Rose, Madison Roice, Jesse Rider, A. L. Rider, William Rider, Jonathan Rollins, Matthew M. Rollins, Charles G. Swain, John Smith, John Skinner, Ephraim Skinner, Alexander Stangland, McIntire Seymour, Newman Scarlett, Barney Scarlett, Ephraim Scarlett, Thomas Smith, F. E. Starkey, John Utt, Abraham Utt, John Voris, Mrs. Elizabeth Sandford, Har-

risson Wood, Daniel Winebrenner, Anthony Wertz, John Warner, Joseph Whitridge, Jonah Wells, Harvey Westphal and John Young.

From the first of the above catalogues it will be seen that for five years prior to 1836, the settlers came into the township very rapidly. They located largely along the Fort Wayne and Goshen road, and soon the old rough log cabin could be seen here and there throughout the township. When a new settler appeared, the neighbors, for many miles around, if necessary, turned out willingly to assist in erecting his cabin, into which the family often moved at night. The evident reason for this conduct was that the pioneer was anxious to have the country around him speedily settled. To encourage this, allurements of all sorts were brought to bear upon the immigrants to induce them to stop in certain localities. It also gave rise to the custom of erecting cabins for new settlers, and of refusing to erect cabins for those who were not wanted as neighbors. The lands were entered at Fort Wayne, though for the first few years no land was purchased, the settler possessing but a "squatter sovereignty" in the soil. Unscrupulous and avaricious men practiced every artifice possible to defraud the immigrants of their money or their land, and too often they were successful. It is stated that the land agents were in connivance with these sharks in their nefarious operations, and permitted them to have unlawful access to the land records, for the purpose of gaining knowledge detrimental to the pecuniary interests of the settler. This charge has been well substantiated. Many a poor settler has been defrauded in this manner of all he possessed.

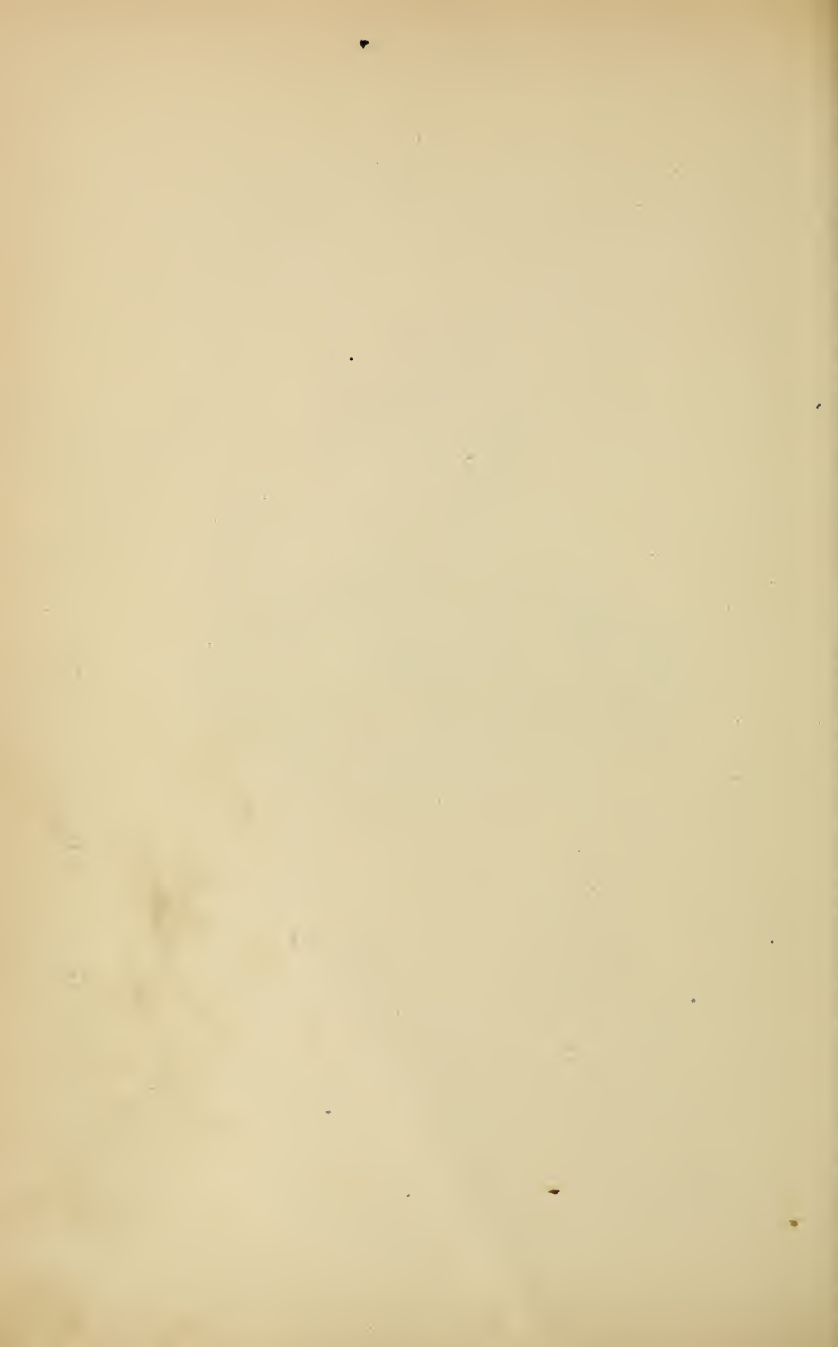
The erection of the log cabin was the first thing on the programme of pioneer life. The next was to clear off a garden where a few potatoes and other vegetables might be raised. In the meantime the family often subsisted almost entirely upon wild meat, which included venison, wild turkey, coon and squirrel. The best hunters could furnish the best living for their families in cases of this kind, although a few years later, when game became scarce, and vegetables and grain abundant, the conditions were reversed. Then it was that hunter's families were called upon to suffer until they were finally either driven to work or driven off into the wilderness, where game was still abundant. Thousands of deer wandered through the woods or across the "oak openings" or prairies, pasturing on the rich herbage which nature had spread for their repast. It was no trouble to shoot one of them; even the most inexperienced, if he could take aim, could occasionally shoot one. The woods were filled with wolves, though they were not considered dangerous, except to the smaller domestic animals. Strong men, armed *cap-a-pie*, have been treed by them, and have remained pale and trembling for hours in the branches, when, if they had descended with a bound into the midst of the snarling group beneath, the latter would have scattered like chaff. There is altogether too much romance connected with many of the accounts of events in early years. They are seasoned to suit the present abnormal appetite for the extraordinary. Events were far more practical and prosy then than now. Everything was done in earnest in those days, and neces-





*James C. Stewart*

NOBLE TP.



sarily so. There was but little time to practice any art save the one of making a comfortable and honest living, though this was one of the "lost arts" to some of the early settlers.

Ephraim Marker is said to have been a great deer hunter. He would kill more than a hundred during the season. On one occasion, at night, Mr. Winebrenner heard a great commotion among his sheep that had been penned up. He hurried out, with nothing but a club, and discovered that a number of wolves had broken into the fold and were cutting the sheep's throats. He instantly leaped in, with his club, and the wolves were soon routed out, but not until after they had killed several of the sheep. One day, as Elder Allen Mead was traveling across the eastern side of the township, he saw a large bear out in the woods some distance from him, eating acorns. Being unarmed, he hurried on and told Abner Scarlett what he had seen. Scarlett was a good hunter, and immediately started in pursuit of the bear, which had left its feeding ground and gone into a swamp. The hunter followed it in, and finally, catching sight of it, fired, but only wounded it. The animal left the swamp and was instantly shot by a young man named Otis Allen. Both men immediately claimed the bear, and finally resorted to blows to establish their claims. Mr. Allen probably had the heavier fists, as he finally bore off the prize.

The Indians were around in great numbers when the county was first settled. They would bring wild meat and furs of all kinds to the cabins of the settlers, for the purpose of exchanging them for flour, vegetables and ammunition. Joel Bristol and John Hall, both of whom kept tavern on the Fort Wayne and Goshen road, sold whisky to the Indians. It was found to be poor policy to trifle with an Indian when he was under the influence of alcohol. Old man Skinner was not afraid of them, even when drunk. He possessed enormous strength, and the Indians soon learned, from experience, to leave him alone. He visited their camps and mingled freely with them, participating in their dances and sports. The Indian has a peculiar custom. When chewing tobacco and facing you, he never turns his head to spit, and, consequently, the greater part of his saliva is ejected on your clothing. Now, if there was anything in the world Mr. Skinner was an adept at, it was in spitting tobacco juice. By long practice at the face of an Indian, he scarcely ever missed when within six or eight feet of the mark. The Indians were soon vanquished, and soon learned to turn their heads when in his presence. It is related that Mr. Skinner, on one occasion, was compelled to knock down two or three of the Indians to prevent being severely pounded by several drunken fellows whom he had insulted by spitting in their faces.

In about the year 1835, Mr. Elliott built a saw-mill in the northeastern part, on a branch of the Elkhart River. A dam was built across the stream, and over the end of this dam the old log mill was erected. The water from above shot through a short spout and struck the old flutter-wheel, that was connected, by shafting, with the machinery that operated the saw. All the

machinery was extremely rude, and yet this old mill, when worked to its fullest capacity, could turn out large quantities of native lumber. Black walnut of the finest kind was used with a wantonness not relished by lumber dealers to-day. After the mill had been operated a few years, it fell to the ownership of Mr. Forker, with whose family it afterward remained. It ran for many years and was very valuable to the early settlers, as lumber could be thus obtained near home, and long journeys, through bottomless roads, could be avoided. The log building was soon replaced with a rough frame structure, and this is the mill the old settler has in his eye. In about the year 1855, a sudden freshet washed the dam away, and as the patronage had largely fallen away, it was decided unprofitable to repair the damage and the old mill site was abandoned.

John G. Hall, who had settled in the township at an early day, and who had, before any improvements were made in the county, carried the mail from Fort Wayne to Goshen on the back of an ox, it is said, built a grist-mill in about the year 1832, on the Elkhart River, where it is crossed by the Goshen road. Mr. Isaac Tibbot says that during the year 1832 he helped Mr. Hall get out the timber with which the old mill was built. If this is the case, it was the first grist-mill in the county, and Mr. Hall made the first flour. Some claim, however, that the first flour was made at Port Mitchell by Stedman Gray. Mr. Hall was an eccentric old bachelor. He was as cross as old bachelors are averred to be, but the laughter of the neighborhood had no effect on his wit and eccentricity except, perhaps, to sharpen them. The Fort Wayne and Goshen road was extensively traveled in those days by immigrants seeking homes in the West. No other road in the county received half the travel. The crossing at the old grist-mill was very bad, as the stream had to be forded in a swampy place, and wagons sunk almost from sight. Mr. Hall in a short time erected a bridge across the stream, just below his dam, and charged a toll of two shillings for each wagon. This bridge was greatly appreciated by the traveling public. The grist-mill was a log structure, perhaps 20x30 feet. The water from the dam fell upon a horizontal flutter-wheel, which communicated a slow motion to a set of "nigger-head" buhrs. At first Mr. Hall ground nothing but corn, but he soon introduced a better set of buhrs in his mill, and after that had all he could do. His flour is said to have been good for those days, but it would not command a very great price if offered in market at present. After some ten or twelve years, his dam was washed away, whereupon the grist-mill was abandoned. One day Mr. Hall stopped the mill, and went away a few hours, and when he returned he discovered that one of his buhrs had been carried away. He surmised that it had been stolen, and began to look around to discover traces of the thief. He soon found the stone on the ground in the woods, some ten or twelve rods from the mill; but was not strong enough to carry it back, and while wondering who had placed it there, and how he should convey it to the mill, Mr. Skinner appeared upon the scene. Hall called upon Skinner for assistance, and the latter agreed, providing Hall would set up a



jug of whisky, of which he kept a quantity on hand for sale. Hall quickly agreed to the proposal, whereupon the stone was carried to the mill by Skinner, who afterward enjoyed his whisky. It was afterward disclosed that Skinner, himself, had removed the stone, and then, lying in the bushes close by, watched the whole proceedings, and when his scheme was at its pinnacle, presented himself to get the whisky, for which the trick had been played. Skinner was fond of the "flowing bowl" (not an unusual circumstance then nor now), and often resorted to some trick to get the liquor from Hall. One day, when Skinner was probably very thirsty, he threw Hall into the race, and whenever the latter would reach up above to grasp the plank, in order to draw himself out of the water, Skinner would tramp on his fingers. Hall finally became worn out and agreed to treat to the whisky, whereupon he was helped out. He knew it was of no use to get mad at Skinner, as the latter would probably turn in and give him a thrashing. Not far from 1840, the grist-mill was abandoned, but soon afterward Samuel L. Smith erected a frame saw-mill on the same site. He had an iron water-wheel, and soon did good work. After some six years, Samuel Correll assumed control and ownership. He made several much-needed improvements to the mill and dam, and had all the sawing he could do for five or six years, when his dam was washed away and was not afterward rebuilt, and the mill was abandoned.

Time passed on, and the old log cabin was replaced with a better dwelling. Fields became more extensive and crops ditto. Merchants began to appear with small stocks of goods; mills for lumber and grain multiplied; markets for produce and supplies became closer and better; money came in to float off the productions of the settler; roads were drained and improved; wild animals and Indians retreated toward the setting sun; schools and churches sprang into existence, and the settlers attained a degree of prosperity unknown to them before. Horse-thieves soon became very troublesome, not only in Noble Township but throughout all Northern Indiana. No law could touch them, as they were too numerous and laid their plans with too much cunning. At last, all the better citizens organized themselves into a vigilance committee, and after a few thieves had been severely trounced the others came to their senses, and the unlawful bands were broken up.

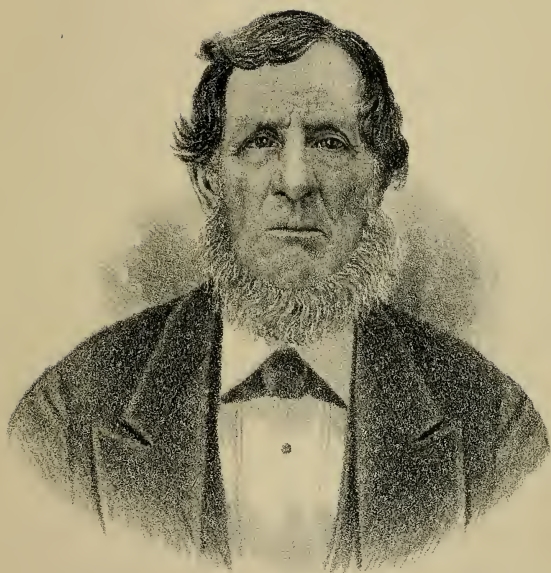
In April, 1836,\* Patrick C. Miller and Andrew Stewart secured the services of a surveyor and laid out seventy-one lots on the northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 33, Range 9 east, and named the village thus founded Wolf Lake, after the body of water on the banks of which it was located. Each full lot contained one-fifth of an acre, and the fractional lots were numbers 65, 66, 67, 68, 70 and 71. Wayne street and Wolf Lake street were

\*There is some dispute as to when the village of Wolf Lake was laid out. Nelson Prentiss says it was first laid out in 1832, for he had seen descriptions of its lots dated a number of years before 1836. The record in the Recorder's office (which is but a transcript of the original one at Fort Wayne) fixes the date as stated in the text. The editor wrote to the Recorder of Allen County, and obtained a verification of the date given. Yet, after all, if Noble County was organized in 1836, and if, before that and after 1832, it was attached to La Grange County, why was the plat recorded at Fort Wayne? This would seem to imply that Mr. Prentiss is correct. It might have been laid out in 1832, and after a short time abandoned, and then re-laid out in 1836; but that does not explain why the plat was recorded at Fort Wayne.

ninety-nine feet wide, all others being but sixty-six feet. This village, one of the oldest in the county, was designed to be the county seat; but, although the county has had four different seats, the village of Wolf Lake has never yet been favored. On the 8th of October, 1833, Andrew Stewart was keeping hotel in what is now Wolf Lake, and Jacob Haines was conducting a blacksmith-shop. In about 1836, Thomas Shepard opened a tanyard, while another person, whose name is not remembered, was manufacturing black salts at a small ashery. Thomas Smith, Sr., sold the first goods in Wolf Lake. His store was a small building that had been built of tamarack poles by Mr. Stephens, and in which the first school in the township was taught by Mrs. Stephens during the winter of 1834-35. This building was standing on the farm of Felton Allen.\* The village at first did not grow as rapidly as the proprietors wished, and, in 1840, according to W. W. Noteman, there were but six resident families. Soon after this, however, the embryonic town began to grow, and soon its industries commanded wide patronage. Patrick C. Miller, one of the proprietors, opened a tavern and began entertaining the public. Ten years after the village was laid out, it is said there were twenty-five or thirty families living there. Samuel L. Smith opened a harness-shop, while near him Elihu Anthony followed the calling of Vulcan. Barnes & De Frease opened an early store, but they were soon succeeded by Hiram Morgan, who afterward erected the Gray store buildings. He was succeeded by William De Frease, who continued until the gold excitement in California overspread the country, when he sold out to Mr. Raling, and after a short time went overland across the plains. At the expiration of a year or two, Raling removed with his goods to Milford, and John R. Cook went with a stock of goods into the room he had vacated. He continued until the close of the last war, having made his fortune, and then sold out to Stedman Gray, and went to Rochester, Minn. Mr. Gray has continued in business in the village since, and is one of the substantial men of the place. Preston Thompson opened a store quite early in the village, but he soon sold to David S. Scott, of Fort Wayne, or rather, having borrowed money of Scott, and being unable to liquidate the debt, he turned his goods over to his creditor, and ere Mr. Scott was aware he was a merchant at Wolf Lake. He was a shrewd financier, and with the advantage offered by the rise in prices during the last war, he made a fortune of some \$30,000. When the war closed he closed, and soon afterward Matthews & Voris, two ex-Captains of the army, opened up; but they probably knew more of war than of merchandising, as they made no money. They dissolved, and Mr. Wylie took Mr. Voris' place. Finally, Samuel Bell bought Matthews out, but soon afterward sold to Wylie, who then took as a partner I. C. Bailey. The partners finally dissolved and divided the goods. Wylie has continued since, a portion of the time with his son. George W. Williams opened a store some five years ago. Morgan, Cook and Scott, in their time, bought large quantities of wheat

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\*Reminiscences of J. C. Stewart.



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and other grains. They also bought wool, especially Cook, who made thousands of dollars at it. Morgan and Scott bought and packed large quantities of pork. They kept large stocks of goods, and, it may be truthfully inscribed on the epitaph of Wolf Lake, that in early years more business was done there than in any other town in the county. W. W. Noteman opened a cabinet-shop in 1840, and for sixteen years he manufactured large quantities of tables, bureaus, stands, bedsteads, coffins, etc. He manufactured 1,400 coffins, which now lie buried in the cemeteries for miles around. David Rockey also engaged extensively in the same pursuit. Thomas Shepard built a tannery before 1840. His business was not overly gigantic. He also started an ashery, and would give an order for goods on his brother, a merchant at Fort Wayne. He manufactured a limited quantity of black salts. Blacksmiths have been numerous in the village. A post office was secured in about 1837, and Pat Miller was the first Postmaster. The mail route extended from Fort Wayne to Niles, Mich. Among the physicians who practiced in the village were V. M. Cole, James McDuffey, Elias Jones (an excellent physician and a fine man, who practiced in the village until three years ago, when he died), Dr. Grover (a combined faith and water doctor), Dr. Matthews (a brother-in-law of Grover, and the same kind of a doctor). These men established a sort of medical school at the village, and sent a dozen or more "graduates" out to practice what they had learned. Other doctors have been Ezra Depew, Henry Shock, Marcellus Robinson, Reed, Denney, Williams, Sheldon and others. Wyman Trask, a lawyer, braved the frowns of the "wolves" for a short time. A man named Pope kept tavern early. Other tavern-keepers have been P. C. Miller, Thomas Smith, Jr., G. W. Stewart, Mason Merriam, George W. Matthews, John R. Blair (1850), Benjamin Coutts at present, Mrs. Humphreys at present, Mrs. D——r, and others. The village was visited by the small-pox in about 1849, but left without doing much damage. The Masons, Sons of Temperance and Good Templars have held forth for short periods. These societies do not exist there at present. This closes the brief history of the business enterprises in the little village of Wolf Lake, which has a present population of about two hundred.

During the year 1849, Joel Bristol, the first settler in the township, conceived the idea of founding a city that should be the hub around which the surrounding country should revolve. He noticed that a village where Nobleville is now located would be centrally situated, being almost equally distant from Ligonier, Kendallville, Warsaw, Columbia City and Auburn, and he reasoned that a town located there, if properly managed, could not help wielding a wide influence throughout Northern Indiana. He, therefore, in November, 1849, employed a surveyer and laid out Nobleville on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25; forty-two lots, each full lot comprising a quarter of an acre, were laid out, and the streets were made sixty-six feet wide. The lots were offered for sale, and the village that was expected to achieve so

much began to grow. But Mr. Bristol, like many another man similarly situated, was doomed to disappointment. His village languished, and he grew sick at heart. Time healed the wound of disappointment. Jacob Marker probably built the first house in Nobleville. Joseph Ryan built another soon afterward, and opened a small combined grocery and saloon. He was succeeded by Hiram Lindsey, who had a much better stock. Business has always been dull, although sometimes three stores have been there at one time. Fred Bidding built a saw-mill some time before the last war. This has since been one of the best mills in the county. Bidding sawed large quantities of black walnut timber, which grew in abundance near the village. Himself and wife were finally drowned in Lake Michigan. Ziegler Brothers built the present mill on the old site. A brick and tile yard was started four years ago. It is said that Newman Scarlett burned a kiln of brick as early as 1838. The brick were used for chimneys and wells only, and sold for 50 cents per hundred. Mr. Bristol died many years ago, and it may be said:

“Sweet smiling village, loveliest of the lawn,  
Thy sports are fled and all thy charms withdrawn,  
Amidst thy bowers the tyrant's hand is seen,  
And desolation saddens all the green.”

There is some doubt as to the first school taught in the township. The first was probably taught in 1834 and 1835 by Mrs. Stephens. During the summer of 1836, Charity Haines taught school in one room of a double log cabin, situated one and a half miles northwest of town, and owned and occupied by Jackson Humphreys. Mrs. Charles D. Shepard taught in the year 1838. This lady lived with her husband on the shore of Muncey Lake, and taught a few of the neighbors' children in her own dwelling, one room of which had been provided with the necessary rude seats and desks. James Stewart, then a small boy, went to this lady. In 1839, a log schoolhouse was built near where the tile yard is located at Nobleville, or rather, it was not a schoolhouse, but had been built for a dwelling, but, having been abandoned by the owner, it was converted to the uses of education. The name of the first teacher in this house is forgotten. Mr. Stewart remembers attending a spelling-school one night in this house. The scholar that gained the distinction of spelling down the whole neighborhood was regarded as something more than common. The unlettered backwoods youth would gather around him and regard him very much as the boy of to-day does the clown in the circus. The old Elementary spelling-book was the book of the school-room. It was used for all purposes and lessons, and in some cases drove every other book, except the Testament, from the room. The old settlers remember the book as one of their early cherished companions. It is quite probable that the first school was taught at Wolf Lake, as the village was laid out in 1836, and contained six or eight families. In the absence, however, of any definite data, the facts above are given. Mr. Stewart thinks that the first real schoolhouse was built in about the year 1840. It was known as the “Burr-Oak Schoolhouse,” and was located in the northeast

corner. Mr. Winebrenner places the building of this house some two years later, and thinks the first was the "Chapel Schoolhouse." These two houses were built very nearly the same time, and not far from 1840. The "Burr-Oak" was built of round logs, and was used about fifteen years, when a frame building took its place, and served the purposes of education until the present. A new brick schoolhouse is just completed. These two houses—the "Burr-Oak" and the "Chapel"—were built by everybody interested in education. The Chapel Schoolhouse was first built of logs, and for a number of years was used for religious exercises. Mr. Elliott was one of the first teachers. This house was used some twelve or fifteen years, when the present one was erected. A schoolhouse was built in Wolf Lake in 1850. The frame work was done by the citizens, and then W. W. Noteman was employed for \$250 to complete the job. This house was used some ten or twelve years, when the present one was constructed. Elder Solomon Wedge taught school in Wolf Lake as early as 1840, and probably earlier. The front room of his dwelling was transformed into a schoolhouse. Here school was held until, perhaps, 1844, when the old Baptist Church was used for school purposes until the building of the first schoolhouse in 1850.

The first church—Baptist—was built in 1841 by members of all denominations, who were to have use of the house at stated times. Among the leading Baptists at that early day or soon after were John Buckles, Stedman Gray, John Mayfield, Richard Campbell, Hiram Morgan and others. The Methodists built themselves a house in about 1847, but soon afterward the building was badly demolished by a falling tree, and the Methodists went back to the Baptist house. Three years ago, the Baptists and the Methodists each built a new brick church, at a cost of nearly \$3,000. These buildings are now a credit to the village. Two years ago, the Advents built a neat frame church at Wolf Lake, and they now have quite a fair attendance. The Free-Will Baptists had an organization at the Burr-Oak Schoolhouse, a number of years ago. The Christian Church in the southeastern part was organized in 1843 by Elder Peter Banta, of Ohio, and at that time twelve persons became members, three of whom yet live in the county, as follows: John McMeans, Hester Ann Boner and Peter Winebrenner. The society has been attended by Revs. Battreal, Thomas Whitman, James Atchison, Phillip Ziegler, and the present pastor, Elder Peter Winebrenner, who has had charge of the church for the last fifteen years. The first church building, a frame structure 28x50 feet, was erected in 1853, and used until the erection of the present fine brick building (38x60) in 1881. This was the first organization of the kind in the county, and from it have sprung many flourishing branches. It now has a membership of about two hundred, and its fine Sunday school continues the year through. The present handsome edifice when finished will cost about \$4,000.

## CHAPTER XVI.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

YORK TOWNSHIP—FIRST SETTLERS—LIFE IN THE WILDERNESS—EARLY SAW-MILLS, GRIST-MILLS, FACTORIES AND OTHER INDUSTRIES—VILLAGES OF AUGUSTA, VAN BUREN AND PORT MITCHELL—PIONEER SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

PERHAPS the most distinguishing historic feature of York Township is the fact that the county seat has been located within its borders no less than three times, and still the citizens ask for a repetition. That is certainly sufficient to render any tract of country no larger than a township famous, if not notorious; yet the grasp of York for civic or metropolitan honors has been sadly treacherous. The seat of justice was first established at Augusta, a "defunct" town of modest pretensions, situated on Section 15. Thence it was removed to Port Mitchell (named for a good-looking canal engineer), and finally to Albion, a portion of which was within the limits of York at that time. The township was no sooner off with the old love at Augusta, than it was on with the new at Port Mitchell, and soon the latter was jilted and Albion received name and fame undying. Of course, the citizens of Augusta looked savagely down their noses when the court house was destroyed by fire; but what did it avail. And when it became known that the county seat was to be relocated at Port Mitchell—a deadly rival—the wrath of Augustans became volcanic and phenomenal. Though time has healed the wound, yet bitter thoughts still surge, like a tempest, when memory is aroused.

The first settler in York Township, according to the statement of Nelson Prentiss, Esq., was John Knight, who located on Section 29 in 1829. Knight was a squatter and an adventurer, and, not caring whether the land upon which he located was anything more than sufficient to furnish a living, he selected a burr-oak barren, when some of the finest farming land of the county lay within a mile. He was a skillful hunter, supporting himself and family largely by means of his rifle, although he cleared and cultivated a small garden of potatoes, corn, pumpkins, etc., which were traded to the Indians, who came often to his cabin. It is related that he, on one occasion, caught an Indian stealing green corn from his garden, whereupon he gave the unfortunate red-skin a sound flagellation with a heavy stick, which completely ended such acts thereafter. Knight lived alone in the township until the Henshaws came in, about 1833. He is said to have been the second settler in the county, although this is disputed by Isaac Tibbot, who asserts that the second settler was Levi Perry. Mr. Tibbot is probably correct, as he, at that time, was a resident of the county, while Mr. Prentiss, who thinks otherwise, was not. As Mr. Tibbot



was called upon to assist in raising all the early log cabins, his memory, if reliable, should not be disputed, unless strong proof is shown to the contrary. This would then establish the fact that John Knight was the third settler, and that he very probably came in a year or two later than 1829. This is a disputed point, which will remain unsolved. After Mr. Knight had been in the township some three or four years, Joseph Bradford proceeded to Fort Wayne and entered the quarter section upon which Knight had squatted, and the latter was obliged to leave the land, although Bradford had no excuse for his conduct, except that he wanted to reap the reward of what few improvements had been made. The land was poor and sterile. Knight quietly took his departure and located in Elkhart Township. The second settlers in the township were probably the Henshaw brothers (Washington and James), who located in the southeastern part, at Port Mitchell, in about the year 1833. They soon after built a saw-mill and a grist-mill, or "corn-cracker," as such a mill in early days was denominated. They built a dam across the Elkhart River, and the mills were furnished with water by means of a small race. They had a "big time" when the mills were raised. There was not a sufficient number of white men in the county, at the time, to push the work on to completion as fast as Mr. Henshaw desired, whereupon he went to a neighboring Indian camp and entered into an agreement with the chief, that if he would induce about twenty Indians to assist at the raising, a barrel of whisky would be furnished on the ground for their benefit. The chief (and indeed the whole tribe) was only too glad to avail himself of the offer. They thereupon repaired to the spot at the appointed hour, and wanted to inaugurate the occasion by a good drink of the whisky; but Henshaw was too familiar with the Indian character to think of such a thing, so he refused to let them have the liquor until the work was completed. When this had been accomplished to Mr. Henshaw's satisfaction, he took an ax and broke in the head of the keg, and told the noble red men to help themselves, which they did with much less decorum than haste. The greater number became intoxicated, and all the various stages or phases of that deplorable condition were soon exhibited. A few rough fights were begun, but were soon suppressed, and finally the red men departed for their camp. The mills were rude affairs and the flour turned out was coarse and black; but the grist-mill was well patronized, as it saved long journeys, through bottomless roads, to distant points. The location of the mills was not as good as it might have been, as the full water-power furnished by the race could not be utilized. The flour was bolted by hand, or, rather, the bolt had to be turned by hand. The saw-mill was rude and much of the power was lost in the shafting that communicated motion to the saw. Lumber of the best character was sawed on shares or for a pittance.

Other early settlers in the township were: James Gray, Stedman Gray, Robert Gray, J. and D. Bradford, David Anderson, John Williams, Joseph Bell, John Bowman, Joseph Beall, Dr. Halsey Lewis, Hiram Bassett, Elisha

Blackman, William Crispell, Daniel Downs, William F. Engle, Nathan Frink, Benjamin Hardinburg, Isaiah Hardinburg, Jacob Cramer, Vincent Lane, John Middleton, John McCaskey, William E. McCaskey, Francis Murray, Adam Nimmon, George Powers, Joel B. L. Smith, Milo L. Street, Charles D. Shearer, John McMeans, John Smith, Joel Vanderford, Wesley White, Isaac Whitaker, J. B. White, Zenas Wright and his sons George and Charles, Samuel Webster, George F. Whitaker, Nathaniel Woodward, John Young, and others.

Mr. John Bowman says the first township election was had during the autumn of 1838, and that there were but sixteen men present at such election, as follows: Zenas Wright, William Crispell, Hiram F. Bassett, George F. Whitaker, Isaac Whitaker, John McMeans, Jacob Cramer, William F. Engle, William P. Gray, Stedman Gray, James Gray, Joel B. L. Smith, Joel Vanderford, David Anderson, Elisha Blackman, Isaac E. White, Robert Maxwell and John Bowman. Two of these were not present, but who they are is uncertain. George F. Whitaker had been appointed Inspector of Elections by the County Commissioners. From the above men he selected two clerks of election and two judges ditto, and announced the polls open. Mr. Bowman thinks only a portion of the first officers were elected. Stedman Gray was chosen Road Supervisor, but, refusing to serve, John Bowman was selected in his stead. The names of the other first officers elected are forgotten. Those elected worked mostly without pay. Joseph Bradford, who lived across the line in Sparta Township, served as Justice of the Peace of York until the spring election of 1839, when John Bowman was elected to officiate in that capacity. John Middleton was elected Constable at this election. The township received its name from the fact that a majority of the earliest settlers were from the State of New York. The first election was held at the residence of George F. Whitaker.

Many of the old settlers are accustomed, when talking of early times, to give rose-colored accounts of life in the wilderness. John Bowman is not one of this character. He deals in truths, and facts sustain him. An old settler will say and tell the truth—"We used to have splendid times in the woods." But another will say and tell the truth equally as well—"Oh, we had terrible times." Mr. Bowman and his excellent wife can paint very accurately the dark side of the picture. Himself and family came from Columbiana County, Ohio, in a four-horse wagon, and, in order to avoid the bottomless mud of the Black Swamp in Northwestern Ohio, came in the month of January, when winter had covered the swamp with a frozen mantle. He was a tanner and currier, but never followed his trade after reaching Ohio. He purchased his land of Ira B. White, who had erected a small log cabin, and had made slight improvements. Here, on this place, his new life was begun. He went to Fort Wayne for supplies, paying \$7.50 per barrel for flour and \$7 per barrel for salt. It was difficult to get feed for his horses, and they became poor and

weak. During the first winter, he found it extremely difficult to get provisions for love or money. He traveled for miles over the country, but found none willing to sell. At last he went to Mr. Smalley, who lived on Perry's Prairie, and told the old man that he must sell a portion of what he had, or his (Bowman's) family would starve to death. The old man then kindly turned in and sold a portion of nearly everything he had—chickens, potatoes, corn, meat, etc.—and also agreed to sell a valuable cow for \$30, provided Mr. Bowman could not get one somewhere else within three weeks. The latter searched the better part of the time without success, and finally claimed the cow at the above-named price. The streams were filled with fish, and could be caught by the thousands with a net without trouble. The net was set in the Elkhart at night, and the next morning often more than a hundred pounds of pike, red-horse, etc., would be found inclosed in the meshes. The settlers, for a number of years, living in Mr. Bowman's locality, were wont to make pilgrimages to Perry's Prairie for wheat, corn, potatoes, etc., whenever needed; and soon the expression, "Going to Egypt to buy corn," gave that locality a name (Egypt) which clings to it like Sindbad's burden. The entry of land in York was very rapid from 1835 to 1840. This brought in many strangers, who were obliged to get acquainted before any unity of action could be expected. They came from all parts of the East, and necessarily brought their local habits with them. Differences were sure to arise, until some final tendency or shape was given to neighborhood opinion, sentiment or will by the strength and inherent power of individual thought. People are much more dependent than is ordinarily supposed. They constantly rely upon clearer and better thought, and their opinions in general may be said to be a union of many ideas stolen from numerous sources. Until some strong mind gave direction to the ideas of a neighborhood, everything went crosswise. Thus it was when the country was first settled.

After the Henshaw brothers had operated their mills a few years, they sold out to Samuel Hanna and possibly W. F. Engle. Stedman Gray, yet living at Wolf Lake, was the miller in the employ of the Henshaws, and he claims to have made the first flour in Noble County, although this is disputed by others, who insist that Mr. Hall, whose mill was in operation at a very early day, about two miles southeast of Wolf Lake, made the first. This is another unsettled question. This old mill was used many years, indeed, until but a few years ago, and was at times well patronized. The grist-mill was located on the race, a short distance below the saw-mill, but had sufficient power to operate its one small set of buhrs. It ran so slowly and irregularly, though, that the flour was poor, and when the settlers had large grists, and the roads were good, they went usually to the Elkhart Mills. Under the various owners the mills were altered and improved. The grist-mill was destroyed by fire a few years ago. Under the management of Mitchell & Campbell the mill did good work. Joseph Bell built a saw-mill at an early day, locating it on what is yet

known as Bell's Run, on Section 21. It was operated in the usual way by means of a dam and race. After it had been in operation a short time, Halsey Lewis started a small chair factory, and his machinery was set in motion by the water from the Bell Race. This chair factory, the only one ever in the township, was a very rude affair, and the chairs were ditto, and after it had been conducted semi-successfully for a few years, it was abandoned. The saw-mill continued in operation, however, under a change of owners, for quite a number of years. The water above the dam became spread over a large section of country, and, finally, became a great nuisance, as well as a source to generate malaria. It became the talk of the neighborhood, and doctors gave as their opinion that it was the cause of several serious cases of sickness in the vicinity. Finally, public prejudice and sentiment became so fixed against it, that the neighbors united means, purchased the mill site, and destroyed the dam, permitting the stagnant water to move on, and effectually preventing a continuance of the nuisance. About thirty years ago, Isaac Swarthout erected a saw-mill about two miles below Port Mitchell; but, as it did not receive satisfactory patronage, it was soon permitted to fall to pieces. The saw-mills above referred to never did merchant work. Their field of labor was to supply the home demand, and this gave them sufficient work to insure continuance.

A man named Campbell erected a woolen factory at Port Mitchell about thirty years ago. It was a two-storied frame building, thirty by forty-five feet. A considerable quantity of carding and spinning was done under the management of a Mr. Walker, a practical spinner. This man also rented the building, and put in additional machinery for knitting; but, after a number of years, he relinquished the lease, and soon afterward the property was purchased by George Baker. During the war, a thriving business was done, but at its close the patronage decreased. The factory was burned to the ground about ten years ago.

While Augusta and Port Mitchell have been the only towns of any note in York Township, yet about the time the county-seat was changed from Sparta to Augusta, a village called Van Buren was surveyed and platted on Section 20, and designed to secure, if possible, the coveted boon. But alas! the hopes of the founder were destined to be blasted, as his claim was disregarded by the locating committee. No lots were sold, and the embryonic village expired soon after being christened.

Two villages have been established within the limits of the township. The first—Augusta—was laid out in August, 1837, by W. M. Holmes, George F. Whitaker, Thomas Gale and D. H. Colerick, owners and proprietors. The village was laid out in thirty-eight blocks, each of which, except four, contained eight lots. The exceptional four were on the sides of the square plat, and were triangular in shape. The lots were laid out at the corner of Sections 14, 15, 22 and 23, and the central block was granted as a public square. Around this square the streets were eighty feet wide, all others being sixty feet. Lot 7 of





*John Walker*  
YORK TP.



Block 1, Lot 8 of Block 6, Lot 1 of Block 38, and Lot 2 of Block 33 were donated by the proprietors for school or church purposes. The village was laid out in an elaborate manner, and the proprietors no doubt expected great things of their village. Their expectations were in a measure realized. In accordance with the provisions of the contract entered into between the Commissioners appointed to relocate the county-seat and the proprietors of the village, the latter were to furnish \$4,000 toward the new court house, to pay \$180, the estimated cost of relocation, to donate within one mile of said town five acres of ground for a graveyard, one acre for a seminary, one in-lot for a market-house, and one square upon which the court house was designed to be erected. This contract having been perfected, the county seat was relocated at the village in 1837. This fact immediately gave growth to various industries. Lawyers, doctors, merchants, hotel-keepers, carpenters, blacksmiths, schools, churches, etc., appeared, and the outlook was bright for the county seat. The court house was soon erected, and shortly afterward a jail. The mail route along the Fort Wayne and Goshen road was deflected and made to pass through the village. No effort was made to build a seminary, as was provided for in the contract. Hill & Treer opened a small store of groceries and dry goods, and soon afterward Nimmon & Colerick did the same, but not, probably, until the others had abandoned the pursuit. The village grew rapidly from the start, and reached the zenith of its prosperity and population about the time the court house was burned in March, 1843. At this time, it contained a population of about two hundred. After the court house had been burned, and the county-seat had been removed to Port Mitchell, the village languished. Half the population immediately left, some going to Port Mitchell and some elsewhere, and when time had passed to 1850, it found the village almost deserted, and a fit emblem of loneliness. A few families yet resided there, but all hope for the future of the village had died out.

In March, 1844, pursuant to an act of the State Legislature, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose, after duly considering all the sites proposed, relocated the county seat at Port Mitchell. This change in the location of the county seat created a bitterness that has endured until the present day. The following is quoted from the pen of Mr. Prentiss: "The spring and summer of 1844 were unusually wet, and all the streams in the country were full. Mill-dams and bridges were swept away, and crops were much injured. The bridge west of Augusta, across the Elkhart River, was in danger; and the citizens of Augusta and surrounding country turned out to try to save it, but it was swept away. It was on this occasion, the 1st day of July, that Wesley White lost his life. After the bridge was carried away, Mr. Colerick, having fastened a rope on the east side of the river, went up the stream some distance, and swam across with the rope, and fastened it on the west side, so that persons there who could not swim could cross by means of the rope. There were probably twenty-five or thirty persons present. Among those on

the west side was Mr. White, who, it appears, could not swim; but he signified his intention of trying to cross above the rope, saying that, if he discovered he could not swim across, he could catch the rope when he floated down to it. Some of those present tried to dissuade him from making the attempt, and urged him to rely on the rope at first; but unfortunately he relied on his own ability, if not to cross, to at least catch the rope, and so made the attempt, going some distance up the stream to make the start. He plunged in and floated rapidly down, but as he made no outcry, spectators were not alarmed, as they supposed he would catch the rope when it was reached. As he was swept down, he made an effort to seize the rope, but missed it, and then he called for help, and sank in the muddy water. He was seen twice afterward, when he sank to rise no more. The spectators were at first not alarmed, but soon the wildest confusion and excitement prevailed, so that no one seemed in a condition to render assistance. Several efforts were made to help him, but without avail. The search was continued during the day, but the body was not discovered until the 2d, and was not buried until the 5th. His untimely death caused a profound sensation throughout the county, and created universal grief, as he was an accomplished gentleman and a competent and faithful officer."

Port Mitchell had been platted before the county seat was established there. The proprietors were Samuel Hanna and William F. Engle, who had caused the town to be laid out in May, 1838. It was situated on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 35, and the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 36. About thirty blocks of eight lots each were laid out, one of which was designed for a public square, and an open place, called "Market Space," was provided. Prior to this time, however, the Henshaws had built their mills, and two or more cabins had been erected, that of the Henshaws being on the west side of the river. Hanna and Engle opened a store about 1837, or perhaps earlier, but their goods did not exceed \$600 in value, though they were afterward doubled. The growth of the village was at first slow, but in 1844, when it became known that the county seat was to be located there, a grand rush was made—lots went off like hot cakes in the morning; real estate doubled and even tripled in value; artisans and business men of all kinds put in an appearance; industries and pursuits multiplied; county officials flocked in, armed with voluminous volumes; lawyers and doctors began their solicitations, and Port Mitchell received what is known at the present day as a "big boom." The population ran up to a higher figure than it had at Augusta, but the property-holders of the latter place were filled with wrath and bitterness, and angry mutterings were heard here and there. J. B. White became the first Postmaster. The mills and canal had given origin to the town, and just before the county seat was established there, the population was probably about fifty. The proprietors donated several lots for schoolhouses and churches, and also contracted to furnish stipulated amounts toward the erection of public buildings. A court house was erected, as was also a building for



county offices. All efforts, however, failed to render the location of the county seat at Port Mitchell satisfactory to a majority of the citizens of the county, and from the start efforts were made to have it re-located at the Center and at other points, ten or twelve in number. The citizens at Port Mitchell bitterly resisted this, and sought to turn the tide of public preference to their village by sundry proposed deeds of charity, but their desires were everywhere met with stubborn opposition. At last, in 1847, the removal was made to Albion, where it has since remained. That event sounded the death-knell of Port Mitchell, although the town, like a certain domestic animal, seemed possessed of nine lives, and refused to yield up the ghost for a long time, and even yet shows a few feeble signs of vitality. After the county seat was removed, the county officers, lawyers, etc., went away in a body, and from that onward the gradual decay of the village continued. Capital sought investment elsewhere, and, although the mills continued in operation, the citizens one by one departed for more promising fields.

The first schoolhouse in the township was a rough log structure erected on Section 29, about the year 1840, by David Anderson, Vincent Lane, Joseph Bradford, John Williams, Elisha Blackman, James Gray, Mr. Morris and several others, who lived in the neighborhood, and had children growing up without an education. These men were all early settlers, and, although considerable talk had been indulged in, no movement looking to the erection of the desired schoolhouse was begun until the above-named year. The men at an appointed day gathered together with axes, teams, etc., and when night appeared to end their work, lo! the first schoolhouse in York was an existing reality. It is said that James McMullen was the first teacher, although this is disputed. They soon had good schools at this old house, as the men in the vicinity were prominent and sensible, and took interest and pride in the advancement of their children. It is said that the first or the second teacher was barred out by the boys on Christmas, and that after a short armistice he signed the desired articles of "treat-y." Apples and doughnuts ended the affair amicably, without blows or bloodshed. On occasions of this character, backwoods boys were illustrious arbitrators, and could soon bring all ordinary teachers to satisfactory terms; but sometimes they met a Tartar, who replied, when asked to treat, as an early one did in York, "I'll see you in hell farther than a pigeon can fly before I'll treat." Even in this case the boys were victorious, as the teacher was dismissed by the Directors. Schools were late in starting up, not because they were not wanted, but because there was nothing with which to pay the teacher, save what was subscribed by those having children to send. The giant Poverty stood in the way. Section 16 of York sold at \$1.25 per acre. One eighty was sold at \$2 per acre, and one quarter-section for \$8 per acre. This was purchased by men at Rochester who were engaged in the manufacture of bar-iron, as the land had on it (and still has) valuable beds of bog-iron ore. These various sales replenished the empty coffers of the

township school fund, and immediately thereafter schools sprang into existence, like mushrooms from a hot-bed. School was taught at Port Mitchell as early as 1840, and some think earlier. A small log school building was built on the west side, which, after being used about two years, was replaced by one which had been used as a storeroom. After the county seat was removed to Albion, the school which had begun at Port Mitchell was continued in a schoolhouse built farther west. Good schools are reported to have been held in the village, although but little information can be learned regarding them. At the time the county seat was located there, as high as \$15 was paid per month for teaching, which, at that day, was considered a large price. Those who were interested in the early schools at Port Mitchell were the Frinks, Grays, Smiths, Engles, Bartleys and others who had children to send. Lawyer Slack's office was used for school purposes. No particular funds were required to erect one of the early schoolhouses; but it did require sharp axes, strong arms, teams, perhaps, and logs. The trouble came when the teacher was to be paid. A \$5 bill represented the same value then as five times that amount does now, and more, because exchanges were effected in the woods without money from necessity. Those who brought in money were obliged to pay it out immediately for this thing and that, and having nothing to sell that would bring money in return, whole neighborhoods were left without cash, and hence the settlers were required to adopt a system of exchange, or, at least, seek some other medium than ordinary money. Notes were made payable in so much corn, potatoes, wheat, etc., due at stated periods. This, of course, often led to great hardships. The settler who had considerable money was fortunate indeed, and usually left to his heirs a large and valuable landed property.

Capt. Archibald Frink is said to have taught the neighbors' children in his own house. One corner of the room was provided with a few rough seats and desks, and here a few tow-headed pioneer children first learned their letters. In the fall of 1843, Miss Harriet Allen taught a term of school in a small log building, a short distance south of John Bowman's present residence. The building was a deserted log dwelling, and was owned by Bowman, through whose endeavors the school was taught. Each scholar was charged 10 cents per week, and Mr. Bowman furnished the house, wood and boarded the teacher. The subscription charged was sufficient to pay the teacher, while Mr. Bowman was out fuel (a trifle), labor (more than a trifle), house rent (alas! alas!) and the teacher's board. But the one term was taught here. Miss Allen was an excellent teacher of small children, but here her mastery of the art failed. Her knowledge in general was extremely limited, though undoubtedly the children regarded her as an oracle.

"And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,  
That one small head could carry all she knew."

Her services were dispensed with at the conclusion of her first term. She announced a spelling school for a given evening; but afterward, hearing that a

number of rough young men were intending to come from Port Mitchell to spoil the occasion, she asked Mr. Bowman to be present to keep order. The occasion came, and Mr. Bowman was early on the scene, prepared for the worst. At a late hour, one of the young men appeared in the room and asked if any one present had seen his horses. It appeared that the boys, with mischief in their eyes, had started, with a team and bob-sled, for the spelling-school; but, being full of "corn juice," the horses ran away with them, tore the bob-sled into fragments and scattered the inebriated youth along the road in the snow, a fit judgment for their wicked intention. That proved an effectual damper on their spirit. The schoolhouse at Mr. Bowman's was not built until about the year 1850, as the children could be sent to either Port Mitchell or Augusta. A schoolhouse was erected in the Basset District about the same time, and one of the early teachers was Daniel Love, of Albion.

The first term of school taught in Augusta was begun on the first Monday in January, 1841, in a building that was afterward used as an office by Wesley White, whose death is recorded in this chapter. The teacher was Miss Aurelia Andrews, now Mrs. Daniel Love, of Albion. The term was for the period of three months, the teacher receiving her board and \$1.25 per week for her services. She taught four terms in succession and averaged about twenty-five scholars during the whole time. One term was taught in the wing of the old jail and another in a vacant log building in the village. Daniel Love succeeded her as teacher of the public schools of Augusta, and taught three terms in succession, receiving as pay his board and \$12 per month. Children came to him from two or more miles around, and the average enrollment for the three terms was not far from thirty. The four terms taught by Miss Andrews and the three taught by Mr. Love were the only ones ever taught in the village.

No churches have been built in the township. The Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and others had early organizations, and met in private dwellings and schoolhouses; but they did not flourish, and the members soon scattered, joining stronger societies in neighboring townships. Many of the citizens yet attend church in Albion and elsewhere. The sect known as the Church of God had an early organization at the residence of John Bowman, where it continued to assemble for worship for a number of years. Notwithstanding the absence of churches, the citizens are moral and many are religious, worshipping God, as Roger Williams directed, "after the dictates of their own conscience."

## CHAPTER XVII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

GREEN TOWNSHIP—EARLY EVENTS—SETTLEMENT AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH—CUSTOMS OF THE PIONEERS—DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES—STORES AND MILLS—INTERESTING INCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH EARLY SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

AMONG the earliest settlers in Green were the following: Samuel Gray, George Benner, Benjamin Macemore, Jacob Eyman, William E. Bowen, David Gray, Jacob Lindsey, Oliver McWilliams, William McDaniel, Robert Gaff, David Boner, John Allen, Noah Blue, George Brown, Peter Coil, David Crimmins, John Carothers, Anson Herandean, Thomas Kiger, John Lindsey, Hiram Lindsey, John Olinger, George Ott, John Ramer, John Richard, Daniel Ragan, Solomon Sanford, Lyman B. Whelan, Oliver Strong, William Widup, Thomas Weeks, David A. Kester, Mr. Krewson, Adam Dingman, William Caswell, Chancey Walkley and Christian Kinsey. As nearly as can be learned, a man named Krewson was the first settler in Green. He was a tall, strong man, and squatted in the southwestern part in 1833 or earlier. He built a small log cabin (probably assisted by the Indians), in which were domiciled his wife and two or more children. His wife was almost as gaunt and strong as her husband, possessing a stentorian voice that was utterly destitute of melody. If reports are correct, it could be heard for miles through the woods, thundering commands to her husband and the children, and interspersing all with a volley of oaths, without which language, in her case, was impossible. This cabin was situated about fifteen rods north of the present residence of Hiram Lindsey, and was occupied by Krewson until 1834, or perhaps 1835, when the land upon which he had located and made improvements was entered at Fort Wayne by Samuel Gray, who immediately came on to take possession. Krewson was obliged to leave, which he did, going no one knew whither. Gray took possession of his cabin and derived some little advantage from the improvements that had been made. Here Gray continued to reside until 1839, when he sold the property to Jacob Lindsey, who, with his family, took immediate possession. Mr. Lindsey also purchased of Gray a tract of land lying east of the Krewson property; but it afterward appeared that this transfer was unlawfully made, as Gray did not own the land, not having yet entered it at Fort Wayne. He had represented to Lindsey that he owned the land, and offered to part with it for an amount much greater than was necessary to enter it at the land office. The truth was unknown to Lindsey until the consideration had passed, and then it was too late to correct the fraud and Mr. Lindsey kept the land. It is stated that Mr. Gray was engaged in several transactions of this



character, and thereby unlawfully made considerable money. Soon after this event, Mr. Lindsey was taken sick, and a pioneer doctor was called (his name is omitted for good reasons); but the patient continued to get no better, steadily growing worse, until at last, under distressing and suspicious circumstances, he died, leaving his wife and a large family of almost helpless children to live on as best they could without him. To make matters worse for this unfortunate family, the eldest son, a lad about sixteen years of age, was drowned in Lindsey Lake, and the care of the family fell upon the mother and Hiram, a son some thirteen years of age. Hiram Lindsey and the other members of his father's family have been satisfied, since the untimely death of their husband and father, that he was poisoned by the doctor, who was probably paid for the dark deed by one who expected to profit thereby. The truth will probably ever be shrouded in mystery.

In 1835, Jacob Eyman and Benjamin Macemore appeared in the township, the former locating in the northern part on land which he entered the following year, and the latter some distance south. David Boner came in 1838, and settled where his son now resides. William E. Bowen came in 1837, and George Benner, Christian Kinsey, William Caswell and perhaps others the same year. William McDaniel arrived in 1838, as did also Robert Gaff and three or four others. Those who were present at the first township election say that there were not to exceed fifteen persons present. The County Commissioners appointed David Boner Inspector, and ordered an election of officers at his log cabin, probably in March, 1839. Although several settlers yet living in the township were present at that election, they cannot recollect who were elected to all the various offices. Benjamin Macemore was appointed one of the Clerks of Election, and, it is also stated, was elected Township Clerk. William Caswell, a squatter, was elected Justice of the Peace by the vote of the canal-men. The Constable was also elected by the canal-men, but his name has also slipped the recollection.

The woods in Green, when the first settlers came in, like the remainder of Noble County, were filled with deer, bears, wolves and other wild beasts. Many of the pioneers had come from well-settled localities in the East, and were not familiar with the arts of the hunter. Others were just the reverse, and could bring down, off-hand, at long distances, any game desired. It is related that one morning William Bowen went out to shoot a wild turkey for breakfast. He began calling in imitation of the turkey, and soon received an answer. He crept cautiously forward, with his rifle ready, calling occasionally and receiving an answer, by which he guided his steps; and, when within a short distance of where the turkey must be, he suddenly heard a new answer off to one side, whereupon he silently moved in that direction, but, when within a few rods of the place, he was startled by the loud report of a rifle within a few feet of him, and a moment later an Indian came, laughing, toward him, holding out the identical turkey which had answered his call. The Indian thought it a big

joke, and laughed heartily at having outwitted the white man, and thereby killed the turkey the latter was after. The Indian, of course, kept the turkey, and Mr. Bowen was obliged to hunt farther for his breakfast. On Mr. Bowen's land, on the shore of that beautiful sheet of water—Bowen, or Indian, Lake—was an Indian village of twenty or thirty bark wigwams. A number of these were standing where the old orchard is, and a short distance south, just across the road, Mr. Bowen, after a number of years, unearthed the decaying skeleton of an Indian brave. Within a few feet of this spot, he had buried a little daughter that had died soon after coming to the township. The Indians remained encamped in the vicinity for several years, and then departed westward toward the setting sun, and their faces have been forgotten.

One of the best hunters ever in the township was William McDaniel, who was considered by all as a "dead shot." His rifle carried the largest ball, but one, in the township, and when it spoke in his hands something came down in death. He went one day to an early election, and upon his arrival discovered that those who had appeared before him had been shooting at a mark—a nail-head as far off as it could be seen. No one had hit the mark. Mr. Gaff, who had come with Mr. McDaniel, immediately offered to bet the whisky for the crowd that the latter could beat at the first shot, off-hand, the best shot that had yet been made. He was immediately taken up, and McDaniel was called out. The rifle was raised and fired, and upon examination it was found that the leaden bullet had split itself on the nail-head. The whisky was drunk, but not at Mr. Gaff's expense. One day in early autumn, McDaniel went out to cut corn, taking his rifle with him. As he reached the spot where he intended to begin work, he saw a dark object moving between the rows at some little distance, and at first surmised that cattle were in his field. But a moment later he was undeceived, for he saw an average-sized bear pass quickly from the corn into a cluster of weeds that grew by the fence. McDaniel dropped the corn-cutter and started on the run, expecting to head the bear off and get a shot. This he did; but in running the priming of his gun had fallen out, and the rifle did not go off, although the bear did as fast as its legs could carry it. McDaniel, however, got a long shot at it as it was disappearing, but without effect, except to hasten the movements of the bear. The hounds were unloosed, as were also those of Mr. Gaff, who lived near by, and soon the woods were filled with their discordant howls, as they rapidly pursued the retreating bear. All the remainder of that day and far into the succeeding night the baying of the hounds could be heard, growing fainter and fainter, until at last they entirely ceased. One by one the hounds returned, and after a few days, it was discovered that they had followed the bear about twelve miles east, where it had gone into a miry swamp, and being unable to get out on account of its exhausted condition, or some other reason, had perished in the mud and water. It was found, and proved to be very fat, which accounts for its exhausted condition and death.



*H. C. Stanley*

GREEN TP.





In 1855, an event occurred which was bitterly lamented. On Saturday, the 16th of June, two men—William Applegate and Franklin Weirich—were engaged in digging a well for George Shambaugh. They had been up for dinner, and it came Applegate's turn to descend into the well and dig. He descended, and a moment later, when Weirich looked down, Applegate was seen lying at the bottom. Weirich called out immediately to be let down to the assistance of his friend, which was hurriedly done; but as soon as he reached the bottom, he gasped for breath and called to be pulled up. He was so under the influence of the poisonous atmosphere that, when about half-way up, he fell back to the bottom, breaking his neck. Great excitement prevailed, but after a little time both men were drawn up by means of hooks, though they could not be resuscitated, as both were stone dead. Great was the sorrow of the friends of the dead men. Weirich left a wife and a family of small children, who saw great suffering after their natural protector was taken from them so unexpectedly. A few years later than this, Samuel and Jacob Kester one day turned up an old stump, and under it found nearly a half-bushel of copper coin that was unstamped, but which had probably been prepared to be subsequently galvanized with silver, and stamped as half-dollars. How the coin came there is not altogether a mystery, as about that time there lived in the neighborhood several men who minted a large quantity of counterfeit money. There were also found, in a swamp not far from the same place, a buggy, which had been taken in there and hid, and a gun barrel, covered with rust and mud. Foul play was suspected, but no skeleton has been discovered to lead to the conclusion of murder.

Many of the early settlers were Irishmen, who had worked in the township on the "canawl" in 1837 and 1838. They probably thought the country would make a pleasant home, and as soon as the "canawl" scheme had collapsed, they went to farming for want of a more suitable occupation. This was a great descent in their fortune, and they remembered with sorrow the old times, the old songs they used to sing, and the faces of companions they had seen for the last time.

"I entered with them for a season  
 My monthly pay for to draw,  
 And being in very good humor,  
 I often sang 'Erin go Braugh';  
 Our provisions they were very plenty,  
 To complain I'd no reason at all,  
 I had money in every pocket,  
 While working upon the canawl.  
 So fare you well father and mother,  
 Success to Old Ireland, too;  
 Fare you well sister and brother,  
 So kindly I'll bid you adieu.

"At night when at rest from our labors  
 We're sure that our rent is all paid,  
 We lay down our pick and our shovel,  
 Likewise our ax and our spade;

We all sit joking together,  
There is nothing our minds to enthrall,  
If happiness be in this wide world,  
I'm sure it is on the canawl."

The eastern part of the township was mostly selected by the "canalers," and the thrift soon displayed there proved that they had not forgotten how to work. All they now have to remind them of old times are the old songs and mementoes, and the rapidly disappearing remains of the old canal.

Chancey C. Walkley erected a saw-mill at an early day, locating it about two and a half miles south of Green Center, on "Blue Grass Creek," or Blue River, as it is now called. The building was quite large, and soon after its erection one apartment was provided with a rude set of buhrs and the necessary machinery for grinding grain, or "cracking corn," as it is more generally termed. A dam had been built across the stream, and the water which propelled the strong under-shot wheel was conducted to the mill by means of a race. Both departments of the mill were a great accommodation to the neighborhood, and were quite well patronized for some eight or ten years, at the expiration of which time both were abandoned. This was the only "grist-mill" ever in the township, and should be especially remembered. About twenty-five years ago, Solomon G. Swigart erected a saw-mill about a mile southwest of the Center, putting in steam and a muley saw. After operating successfully for many years, it was destroyed by fire; but was afterward rebuilt by its present owner, Mr. Levi Diller, who has improved it so it is now one of the best mills in the county, although it at present is in need of repairs. Mr. Diller saws from 6,000 to 10,000 feet per day, and is shipping considerable native lumber by car to Chicago and other cities. About four years ago, the springs in the vicinity failed of water, and Mr. Diller sank a shaft within his mill. At the depth of about twelve feet, water was struck, which poured up through the opening, and shot up in the air to the height of about ten feet. The stream of water is about two inches thick, and flows rapidly, and the water is hard and excellent. The well alone, on a large stock farm, would, in time, be worth thousands of dollars. Mr. Diller thinks the water contains magnesia.

A few efforts at keeping store have been made in the township. In 1844, Mason M. Merriam had a small store, where he sold groceries, and where "the drink which biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder" could be obtained for the necessary "lucre." The terms of his license may be seen on the records at Albion. Hiram Lindsey, many years ago, opened a small store of dry goods, groceries, notions, etc., on his farm, and for a number of years saved the neighbors journeys to more distant localities for these articles. The stock was closed out but a few years ago. Christian Kinsey kept tavern quite early on the Goshen road, and it may be said that the settlers, in general, in early times, were accustomed to keep travelers. This was rendered necessary by the wants of immigrants, who had just arrived, and were without shelter. The

old settlers tell us that the latch-string was always left out for everybody, and that all conventionality in respect to caste was utterly avoided. All were common and like brothers, with that free, easy, off-hand way that is admired even at this day. About nine years ago, O. H. Andrews opened a store at the Center. A small stock of a general assortment has been kept by a change of owners since. Among the merchants have been William Hale, Mr. Ishwood and Edward Matthews. Followers of Esculapius have plied their craft at the Center. A store has also been kept on the eastern line of the township. Silas Moore has been Postmaster at the Center for many years.

Prior to 1842, no school had been taught in the township. In 1841, the children in the southwestern part were sent to school on the Goshen road in Noble township. A small log schoolhouse had been built there, and David Sanford had been employed to teach the children, who came to him from several miles around. The house had been built for a dwelling by Jacob Marker, but after being vacated it was provided with seats and desks and transformed into a schoolhouse. It was located on John Skinner's farm. The first school building in Green was built in about 1843 by the whole neighborhood, and located about half a mile north of the present residence of George Ott. It was a small log structure about 18x22 feet, with a large mud-and-stick chimney on the outside that served as a vent to an enormous fire-place within. Desks and seats were made from rude plank obtained at one of the early saw-mills, either in Green or in neighboring townships, and two small windows supplied all the light that enabled the children to decipher their A B C's. Among the men who helped build this house were Messrs. Gaff, Ott, Gray, Boner, McDaniel and others. They all assembled one morning with axes, teams, etc., and at night the first schoolhouse in Green had been erected. The floor was made of punch-eons, but the door and desks were made of sawed lumber. William Sanford, a good scholar, was employed to teach the school, which he did, giving excellent satisfaction. He is said to have applied the term "Oxford School" to the building where he was known as master, but whether derisively or not is uncertain. Some say that but one term was taught here, while others think that school was held about two years. The facts are uncertain. The old building rotted down there, and some of the decaying logs may yet be seen by the curious.

In about the year 1846, another schoolhouse was erected, and located in the southwestern part on the land of William McDaniel. It was a small frame building, and considerable trouble was experienced in getting school started there, owing to dissatisfaction regarding the location of the house, the wages to be paid the teacher, and the lot upon which the house stood, which had been donated by Mr. McDaniel. Angry disputes were freely indulged in by opposing parties, and for many years a lingering bitterness existed in the neighborhood. The first teacher had an easy school, and everything went off smoothly. The second teacher was John Miller, of Whitley County, who possessed a great

deal of determination and force of character. His school began and progressed nicely until Christmas, there being a half-dozen or more young men in attendance, among whom were the Gaff boys and William Hughes. At Christmas, the boys resolved that they must have a treat from the teacher, and, therefore, early on that morning, before that functionary had arrived, they took possession of the house, and when the teacher put in an appearance, barred the door against him, at the same time handing him a paper from the window upon which was written their demand. Mr. Miller quietly read the document, and positively refused to accede to their request, at the same time demanding that the door be immediately opened; but this the boys as positively refused to do until the teacher came to terms. This fired the blood of the latter, and he declared that he would break down the door if it was not opened. The boys told him to do his worst, and threatened to throttle him if he forced his way into the room. After trying all sorts of maneuvers for several hours to get in, without success, the teacher went to the Directors, and informed them what had transpired, and asked their interference that the school might go on. The Directors thought, and told him so, that inasmuch as the procedure of the boys was quite customary, and their demand reasonable, the best thing for him to do was to treat, as he would thereby gain their good will, and would be liked all the better by the scholars; but the teacher had made up his mind to do no such thing, and told the Directors so, whereupon he was informed that he must fight the battle out alone. The teacher returned to the schoolhouse, where he remained the balance of the day and far into the night, waiting and watching for an opportunity to enter; but the boys were determined and vigilant, and the teacher was foiled. At last, the latter retired to his home. When the boys were sure he had gone, they immediately held a council of war. It was voted unanimously to either bring the teacher to terms, or prevent him from continuing the school. They therefore resolved to leave a few of the strongest to hold the fort until morning, so that in case the teacher returned, he could not gain entrance to the room. This was done, and the other scholars retired to their homes for the night. About daylight the next morning, the teacher put in his appearance, expecting, of course, that the building had been vacated; but such was not the case, as he soon learned to his discomfort. He made desperate efforts to get in, but the boys stubbornly and successfully resisted every movement. The foiled master then decided to wear the boys out, hoping by that means to get possession. He remained in that vicinity, occasionally making movements as if he intended to burst in the door, or as if he meditated an attack upon the fort from an unexpected quarter. At night he again went home, but the boys put out their sentinels, and left the schoolhouse ably commanded. Morning came and with it came the gritty pedagogue; but the boys were found strongly intrenched, and the position proved impregnable, though the enemy still lingered in the vicinity; but the besieged were becoming desperate, and, at last, they resolved upon a sally, hoping to capture the enemy alive.



As the latter was standing in an exposed quarter, the door was suddenly thrown open, and he found himself in the hands of his assailants ere he could offer successful resistance. He was then informed that unless he capitulated and agreed to forthwith treat, he would be taken to the nearest lake and ducked repeatedly in the icy water; but he defiantly refused, and the boys, with him in their custody, started for southern Lindsey Lake with the avowed intention of dipping him into the water. The lake was reached, a large hole was chopped in the ice, and the teacher was given a last chance; but he spurned their offers with contempt, and the boys prepared to plunge him in. Their intention, however, was not to carry the matter so far. They desired to scare him into a compliance with their demands, but the teacher had resolved *never* to yield, and after he had been shaken over the yawning hole for a time, he was released and permitted to go. By this time, the whole neighborhood was so roused up, and their sympathies were so unanimously with the boys, that the Directors thought best to discharge the teacher, which was accordingly done to his satisfaction as well as theirs.

The old house that had withstood the above described siege was used some twelve or fifteen years, and was then sold to Mr. McDaniel for \$7.50, and moved to his residence, where it was used as an outhouse until it was destroyed by fire a few years ago. The present schoolhouse (a frame structure) in that neighborhood was built at the time the old one was sold.

A log schoolhouse was built in the northern part, near Mr. Bowen's, about the year 1845. This house stood well toward the eastern part of the district, and, after being used some ten years, was replaced by a small frame, 24x26 feet, located where the present house stands. In 1873, William Davis, a skillful carpenter and an excellent man living near, was employed to construct the present fine brick country school building, which was done at a cost of \$1,036. Mr. Davis has built many of the schoolhouses throughout the county, as well as dwellings.

A schoolhouse was built in District 4 about the year 1849, and Jesse Noe was employed in the capacity of teacher. Another house has been built there since, and is known as the "Green Schoolhouse." A log school building was erected at the Center about 1848, and after being used a few years, a frame building, constructed in the shape of an octagon, and known as the "Round Schoolhouse," was built to take its place. This building served its day, as it soon fell apart, and the present house, a frame, was erected in its place.

The second schoolhouse in the northwestern corner, while it was used for educational purposes, was frequently occupied by a small society of Methodists that assembled there to worship. This was not very satisfactory to those who were not members of the society, as the latter more or less injured the building without any return, but nothing was done in opposition. At last, when the new schoolhouse was built, John Favinger purchased the old building, which thereafter was used exclusively as a church, until a short time ago, when it was

deserted by the society, which dissolved, and the old house was transferred to Jefferson Township, where its lot of usefulness is very much lowered by its conversion into a barn. Among the membership of this society were the families of Jacob Macemore, Christian River, William Steel and others. The ministers in charge have been Revs. Comstock, Miller, Graham and Smith.

The Free-Will Baptists erected a hewed log church near the schoolhouse in District No. 4 about the year 1854. The society had been organized previously by Rev. Jesse Noe, and had met in the old schoolhouse; but through his influence the church was built, though still the society was feeble and financially poor. Mr. Noe was retained as minister by the society after his terms of school in the old schoolhouse were ended, but he began his work without salary save such as was subscribed and willingly given from time to time by the members. This amount was exceedingly small, and soon Mr. Noe sadly needed a new suit of clothes. This he publicly announced, and his wants were met with a ready and satisfactory response from the members. The old church was deserted long ago. During the winter of 1863-64, Elder C. C. Sands, of the Church of God, held a protracted meeting in the schoolhouse at Green Center. A great deal of interest was aroused, and many converted. Henry A. Cory, one of the converts, immediately began to preach, and during the following winter he, assisted by Elder Sands, held well-attended meetings in the schoolhouse, where the church now stands. Here it was that a membership of thirty-six was secured. In 1879, when the schoolhouse was burned down, the thought of building a church was considered. William Grawcock, an excellent man, agreed to give the necessary land and brick, and the necessary subscription was secured after energetic work. The Building Committee were J. M. Applegate, Chairman; John Harter, Treasurer; William Grawcock, Secretary; and George Fulk and Benjamin Crider. Mr. Grawcock was made chairman at the death of Mr. Applegate. George Geiger and John Parker were afterward members of the committee. The brick church was built last year at a cost of \$2,400, the most of which was raised by subscription. They have a fine Sunday school, one of the largest in the county, the average attendance being seventy-five. Every three weeks the Rev. Mr. Oliver preaches to the society, which is in a prosperous condition.



George Ott

GREEN TP.





## CHAPTER XVIII.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

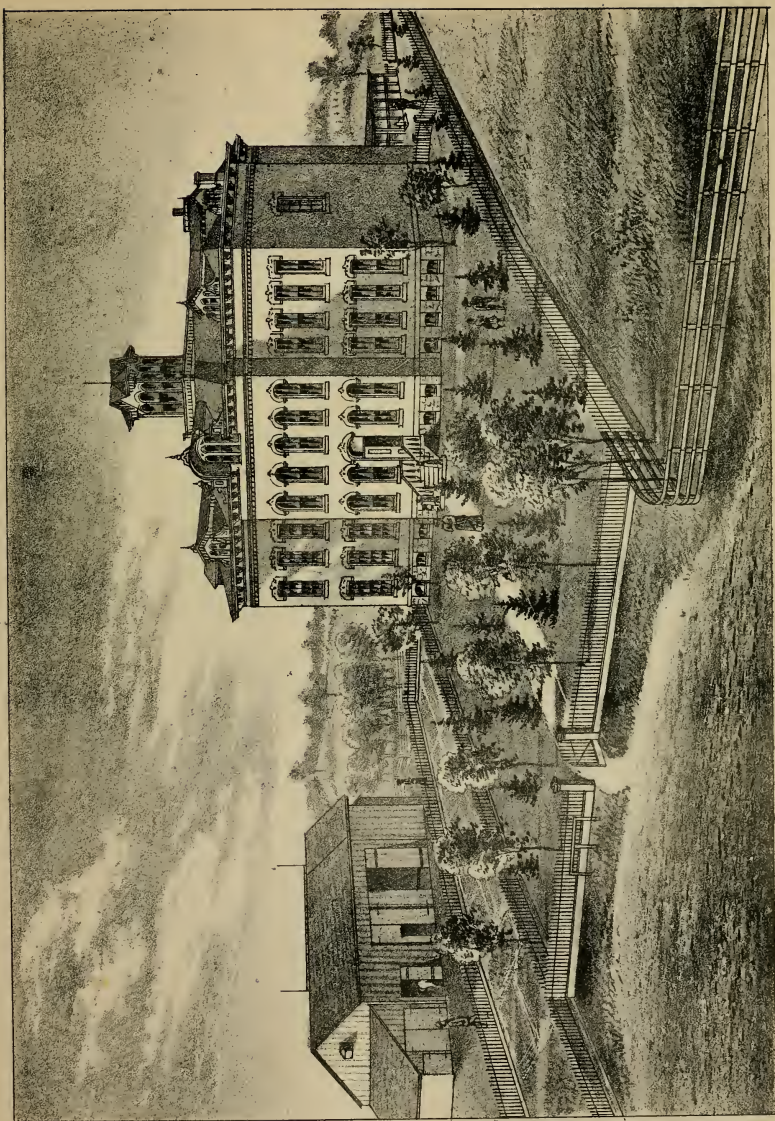
SWAN TOWNSHIP—INCIDENTS OF PIONEER LIFE—MR. TIMMERMAN AND THE BEAR—EARLY HUNTING EXPLOITS—THE FIRST SAW-MILL—SWAN AND LA OTTO—THE FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE—THE EARLY CIRCUIT RIDERS—RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

DURING the early autumn of 1833, George Rickard, a native of the Empire State, appeared in what is now Swan Township, where he selected a farm of eighty acres in the northern part, and began the difficult process of preparing his land for cultivation. This man, who is yet well remembered, was the first permanent settler in the township. He built a small beech-log cabin on his small farm, in which were domiciled his wife and children. Travel, at that time, was considerable along the Lima road, and taverns were in great demand. This induced Mr. Rickard, notwithstanding his small cabin, to throw the doors open to the public. He placed for a sign a pair of very large buck horns, which circumstance gave rise to the name his house received from travelers—"The Buck-Horn Tavern." Of course whisky was kept for sale to those who imbibed.

Conrad Cramer came up the Maumee River early in June, 1834, by means of pirogues, pushing them along the shallow stream with long poles, placed one end on the bottom and the other against the shoulder. His family and a few household goods were thus brought up the river to Fort Wayne, and then transferred to Swan Township, where Mr. Cramer entered eighty acres of land adjoining that of Rickard. Mr. Cramer also came from York State (Jefferson County). The next settlers were probably James and Charles Shelner and Daniel Tousley, the three coming about the same time in 1834. Within the next two or three years, there came in Jonas and John Strous, Samuel Barkwell, Charles Salsbury, Mr. Flagg, Hiram King, Alexander Gifford, the Broughtons, Oliver and Stanberry Wright, Hiram Parker, three or four of the Fulks (who settled in the southwestern part), Oliver L. Perry and others. Immediately afterward, and prior to 1844, there came in among others Weston Ackley, J. L. Blowers, Hamilton Badger, John C. Billings, Conrad Bricker, Dexter Brooks, Russell Clapp, Samuel Carothers, Nicholas Cooper, M. P. Dickerson, F. Tilton, Samuel Frances, William Gregg, Samuel Huff, Henry Haskins, William Errickson, Charles Law, John Latta, Joseph Richards, Henry Timmerman, Aaron, Alva and Josiah Wood, James, Luther, Lewis and Erastus Warner, Jared and John Weeks, Edward and Lewis Walburn, and James Willetts.

After this the township was settled rapidly, and log cabins sprang into existence in all directions, almost like Aladdin's palace. Rollings and raisings

were every-day occurrences, and some of the old settlers state that for weeks at a time they were gone from home, assisting new settlers in getting a home and a start. Settlers usually brought an abundance of clothing with them, and a few necessary household goods, and perhaps a small quantity of money; so that the first thing to think of after the erection of the cabin, and possibly some rude stable in which to shelter the horses or cow or sheep or swine, was how to provide for the appetite. At first swine were scarce, but soon the woods were full of them, as they ran like wild animals without molestation, save as they were shot for pork. They were often very fierce and dangerous, the tusks of the males attaining a length of six or more inches. Armed with such weapons, an enraged *Sus scrofa* was a formidable enemy. A small clearing was made as soon as possible, upon which to raise potatoes, corn, pumpkins and wheat. The men found an abundance of hard labor in clearing and improving their land, and very often the services of the women were employed to accomplish the same result. Acres of heavy trees of the finest woods were leveled with the ground, and soon the fires, often continued far into the night, completed the process of denudation. Flax was raised, from which linen clothing of all sorts was rudely manufactured by the women. At a very early day it was noised abroad that a drove of sheep was to be driven along the Goshen road, and offered for sale here and there to the settlers. Jonas Strouse went over to Wolf Lake to buy a small flock, but found that he had missed the drove, and hearing that Joseph Adair, of Washington, had some to spare, he went over and bought eight, which, so far as known, were the first brought into Swan Township. The flock multiplied and did well, notwithstanding that every now and then one was killed by the wolves. Mr. Strouse says that on more than one occasion some of his sheep were killed at mid-day, near the house by large, fierce wolves. He set a steel trap for a big wolf that had proved very troublesome, and caught it, but the wolf dragged the trap into a neighboring swamp, where it was followed the next day by Mr. Strouse, who shot it, and afterward received as he said "\$5 for its sculp." People soon learned to make their own linen and woolen cloth, either each material by itself, or in the form of "linsey-woolsey," beautifully colored with leaves or bark from the woods. Deer were very numerous, and every old settler's recollection is filled with stories of them. Once in awhile a bear was seen or killed to relieve the monotony. At a very early day, the Indians started a bear in the northern part with their dogs, and having chased it to the vicinity of Cramer's Lake, succeeded in killing it, after it had knocked a few of their dogs higher than Gilderoy's kite. This occurred not far from the year 1837. In about the year 1838, a large bear came one night to Timmerman's cabin, and, being very hungry, seized an unfortunate swine, weighing some one hundred and fifty pounds, by the back of the neck, and dragged it off, despite its squeals and struggles, into the woods, where its mangled and half-consumed carcass was found the next morning by the irate owner. While the hog was being



NOBLE CO. INFIRMARY





dragged off, the family heard its piercing squeals, but were unable to effect a rescue, on account of the intense darkness and the boldness of the bear. The hog had been dragged into an almost impassable wind-fall, where it was found. Surmising that Mr. Bruin would return for another feast within the next night or two, Mr. Timmerman and a few others contrived a trap from a log about a foot in diameter, which was so arranged that when the bear approached the hog, the log must fall directly upon its back. The first night no bear appeared, but on the second it came, and, as expected, was pinned to the ground by the log. But the trappers had miscalculated, for upon reaching the spot the next morning it was found that the bear had scratched and clawed up the ground where the log lay, and had thrown the latter to one side, scattering the other contrivances of the trap in all directions. The trap had been so contrived that, when the log fell, the bear would be inclosed between two rows of sharp, wooden pins. These were found covered with the hair and blood of the bear. The animal, probably, after recovering from its shock had eaten heartily of the pork, and had taken its final departure, for it was not seen in the neighborhood afterward.

The Mongoquinong road had been laid out on an old Indian trail before the settlers appeared, and this proved a vast convenience, serving as a large artery to float the products raised in the township, and affording a comparatively easy communication with Fort Wayne, the great mart of all Northern Indiana. The earliest settlers located along this road, or near it, while those arriving later were compelled, as it were, to take back seats. Goods from stores were very high, and the settlers' pocket-books were either "full of emptiness," as a son of the Emerald Isle represented them, or they had been left in the East, being looked upon as a needless burden in the backwoods. The most of the settlers brought in a little money, but this was soon paid out for much-needed articles, and as the markets brought no return of money, the settlers were obliged to carry on commerce through a devised medium of exchanges. This soon created a cash price and a trade price, which were often widely apart, and sometimes wrought enduring hardships. Time slowly changed the tide of events for the better.

The first township election was held in 1837, at the residence of George Rickard, who had been appointed Inspector by the County Commissioners. There were present but eight or ten persons, and only six of them were entitled to vote. These six were George Rickard, Hiram Parker, Alexander Gifford, James Shelner, Charles Shelner and David Tousley. Jonas and John Strous were present, but were not entitled to vote, not having been a year in the township. Two or three officers were elected, but as no returns were made, the election remained invalid. The same is true of the election held in the spring of 1838, although John Fulk, who had been elected Road Supervisor, consented to serve, and did. At the election of 1839, which was held at the cabin of Mr. Badger, several officers were elected, the Justice of the Peace

being Jonas Strous. At this election, many of the "canalers" came over from Green and voted, regardless of law and right. Mr. Strous recollects trying many cases of assault and battery, brought before him by the "canalers." The first marriage in the township was contracted by Joseph Exler and Ann Cramer. This couple had considerable trouble before they were made man and wife. They at first went to Fort Wayne, but found they could not get united there, so they returned and went up north somewhere, and found a Squire, who tied them fast in Hymen's knot. The first death was that of the mother of Hiram Parker, her death occurring in 1837. A few of the neighbors made a rough coffin from puncheons and a few boards, in which the earthly remains of the kind old lady were placed, and all consigned to the grave.

The pioneers of Swan were at first compelled to go to Fort Wayne for flour and meal, although two "corn-crackers" were west of them, distant some eight or ten miles, one being at Port Mitchell and the other on the Goshen road, about two miles southeast of Wolf Lake. These were found very convenient in bad weather, when the roads were almost bottomless, for the settler would mount his horse and take a couple of bushels of corn or wheat to one of the above mills; but when the weather was good, Fort Wayne was the most desirable place to go for flour and meal. It was not long before saw-mills sprang into activity, as the settlers demanded native lumber for their buildings. An early water saw-mill was built near the center of the township, on Black Creek, by Mr. Mendenhall, which is said to have been the first mill of the kind in the township. About the same time, or perhaps a little later, Hiram King built another of the same kind in the northern part, on an outlet to Cramer's Lake. These were both water-mills, with up-and-down saws, flutter wheels, and were furnished with water from a dam by means of a race. Both were slow-running, yet in time they did good service, and assisted greatly in providing the township with buildings a step in advance of those made of rough logs. An early saw-mill was started by Mr. Bruce, but it did not survive longer than about a year. In about the year 1850, the Plank Road Company erected a fine steam saw-mill, near the village of Swan, but immediately sold it to Mr. Barnes, who contracted to saw large quantities of three-inch plank for the road. After a few years, the mill was purchased by Ephraim Cramer, who sold it a few years later to others. Since then, it has passed through several hands until the present owner, Samuel Broughton, obtained possession. It has been a good mill from the start, and under Mr. Broughton's management is doing well at present. These were the only early saw-mills. There was no early grist-mill.

In about the year 1844, Hiram King opened the first store at his residence in the northern part of the township. He kept a few groceries and notions, and perhaps a few yards of prints and calicoes. After a few years he was appointed Postmaster, although the office was not at his house, as he lived a

considerable distance from the State road. The office was at the residence of Mr. Clapp. Within a few years, Hiram Cramer purchased King's stock of goods, and began selling about a mile and a half east. He was soon joined in business by his brother Ephraim, who, after a short period, bought his brother's interest, and continued alone for a series of years. A year or two after King had secured the post office, Samuel Broughton, living where Swan now is, was appointed in his stead, but after a few years, Ephraim Cramer received the appointment as Uncle Sam's agent, and, with the exception of six months, has been Postmaster since—a period of over thirty years. A Mr. Ogden opened a country store quite early on the State road in the northern part; but after a few years he quit the mercantile pursuit for something more tangible and profitable.

In the month of July, 1870, Samuel Broughton, Orville Broughton and Franklin Hilkert secured the services of a surveyor, and laid out seventy-eight lots between the railroad and plank road, and named the village thus begun Swan, after the township. The railroad was a new enterprise, and the proprietors of the village saw a chance to improve their worldly affairs by the sale of village lots. But Swan was not destined to fly very high during the first stages of its existence at least, and it is not impossible that it may be called upon before long to sing the song of the dying Swan. That is sad and touching. But the village had an origin much earlier than the laying-out of the lots, and the platting and recording of the same. Ephraim Cramer, who had been selling goods in the northern part, appeared upon the site of what is now Swan in about the year 1856, being induced to change his location from the fact that the old plank road saw-mill at the place was quite extensively frequented by workmen and settlers, and the location promised a harvest to the merchant who dared open there with a stock of goods. A small frame building was erected on the lot south of the one occupied by Mr. Cramer at present, in which was placed a small stock of a general assortment of goods. Here Mr. Cramer continued to measure tape and calico behind the counter until 1861, when his store was burned to the ground, and a portion of the goods destroyed. Another frame building was erected three years later on the same lot, and this was occupied continuously until about four years ago, when, following the example set by a Scriptural character some thousands of years ago, he tore down his old building in order to build a greater. His present fine brick storeroom cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000, and affords relief to the general monotony of the village. The second store was opened in about 1872 by Robert Taylor, who soon afterward took as a partner Allen Willets, and thus the firm continued until about two years ago, when the goods were bought by Samuel Broughton, who shortly afterward sold to Jehu Bricker and William Worman, and the last two are yet in business with a general stock, including drugs. Daniel S. Simon sold goods for a short time in Swan.

Robert Taylor and Allen Willets built the grist-mill at Swan in 1874 at

a cost of about \$7,000. Two run of stone were placed in the mill, which immediately entered upon a season of great prosperity. This has continued unabated until the present, with an annual shipment of a considerable quantity of excellent flour. Mr. Cramer bought fifty car loads of grain of the harvest of 1871, and has continued at the same business since, shipping by rail to the best markets. There is a small warehouse at the depot. A stave factory for oil barrels was built at the village, soon after the completion of the railroad, by F. S. Surick, of Fort Wayne, who, during the short time at the business, manufactured over 200,000 staves. Mr. Cramer, who was induced to buy staves for the factory, paying for the same with money advanced by himself, and receiving in return checks on Mr. Surick, lost nearly a \$1,000, as the checks proved worthless when Mr. Surick failed in business. The building now stands vacant and lifeless, a memento of hopes that perished long ago. A few other minor industries have flourished at Swan, and when that is said the history is told.

La Otto did not have as early an origin as Swan, but it has made up that deficiency by increased activity. Standing, as it does, at the junction of two railroads, there is no reason why, with time, it may not become five times as large and prosperous as it is. Probably the first building in the village was a steam saw-mill, built during the winter of 1871-72 by David Simon, and operated until about 1873. In the spring of 1872, a blacksmith-shop was erected at the village by Martin Belger, into which John Miller and his family moved on the 5th of April of the same year. On the same day, Abraham Zern moved into a shoe-shop that had been built there a short time before. These two families were the first in the village. In the preceding October, David Vorhees, Martin Belger, David Simon, Solomon Simon and Jonathan Simon had laid out 101 lots at the junction of the two railroads, and had christened the village, thus begun, "Simonville." The railroad company did not admire this name, and soon began calling the station Grand Rapids Crossing. But this was cumbersome, and, in September, 1875, the following petition to change the name to La Otto (a name suggested by the Rev. B. F. Stultz) was presented to the County Commissioners; or, rather, the following is the Auditor's record of the proceedings of the board, who had duly considered the petition to change the name of the village, the petition having been signed by eighteen freeholders in the village and vicinity:

Now came the above-named citizens of Simonville, Noble County, Ind., to be heard upon their petition to change the name of said village; when it appearing to the satisfaction of the board that said petition herein filed with the County Auditor, praying that the name of Simonville be changed to that of La Otto, is genuine, and that good cause is shown for such change, and that the same has been duly signed by a large majority of the legal voters of said town from the testimony of Benjamin F. Stultz, a witness in the case, it is therefore ordered by the board that such change be made, and the name of Simonville be hereby changed to La Otto. It is further ordered, that three weeks' notice of such change be published in the *New Era*, a newspaper published in Noble County, Ind., that a certified copy of this order be made and recorded in the Recorder's office of said County, and that all the costs of this petition be paid by the petitioners.



Mr. Zern, immediately after his appearance in the village, began making and mending shoes, while Mr. Miller, who had been engaged in the cabinet business in the township since 1855, began the erection of his present planing-mill and bedstead factory, completing the same late in the summer of 1872, at a cost of over \$7,000. The manufacture of bedsteads did not begin until the following February, and as there was already a saw-mill in operation in the village, from which could be obtained the necessary quantity of sawed lumber for the planing-mill, Mr. Miller did not start his present saw-mill for some time after the one operated by Mr. Simon was discontinued in 1873. Since this time, the factory, with its attendant adjuncts, has been the industrial center of the village. It gives constant employment to from six to ten assistants, and has steadily increased in capacity until at present the gross annual earnings probably exceed \$5,000. Mr. Miller had previously carried on the cabinet manufacture about half a mile south of the village, his motor for operating the machinery being horse-power. He had also been Postmaster there for five years, the office being known as Simon's Corners. Kinzie & Bonbrake opened the first store in the village in about September, 1872, with some \$800 worth of dry goods and groceries, which were placed in a building that had been erected by Jonathan and Solomon Simon. Other merchants have been George W. Sowers, Mrs. Ford, Samuel Aker, Seymour Cole, Robert Taylor, Henry Holbrook, Manning Brothers, J. B. Ross, Wellington Martin, Zachariah Young, Mr. Cary, Mr. Hogue and others, some of whom were milliners, bakers, etc. Mr. Kinzie was appointed Postmaster in the autumn of 1872. He has been succeeded by Robert Taylor and the present official, Mr. Holbrook. The first physician, Dr. Lebker, was at the village but a few months. Since then there have been Drs. Strouse, Bowker, Ogle, Shepard, Ober, Cary and the present follower of Esculapius, Dr. Solomon. Andrew Durkus was the first Vulcan. Mr. Garrison burned brick at the village in 1873. David Simon did likewise in 1879, and in 1881 burned two kilns, besides a few thousand tile. Efforts have been made by various parties to open saloons at this temperate little village, but all have been stubbornly met by the united and earnest remonstrances of the citizens. It is the intention, if possible, and if earnest endeavor will succeed, to fight the direful appearance of liquor to the last ditch. The citizens are not trifling, as some apostle of Bacchus will probably learn to his sorrow. A few years ago, at a barn-raising in the village, David Whonsetler was struck by a falling beam and killed. Mr. Preston built a wagon-shop quite early. Mrs. Upton began entertaining the public in 1873. Several have followed the same occupation since, the present "mine host" being Thomas Ritchie. The village has a population of about seventy-five, and is destined to grow.

Some time during the winter of 1837, the Rev. Mr. Ball, of Fort Wayne, came to the cabin of John Strous and preached the first sermon in the township to a few of the earliest settlers who assembled there. A year later a log

schoolhouse was erected a short distance north of Swan, which was used as a church for a series of years, and until the first church was constructed in 1854. The old log schoolhouse was a rude affair, but it answered the purpose. After Ball's first sermon, he came to the neighborhood regularly, preaching usually at the cabins of the Shelnors; and, at last, in about the fall of 1838, formed a class of Methodists, and effected the permanent organization of the first religious society in the township, and one of the very first in the county. Among the members were the Shelnors, the Tousleys, the Cramers and others. The society continued to flourish in the old schoolhouse, which was about twenty-five feet square, and when the new church was built, in 1854, there was quite a respectable membership. The building was frame, and was about 32x45 feet. This house was used until 1880, when the present fine church was erected in Swan at a cost of about \$2,000. The Lutheran Church on the farm of Peter Bricker has been standing many years; but the society was really organized before its erection. Among the early members were Messrs. Warner, Miller, Worman, Amos, DeHoff, Bricker, and others. The Catholic Church on Section 29 was first built some twenty-five years ago, and was used continuously by the steadily growing congregation until three years ago, when the present fine building was erected. This is probably the finest church in the township. The present pastor or priest in charge is Rev. F. X. Ege. The Presbyterian Church on Section 8 has been standing many years, as has also the one on Section 2, on the plank road. Both are in a fairly prosperous condition, especially the one on the plank road. The English Lutheran Church at La Otto was built in 1875, and cost \$1,530. It is about 30x45 feet. The church was built largely by outside subscription, and B. F. Stultz was chosen first minister. Among the early members were Martin Belger and wife, John Miller and wife, Jacob Simon and wife, Joseph Simon, and Eva Bricker. The society was first organized in April, 1875, and meetings were held in the Preston Wagon-Shop Hall and in residences, until finally, as stated above, the church was built. The Sunday school was first started in the hall. The present membership is about twenty-five. The Wesleyan Methodist Church at La Otto was first built half a mile north of the village in 1859; but about six years ago was moved to its present location. This society was first organized in about 1850, and, at that time, met to worship in a schoolhouse in De Kalb County. Among the members are individuals from the following families: Hogue, Parish, Holbrook, Simon, Reed, Potter, Atwell, Sowers, Ogden, Smith, Correll, Bassett, Warner, and others. The United Brethren Church, in the southwest corner, was built during the last war, and the society though small is doing well. No township in the county is better supplied with facilities for church going than Swan. The citizens are temperate and moral.

As above stated, the first schoolhouse was built in 1838. Prior to that, in 1837, Miss Eliza Parker, a cousin to Hiram Parker, taught a term of six months in a building that had been built and deserted by Samuel Barkwell.

She received \$28 for the term, and taught the children of Conrad Cramer, Mr. Timmerman, John Strous and others, this term being the first in the township. The first teacher in the old schoolhouse, which was built near by, was Cordelia Broughton. This lady taught for three consecutive summers in the same house, and was then succeeded by her sister, Lucy Broughton. Miss Jane Bailey was the next teacher in this house. She was a wee woman, but had enough courage for a half-dozen of ordinary females. A young man who went to her school was one day whittling a stick unconcernedly in school, when he was approached by his teacher, who took the knife away from him, and informed the culprit that if he was again caught in such mischief, he would get his jacket tanned. This old schoolhouse was used until 1855, when a frame was erected, which was used until six years ago, at which time the present fine, two-storied brick schoolhouse was constructed. The school is graded, and is one of the best in the county. The second schoolhouse was built about 1842, near Hiram King's residence; and the third was erected a year or two later on Section 7. The next was in the Fulk neighborhood in the southwestern part. In 1872, B. F. Simon taught a select school in La Otto, in what was known as Simon's Hall. School was taught there until 1876, when the present fine brick schoolhouse was built at a cost of over \$1,000. The first teacher in the new house was Joseph Ketchum, a young man of fine ability.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

BY WESTON A. GOODSPEED.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP—ROOP THE FIRST SETTLER—A PIONEER POT-PIE—  
CATALOGUE OF EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION—MR.  
EAGLES AND THE BEAR—SAW-MILLS, GRIST-MILLS, TANNERIES, ETC.—  
PIONEER SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—A FISH STORY.

IN about the year 1833, a tall, broad-shouldered, dark-complexioned man named Roop built a small log cabin, not more than twelve feet square, in Washington Township. In this small and unpretentious building were domiciled his sallow-looking wife and some half dozen children, who habitually went clothed in nothing but nature's somber garment. In other words, they went naked all summer, and at the appearance of real cold weather, clothing of some kind was sewed upon them, and not removed until entirely worn off the next spring. How they managed to live is one of the mysteries more profound than those of Eleusis. It is stated that the children became so dark from exposure, that, when sitting on the rail fence surrounding their cabin, they looked like turkey buzzards. Others have said that this is not doing the buzzards proper justice. All agree, however, in saying that the children were dark. After Mr. Roop had lived there a few years, he called a few of his nearest neighbors to his assistance in raising a log stable, on which occasion Mrs. Roop set before

the hungry men at dinner a large pot-pie, of which all ate with great relish. At the conclusion of the meal, one of the men inquired of the children what had become of the three or four young wolves which had been captured and tied near the house. One of the children promptly replied: "Why, mam cooked 'em in the pot-pie." The men survived the announcement, but it is said they tore down the stable, although this is probably a mistake. When the Scotts came to the township in 1836, Roop had greater improvements on his farm than could have been made in less than about three years; and from the fact that he was not the most industrious person in the world, it is to be inferred that he either had lived there at least three years, or else some other settler had lived on the same place and made some of the improvements. In the absence of any facts to prove the presence of such a person, Mr. Roop must be credited with having been the first settler. He did not remain long, but journeyed to some other locality.

About two years after the settlement made by Roop, others began to appear, among the earliest being Joseph E. Adair, and his sons John, Samuel, and George, Hugh Allison in the southern part, Joseph Galloway, Noah Myers, James McEchron, James Duncan, Isaac Stewart, Thomas Scott, John Prickett, David Wiley, Phillip Hite, Richard Neal, John Spear, Lindsey McKinson, Frederick Starkey, Elisha Moore and others. Still later came Andrew Rarick, Ross Rowan, John Spooner, Aaron Bouse, Smith Hunt, Charles Hunt, R. D. McKinney, Levi Keister, Roger McDonald, John Ogden, Jacob Grumleich, Peter Gordy, Abraham Goble, Jonathan Hartsock, Fred Harper, John Humphreys, John Blain, Joshua Benton, Paul Beezley, James Campbell, Michael Bouse, Allen Coons, William Daniels, John Dillon, Palmer W. Earl, Jacob Frederick, Daniel Foutz, Amos Wolf, Andrew Wilson, Thomas H. Wilson, Samuel Burrell and others. In 1836, there were about ten settlers in the township, and within the next five years there came in enough to enter all the land.

Mary (Adair) Correll, daughter of Joseph Adair, who settled in the township early in 1837, says that the first township election was held at her father's cabin on the 3d of April, 1837. Mr. Adair was elected Justice of the Peace, and the first case tried before him was an *affaire d'amour*. In the spring of 1838, he married the first couple in the township—Jacob Scott and Lydia Lamson—during a heavy combined rain and snow storm. The names of the other first officers are not remembered. Mrs. McKinney, whose death occurred in the fall of 1838, was the first to die in the township. Mary Prickett, now the widow of Aaron Metz, was born on the 20th of February, 1837, her birth being the first. The second birth was that of Abigail Adair, afterward Mrs. Robert Luckey. At an early day, Leander Eagles, who lived in Sparta Township, went down in southern Washington Township to trade a colt for a yoke of cattle, and upon his return, as he was driving the cattle along, with the bell in the bosom of his wampus, he saw a bear feeding on acorns off a short dis-





*Yours truly,  
W. W. Voris.*

WASHINGTON TP.



tance. The animal had not perceived him, and he stopped his cattle, and resolved to see how close he could get to Mr. Bruin before the latter would notice him. He was without a gun, but carried his heavy ox-whip. He moved cautiously forward, and, when within about five rods, was scented by the bear, which reared up at first, but immediately started off at a rapid rate. It jumped into a field where some men were at work, and was turned back, and not wishing to cross the lake which lay on the other side, it started back toward the spot where Mr. Eagles had first seen it. On it went, and as it had to pass along a comparatively narrow ledge, Mr. Eagles determined if possible to intercept it. He ran with his best efforts, and as the bear passed him, he dealt it a heavy blow with his whip, which had the effect of partially turning it toward the lake, into which it plunged, swimming across, and again continuing its retreat through the woods. An effort was made to get the neighboring dogs on its track, but the pursuit was finally abandoned. Bears were very scarce, even when the county was first settled; but deer and wolves were every-day sights. More than one old settler can tell of having killed four or five deer in almost as many minutes, and some can tell of struggles with wounded ones, whereby life was endangered. They were often very troublesome to the wheat fields, as their favored hour of grazing was just at break of day, usually before the settler had arisen. Often upon springing from the bed in the morning and glancing out, the settler would find a small herd of six or eight pasturing either in the garden or wheat field, as fences could not turn them. If one was wanted, the rifle was pointed out through the window or door, and at its discharge the fattest would fall, and the others go bounding off into the woods at full speed. They would mingle with the domestic cattle, and soon became familiar with the bells, so that these were often used by hunters in stalking deer. Wolves were sometimes very troublesome, and even dangerous. Sheep had to be carefully guarded, as had swine and fowls.

Hugh Allison built the first saw-mill in the township, locating it in the southern part, which a number of years ago was annexed to Whitley County. It is said that the lumber of which Mr. Galloway's frame house was built (the first frame house in the township) was sawed at this mill, which, if true, places the erection of the mill back to about the year 1837, or earlier, as the house was erected some time before 1840. Here was where the early settlers living in the southern part got their building lumber. Those living in the northeastern corner found it more convenient to go to Hall's mill in Noble, or to Henshaw's in York. In 1848, John<sup>1</sup> Ryder built a saw-mill in the western part, on Tippecanoe River, securing his water-power from a dam that formed a small lake. A large, fifteen-foot overshot water-wheel was at first used, but as this was found too cumbersome, it was replaced with an improved Adkins wheel. This mill, at times, it is said, was one of the best in the county. It continued to run with varying success until two years ago, when the old water mill ceased to be. It calls to mind the verse—

" Oh, the wasted hours of life  
 That have drifted by !  
 Oh, the good we might have done,  
 Lost without a sigh !  
 Love that we might once have saved  
 By a single word ;  
 Thoughts conceived, but never penned,  
 Perishing unheard.  
 Take the proverb to thine heart—  
 Take ! Oh, hold it fast !  
 ' The mill will never grind  
 With the water that has passed.' "

Seven years after the erection of the saw-mill, Mr. <sup>Jacob</sup>Ryder also built a two and a half storied grist-mill on the same dam. In this were placed three sets of stone, and the mill immediately entered upon a prosperous career. The quality of the flour has never been good, yet the mill, especially at certain times, has had an excellent patronage. Mr. Ryder, being a careless man, did not operate it as successfully as his successors. Mr. Henry S. Cobaugh bought the mill a few years ago, and last spring it was rented by G. L. Hilt, under whose supervision it is now conducted. Three turbine water-wheels are now in use. The old mill-dam has been an excellent place to catch buffalo fish, the Tippecanoe being about the only stream in the county in which this variety of fish is found. A few extravagant stories—fish stories—are told, but the following is well authenticated: Alfred Yohn, Lindsey Makenson and another person, on one occasion a number of years ago, caught, in the short space of three hours, one hundred and fifty-five buffalo fish, averaging twenty pounds each, the smallest weighing sixteen pounds and the largest thirty-seven pounds. There were two wagon loads of them. Other persons have caught large numbers, but this, so far as known, is the largest "haul." Noah Myers owned and operated a saw-mill for a number of years. It did not prove very profitable. Joseph Evans, who came to the township in about 1840, opened a tan-yard, which he conducted for a few years. Mr. Sawyer owned and conducted a saw-mill about fifteen years ago. It was operated by steam. No villages have been laid out in the township. This is a rare virtue, and, to the credit of the citizens, should be noised abroad, as about the first thing an early settler thought of was the advisability of founding a "Rome" or a "Nineveh" on his farm. In the absence of a village, it was found necessary, many years ago, to establish a post office in dwellings, the first being located at the residence of Isaac Stewart, an early settler and the first Postmaster. The office was named Wilmot, a name it yet retains, though it has been changed around from house to house a number of times. It is convenient, as it brings the mail much closer.

Washington Township is rich in the remains of the Mound-Builders, a race of people who inhabited this country before the Indian occupancy of the soil, and of whom the latter had no knowledge, save what had been derived from the mounds and other works. Perhaps no other township can boast of



having these remains so numerous and extensive. There also ran across the township, in early years, two important and well-traveled Indian trails, one running from the Indian village in Sparta to Fort Wayne, and the other extending east and west. The former trail was an important highway for the Indian tribes, not only after the white settlers began to appear, but long before the feet of white men had pressed the graveled soil of Northern Indiana. It led along a "divide," whence it is said two streams force their way, starting within a few feet of each other, one flowing into the Tippecanoe, thence onward to the Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi and Gulf of Mexico, and the other into the Elkhart, thence into the St. Joeeph, the Great Lakes, the River St. Lawrence, and the Atlantic Ocean. Washington has one or more valuable cranberry marshes, which yield many bushels yearly.

Education is, in America, *par excellence*, the great thing to be attained. Genius, in whatever direction, is always respected, commanding homage from the erudite and great of earth, but it may exist where education is wholly lacking. Genius is the rich mahogany or spice-wood, untouched by the hand of art; education is the polish or varnish, which gives tone and beauty to the crude conditions. But often a poorer wood, one that possesses no native excellence of its own, may be made an object of rare loveliness by a skillful combination of artistic colors and finishes. So with the human mind. One that is dull and drowsy as the tired face of slumber may be made a beautiful creation by the developing effects of a scholastic education. So universally has this truth been recognized, that education for the masses has climbed to startling heights and world-wide prominence within the last century. Back in the time when history was in its swaddling clothes, it was thought foolish and unnecessary that any one should be educated except the priests and ecclesiastics. The common people were taught obedience, agriculture and war. Then it was that the people were thought unable to govern themselves; but soon there came a time when schools became popular for all castes, and the people began to chant the loved name of Liberty. Countless wars followed to root out the foolish prejudices engendered in a benighted state; and here we are to-day, still warring with the settled convictions of ignorance, encased in barbaric armor. The advance of education is slow, and an armed and solid van is presented, that surprise and ignominious defeat may be avoided. Let us cheer on the cause of liberty and education.

School in Washington Township was first taught in dwellings. A few families living in the same neighborhood would employ some teacher, for little or nothing, to teach their children in an unoccupied room of a double log-cabin, or in a building that had been erected for a dwelling and used as such for a time, and then deserted by the owner, who journeyed to some other locality. A few rough seats and desks would be provided, and the greatest possible use would be made of all books and slates. It is said, that some of the children were so poor, though anxious to go to school, that, being without shoes in win-

ter, they would cover their feet as best they could, heat a small piece of board very hot at the fire-place, warm their feet thoroughly and then start on the run, with the board in their hands, for the schoolhouse, and when their feet became unbearably cold, they would stand on the plank a few minutes, and then take it up and rush on again, and so on until the schoolhouse was reached. That is not a very satisfactory way to get an education; at least, it would be extremely unpopular at the present day. Dwellings were first used for schoolhouses, and at last, when more settlers had appeared, small log schoolhouses were built. These, after being used from three to ten years, were replaced with frame ones, and perhaps these again by other frames, and at last, but a few years ago, brick buildings were erected. This is, in general, the history of the schoolhouses. The first school in the township was taught by Ross Rowan, in 1837, in one room of a double log-cabin, owned by Paul Beezley, the other room being occupied by the family. The following families probably sent to him: Beezley, Adair, Scott, Galloway and others. In 1838, Rufus D. Kinney taught in a log cabin on the farm of Joseph Adair. These were the first two terms in the township. There are no recollections of school having been taught during the year 1839, although there must have been school somewhere. During the summer of 1840, a small log schoolhouse, the first in the township, was built on Section 23, and the following winter Stephen Martin was employed to teach the few children residing in the neighborhood. Sessions of school were held here for several years. The building was also used for a number of years as a town-house; but prior to its erection, town meetings were held at the residence of Joseph Adair. About three years after the erection of this house, another was built on Thomas Wilson's place, and Joseph Galloway, Jr., taught the first school. The families that sent to him were Wilson, Stewart, Myers, Galloway, Spear, Bull, Prickett and others. Aaron Bouse assisted in building the house. A year or two later, the woods got afire and the building was destroyed. School was then taught one summer, in the cabin of David Mullen, by Rebecca Sproul, and then a term was taught in Andrew Rank's cabin—in one room—by the same teacher. A schoolhouse was then built by the neighbors in one day and plastered and provided with seats the next. Eliza Ann Bull was the first teacher in this house, and when the frame was built in the same place, about 1859, Mary Bouse was the first teacher. A log schoolhouse was built quite early near the Galloways, as was also one on the Buckles farm. James Hinman taught an early term in Isaac Stewart's cabin, receiving 50 cents per month from each scholar, the term being for three months. In about the year 1844, a school was taught in a dwelling in the western part, and a year later a session was held in the northeastern part. By 1848, almost every district had its own schoolhouse and regular schools. Brick schoolhouses are found everywhere.

The first religious society in Washington Township was organized at the residence of John Prickett, by Elder Pullman, a pioneer preacher of the Free-

Will Baptist persuasion, in the year 1837. Elder Pullman traveled on very long circuits through Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana, and was prevailed upon to stop long enough in the neighborhood to organize a small society of the following families: Prickett, Beezley, Humphrey and others. But the society could not survive and did not longer than a few years. No church was built, but meetings were held in dwellings and log schoolhouses, until finally the society was dissolved and the meetings ceased. Other societies have been instituted during the time from the early settlement to the present in schoolhouses throughout the township, but nothing noteworthy has been accomplished. In the year 1861, the only church ever in what is now Washington was constructed in the western part by the Lutherans. They were freely assisted by outsiders, who realized the social value attached to a church where children are growing up. The Rev. Mr. Dillow was the first to preach in the church. It was not long ere quite a large congregation was in attendance, and the society has been in a prosperous condition since. The building is comfortable and is known as Salem Church. Among the first members were the families of Jacob Weigle, Michael Bouse, Israel Cooper, Mr. Hindbaugh and Thomas H. Wilson.







# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## CITY OF KENDALLVILLE.

LEM. F. ABELL, M. D., druggist, is a native of Seneca County, N. Y. Until sixteen years of age he was an assistant upon his father's farm. He received fine educational advantages, taking a preparatory course at Waterloo, and a graduating course at Hamilton, N. Y., graduating in 1849. He then went South, and for one year was engaged in the duties of teacher. Returning to New York he commenced the study of medicine at Port Byron, Cayuga Co., where his studies were protracted for three years, attending two courses of lectures at Geneva and one course at Jefferson Medical College, where he graduated in 1853. He practiced for nearly one year around his home, and then went to Michigan, and practiced there about two years. In 1858, he came to Kendallville and commenced in the drug trade, which business, with the duties of his medical practice, has engaged his attention up to the present time. His store is large, attractive, and well stocked with drugs, medicines, glass-ware, wall-paper and druggists' sundries. In 1873, he was married to Miss Lona E. Bolton, of Allen County. They have one child—Charles H.

C. G. AICHELE, City Treasurer, is a native of Germany. He came to America in 1853, and settled in New York, where he remained for eight months, going from there to South Carolina, where he remained until 1859, when he went to Alabama, and thence to Georgia, locating at Rome. His occupation was in following his trade of gunsmith, at which he was engaged in Rome until he was forced to leave or join the rebel army. Removing to Adairsville, Ga., he remained until May, 1864, when he was able to join the Northern troops, and came North. He was under strict surveillance during his entire residence in the South, and only escaped being conscripted into the rebel army by the most strenuous endeavors. Upon reaching Cincinnati, he worked there for a short time, removing to Hamilton, and was an employe of Gwinn & Campbell, in their gun works, for eight months, and then to Indianapolis, where for about one year he was employed at his trade and as a machinist. In 1866, he came to Kendallville, where he started a gun-shop, which he operated until 1873. In 1871, he became the representative of several leading fire insurance companies, to which he has devoted a large share of his attention since. He now represents the Phoenix, of Hartford and of Brooklyn, Continental, German Assurance, Germania and Niagara, of New York, the Liverpool, London and Globe, and the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company. He is also agent for the Inman, Cunard, North German Lloyd, America and Red Star line of ocean steamships. Mr. Aichele was elected City Treasurer of Kendallville in May, 1873, which office he still holds. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and K. of H., the last order of which he is Treasurer. In 1856, in South Carolina, he was married to Miss Mary

Schmeyhal. They have seven children—Mary, Augusta, Julia, Emil, Minnie, Annie and Albert.

G. P. ALEXANDER, of W. W. Glosser & Co., is one of the young and progressive business men of Kendallville. He is a native of Pennsylvania; came with his mother to Noble County in 1855. He was engaged at the trade of brick-laying and plastering, until 1864, when he became First Lieutenant of Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in service until February, 1865. Returning to Kendallville, he recruited up Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, of which he was Captain; they remained in service until September, 1865. Upon returning to Kendallville he resumed his trade, and was engaged in that occupation and contracting until 1877, when he received a commission in the railway mail service, with a route from Cleveland to Chicago, which responsible and arduous position he retained until September, 1881, when he entered mercantile life in Kendallville, as a member of the firm of W. W. Glosser & Co., grocers, to which business his attention is now given. He was united in marriage with Miss Olivia Demmon, of Kendallville, in June, 1868.

I. R. AYERS is the proprietor of one of the leading industries of Kendallville. Mr. Ayers is a native of Huron County, Ohio, and son of Enoch Ayers, who came to Steuben County, Ind., about 1836, one of the pioneers and early settlers of that locality. His father was a farmer, and also operated a saw-mill, and upon the farm and engaged in the saw-mill our subject passed his youthful days until the age of fifteen, when he went to Albion to learn the trade of carriage-making with Mr. Hoffman, with whom he remained about three years. In 1860, he came to Kendallville, and until 1864 was employed at his trade. He then enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in service about five months. Returning home, he soon after became a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and remained until the close of the war. Upon his return, he resumed his trade, at which he was engaged until 1873, when he started in business for himself, and has established a successful trade. He now constructs only first-class work in carriages and buggies; also does general repairing. Mr. Ayers employs from six to eight workmen at present, and is extending his business each year. He is a member of the Masonic order. In 1861, he was married to Miss Ellen Eley, of Jefferson Township. They have two children—Glenna and Maud.

J. BITTIKOFFER, jeweler, is a native of Switzerland, where he learned his trade of watch maker and jeweler. He came to America in 1858, and settled in Crawford County, Ohio, where he remained about one year; thence to Fort Wayne, Ind., where he was engaged at his trade until 1865, when he came to Kendallville, and soon after engaged in the jewelry business, to which he has since devoted his attention. Mr. Bittikoffer, in addition to carrying a fine stock of watches, clocks and jewelry, is a proficient workman in repairing, to which department he gives especial attention. He is a member of the Masonic order, advanced to Knight Templar, and an enterprising, progressive citizen. Mr. Bittikoffer was married in 1864, in Fort Wayne, to Miss Katherina Wolf. They have six children—Fred O., Rosa, John, Lillie and Louie (twins), and Katherina.

JAMES A. BRACE, contractor and builder, is a native of Monroe County, N. Y. He learned his trade in Elmira, N. Y., following it after his apprenticeship, for three years, in that State. He then came to Ohio, and for five years was engaged

in the prosecution of his business at Springfield. In 1858, he came to Kendallville, where he has since been identified, and where he is now recognized as one of the leading contractors and superintendents. Kendallville has had many of its public buildings erected under his supervision, and all over northern Indiana he has erected superior structures. Among the many, we briefly name the La Grange County Jail, the Mitchell, Able and Brust, Black and Krueger Blocks, of Kendallville; many of the public blocks of Ligonier, and in 1881 he secured a contract on the Warsaw Court House. Mr. Brace has served on the Council, and been City Marshal of Kendallville. He is a genial and enterprising citizen, and possesses superior business qualifications. He is a Master Mason, and a member of the K. of H. He was married, 1862, to Miss Phedora Decker. They have two children—Howard and Adah L.

W. & J. R. BUNYAN, druggists, are sons of Robert and Hellen (Russell) Bunyan, who came from Saratoga County, N. Y., to Lima, La Grange County, Ind., at an early date, settling upon a farm. Here the mother died in 1856, their father, subsequently removing to Batavia, Ill., in 1859, where he remained until his death, in 1864. The family consisted of four children; the subjects of this sketch, Mrs. Kate E. Reed, of Kendallville, and Mrs. Helen M. Ostrander, of Kalamazoo, Mich. W. and J. R. Bunyan, are natives of Saratoga County, N. Y., and until 1859 were associated upon the home farm, in La Grange County, after their removal thither. In 1859, they began their business career in Kendallville, where they have been continuously engaged up to the present writing, and now represent one of the oldest and most substantial drug houses in Northern Indiana. William has taken a leading interest in politics, and in 1872 was elected State Representative from the counties of Noble and La Grange, which position of honor he filled most credibly for four years. He was married, in August, 1870, to Miss Cornelia R. Hudson, of Noble County. They have had one child, Mable Grace, deceased. J. R. Bunyan was united in marriage, in 1868, to Miss Rebecca Barnum, of West Unity, Ohio; they have five children—Winnifred, Robert, George B., Walter W. and James R. He is a member of the K. of H. and Chosen Friends. Has served the township two terms as Trustee.

H. BURGWITZ, grocer, is the successor to G. C. Glatte, deceased, who came to Kendallville in 1854, and about 1857, started the "Pioneer" grocery house, which business he successfully conducted until his death in January, 1879. Mr. Glatte was a prominent and respected citizen and business man, and served as a member of the City Council; his wife, whose maiden name was Miss Laura Grate, is still living in Kendallville; she has three children—Bertha, Willie and Charles. Mr. Burgwitz is a native of Berlin, Germany; he came to America in 1877, and was associated with Mr. Glatte until his death, subsequently managing the business for the estate until 1881, when he became the owner. He carries a full line of groceries, crockery, etc., and has a thriving trade. Mr. Burgwitz is a member of the K. of H., and in Masonry is a Knight Templar.

CHARLES COLLINS, foreman of the finishing department of John Deibele's sash, door and blind manufactory, is a native of Pennsylvania, and in 1840 moved with his parents to Ohio. They settled in Defiance County, where, upon a farm, our subject passed his earlier days. He then learned the carpenter's trade, and after a short period, came to Noble County, first locating at Wolcottville. He was identified with the contracting and building interest of Noble and La Grange Counties for over twenty-five years. He came to

Kendallville in 1879, and became associated with the establishment of John Deibele, and is now the foreman of the finishing department of that institution. He enlisted in 1863, in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, being mustered out as Second Lieutenant. He passed through some severe and trying service, participating in eight of the leading battles. Mr. Collins was united in marriage, in 1858, to Miss Isabella Newman. They have two children—Ora and Minnie M.

JOHN DEIBELE, manufacturer and dealer in lumber and hardware, is a native of Germany. In 1853, he became a citizen of the United States, settling in Adrian, Mich. In 1855, he came to Kendallville, where he has been connected with the business interests ever since. He operated a saw-mill several years, subsequently learning the carpenter's trade, which occupied his attention for about sixteen years. In 1873, he started his present business, upon a small scale, and has, by judicious management and good financiering, established a business which takes rank among the leading industries of Noble County. He is a wholesale and retail dealer in lumber, laths, shingles, hardware, paints, oils, etc., and manufacturer of sash, doors, blinds, etc., running extensive planing and saw-mills, and employing in his establishment from twelve to eighteen men. Mr. Deibele is a fair type of a "self-made man." Beginning life in a strange country, he has, in a comparatively few years, established a splendid business through pluck, industry and honorable business dealings. He has served upon the City Council, and takes interest in all movements of progress. He was united in marriage with Miss Anna Wingarth, in 1861. She died in 1873, leaving four children—Augustus, Amelia, Kate and Louisa. In 1875, he married a second wife, Miss Rosa Roop; by her he had two children—Lydia and John.

JEFF DUNBAR, books, stationery and news, is a native of Canton, Stark Co., Ohio, and son of R. A. Dunbar, who has been for many years a prominent citizen and connected with the Sheriff's office of that county. Upon the breaking-out of the rebellion, our subject, who was at that period employed in the mercantile business at Tiffin, Ohio, returned to Canton and enlisted in Company I, Nineteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He saw four years' active and severe service, participating in several of the leading battles of the war—Corinth, the Atlanta campaign and the Texas expedition of the Third Division of the Fourth Corps. He was mustered out in October, 1865, at which time he was acting as Orderly Sergeant. In 1866, he came to Kendallville, and in association with A. Koontz established his present business. The partnership lasted only a few months, since which time he has been in business alone. His stock is choice, well selected, and complete, and his establishment of great benefit to the city of Kendallville.

ENGEL & CO., clothing and merchant tailors. This firm comprises two business men of long and successful experience. Joseph Kaufmann came to Noble County in the spring of 1856, locating at Ligonier, when he embarked in business with Strauss Bros., under firm name of Strauss & Kaufmann, dealers in clothing and general merchandise, which association lasted until the fall of 1864, when he went to New York and remained in business until 1880. He formed a partnership in Kendallville in 1862 with Moses Jacobs, under firm name of Kaufmann & Jacobs, which business was conducted by Jacobs until 1869. The firm of Engel & Co. was formed in 1867, when Mr. Kaufmann became connected with J. Engel, in the clothing, gents' furnishing, and merchant tailoring business,



with Mr. Engel as the managing partner. They carry a large and extensive stock and do a successful business. Mr. Kaufmann returned in 1880 and settled upon his farm, consisting of 160 acres of finely improved land, located near Kendallville, and is also giving his attention to his business connection in the city. J. Engel became a resident of Kendallville in 1865, when he began his business career with the firm of Kaufmann & Jacobs, with whom he remained two years. He then became a partner with Mr. Kaufmann in their present business, to which he has since devoted his attention, and the extended trade that the firm enjoys is the result of his wise and judicious management. He is a Council member of the Masonic Order, and a citizen of worth and progress. One of the leading features of this establishment is the merchant tailoring department, in which they have established an extended trade. They carry a splendid line of piece goods, and have in their employ a practical cutter, thereby enabling them to turn out stylish and well-fitting garments. In all departments this firm will be found to be among the leaders. The firm was dissolved February 13, 1882 (since the above notice was put in type), and the business is now carried on solely by Jonas Engle.

S. W. FISH, grocer, is a native of Albany County, N. Y. His parents removed to Crawford County, Penn., when he was quite young, where, upon a farm, he was raised. In 1844, he went to Akron, Ohio, where he remained for nearly fourteen years engaged in the mercantile and bakery business. His next venture was in the grocery trade in Cleveland, where he remained until 1860, when he came to Kendallville and engaged in the hotel business, remaining two years, thence to Ligonier, where he was connected with a hotel about the same length of time. He then removed to La Porte, Ind., where for four years he was proprietor of a hotel. At the expiration of this time, he returned to Crawford County, Penn., where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits upon his father's old farm. Returning to Kendallville in 1875, he started his present business, to which he has since devoted his attention. Since 1878, associated with his sons, George M. and John W., under firm name of S. W. Fish & Sons. They carry a large stock of groceries and general produce, and are one of the leading business houses of Kendallville. Mr. Fish has served as member of the City Council two years. He was united in marriage with Miss Orrilla Ford, of Ashtabula County, Ohio, in 1836. They have two sons. George M. married in 1871 to Miss Eunice Trace, of Pennsylvania; they have two children—Alice J. and an infant. John W. was married in 1875 to Miss Laura J. Stanley.

F. P. FORD, photographer, is a native of New York State, and when a youth came with his parents to Adrian, Mich. His first business experience was in a printing office, where he was engaged for some years in the job and press work department, in which he became proficient. In 1862, he began learning his present art, continuing in Adrian until 1868, when he came to Kendallville, located, and has been in successful operation ever since. Mr. Ford is anxious to excel in his art, and has been a constant student of all of the many improvements in photography; that he has succeeded, his superior work attests. His work bears the reputation of the best in Northern Indiana, which, coupled with reasonable charges, renders his trade extended. He was united in marriage, in 1869, with Miss Emma E. Allsbaugh, of Adrian, Mich.

AUGUSTUS P. FRINK was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., and at the age of nine years came with his parents to this county. When eighteen years of age, he entered mercantile life as clerk in Fort Wayne, and was in same capacity subsequently, in Ligonier. In 1853, and until 1857, he was in

trade for himself in Goshen, Ind. Soon after this he entered the Clerk's office of this county as an assistant. In 1862, he became a member of Company A, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, and had three years' service in the army. Returning home, he entered the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, subsequently serving the same company as station agent in Ohio, returning to Kendallville, where he filled the same position, being in their employ about nine years. He then for a time conducted a hardware business, since which his occupation has been varied. At the age of twenty-one, Mr. Frink was married to Rebecca Teal; seven children were born to them, two dying in infancy. Nathan Frink, the father of A. P., was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1800, and at the age of twenty-one was married to Marian Pease, of Lewis County, same State. They had six children, the eldest dying in infancy. In 1836, the family came to this county, and settled in York Township, where the mother died in 1837. In 1842, Myra E., the eldest daughter, married William Pool, who subsequently died; she then became the wife of Isaac Jopp. She had three children by her first husband, and two by the second. Harriet B., the second daughter, in 1849 married Nathaniel P. Eagles, and had eight children. Agnes E. became the wife of Thomas M. Eagles in 1854, and had seven children. Charles S., the youngest son, was married in 1858 to Isabel Vermilyea; she dying, he married again a few years later; he was the father by first wife of three children, and of four by second. Nathan Frink married for his second wife Achsa Kent; they had four children. His wife died in 1874, and in July, 1878, he died in Elkhart County, Ind., at the age of seventy-eight. He was a citizen of good standing, serving as Justice of the Peace for several years, and as Assessor.

JOHN L. GALLUP, lumber dealer and farmer, son of Rufus B. and Abigail (Reynolds) Gallup, natives of New York and pioneer settlers of Wayne Township, Noble County, located on Section 26 in 1850, which land his father had purchased some years previous. His parents remained upon their farm until 1874, when they removed to Kendallville, where his mother still resides, his father dying in 1876. He was a successful farmer, an honored citizen, and, with his wife, a consistent member of the M. E. Church. Three of their children are now living—Luthena Jones, of Wayne Township; Adeline Wright, of the same township, and the subject of this sketch, who is a native of Saratoga County, N. Y. He has devoted much of his past life to farming operations, and is still the owner of the old homestead farm. In 1876, he added to his enterprises a saw-mill and brick and tile yard, which he still operates, and, in 1879, moved to Kendallville, forming a partnership with A. O. Hamilton in lumbering interests. This business the firm of Hamilton & Gallup are pushing to extensive and successful issues, and with their one-half interest in the Reed, Hamilton & Gallup Handle Manufactory, form one of the leading business houses of the county. Mr. Gallup is a Knight Templar, an officer in the Grand State Council of Chosen Friends, and a member of the K. of H. He has assessed Wayne Township six times on personal property, and twice on real estate, and is one of the promising, active and progressive young business men of Northern Indiana. He was united in marriage, in 1864, to Miss Martha E. Young, a daughter of Jacob Young, one of the early settlers of Wayne Township; they have one child—Rufus B.

WILLIAM GEDDIS, blacksmith, is a native of Richland County, Ohio. He learned his trade in Knox County, Ohio, where he remained two years, subsequently working one year in Richland County, and then, in 1852, came to

Noble County, Ind., where he has been identified ever since. Mr. Geddis first settled in Jefferson Township, where he remained two years. Orange Township next became his residence, pursuing his calling there about six years. He then removed to Allen Township, where he handled the hammer, etc., in Lisbon for about six years, after which he became a resident of Kendallville, where he still continues in his business. He is considered a first-class mechanic, and is well known all over the county. Mr. Geddis married, in 1853, Miss Mary J. Sheffer, of Morrow County, Ohio; they have seven children—Martha M., Frederick, James D., Warren, Ellsworth, Hattie E., Merritt A. and Seth G. Mr. Geddis is a member of the I. O. O. F.

J. L. GILBERT, physician and surgeon, is one of the leading members of his profession in Northern Indiana. He is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, and was identified upon his father's farm until his seventeenth year. He then commenced the study of medicine at Salem, Ohio, under the instruction of an experienced physician for two years. He supplemented his studies by a course of lectures at the Ann Arbor Medical College during the season of 1864-65, and subsequently attended two courses at the Bellevue Medical College of New York. In 1867, he located in Kendallville. In his practice here he has met with flattering success. Dr. Gilbert adds to his practical knowledge all information to be gleaned from close study of the discoveries that are being made in medical science, and is thoroughly imbued with the progress of the age. He is a member of the Northeastern Indiana State Medical Association, and the County Medical Society. He now fills the chair of Theory and Practice in the Fort Wayne Medical College, with which institution he has been identified since its organization. Socially, and as a citizen, he is jovial and popular. In 1872, Dr. Gilbert was married to Miss Isabelle Chapman, of Ligonier, daughter of Hon. G. W. Chapman. They have two children living—Eva and Clara; their eldest daughter, Lillian, died when four years of age.

W. W. GLOSSER, of W. W. Glosser & Co., groceries and provisions, is a son of D. H. Glosser, who came from Knox County, Ohio, and settled in Jefferson Township, Noble County, in 1854, where he still resides, engaged in farming. Our subject is the second child of a family of four children. He remained upon the farm in Jefferson Township until he was twenty-two years of age. He then learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, to which business he devoted his attention for fifteen years. He became a resident of Kendallville in 1878. In May, 1881, he embarked in his present business, succeeding L. E. Pike, now deceased, formerly a prominent business man of the city. He came from New York in 1871, and was in business until his death in 1881. In September, 1881, Mr. Glosser associated with him in partnership Mr. G. P. Alexander—under firm name of W. W. Glosser & Co. This young firm are well started on a prosperous business career and, being progressive and enterprising, will doubtless soon take a leading position among the business houses of Kendallville. Mr. Glosser was married in 1873 to Miss Josephine Demmon, a daughter of Leonard Demmon, one of the pioneer settlers of Allen Township. Mr. Demmon is now a resident of Kendallville.

THOMAS L. GRAVES was born in Clarksburg, Va., the 10th day of December, 1830, where his father died in 1833. The same year his mother, with seven children, removed to Kosciusko County, Ind. At about the age of fifteen, Thomas L. began the printer's trade, and became a first-class workman. In intellectual force he matured early, and at the age of seventeen commenced the publication of a paper at Warsaw, Ind. Since attaining his majority, he has



almost constantly held some public position. During the administration of Franklin Pierce he was appointed Postmaster at Warsaw, and served two years, when he resigned. An election was held to fill the position, but the result was ignored by the department at Washington, and as showing the reliance placed upon his sound judgment, the First Assistant Postmaster General wrote to him, saying: "If you will not hold the office any longer, please designate your successor." In 1858, Mr. Graves removed to Columbia City and was shortly after elected Clerk of the corporation. In 1860, he was appointed Deputy United States Marshal to take the United States Census of Whitley County. In the winter of 1861-62, he removed to Kendallville, and in the spring was elected Justice of the Peace for Wayne Township, and served twelve consecutive years. Just before the expiration of the last term, he was elected Mayor of Kendallville, serving six years. He then declined another re-election. The Common Council then appointed him City Attorney, and at the end of two years was re-appointed, which position he still fills. Though constantly in official office, Mr. Graves is not a politician, but gives his attention to his business. He is what may be termed an office lawyer, and though delicate in appearance, the amount of business transacted by him is almost incredible. In addition to his professional business, he gives some attention to the mercantile trade, being associated with his son as James Graves & Co., who carry a line of groceries and provisions. He belongs to the Masonic Order.

J. H. HASTINGS, carriage and buggy warerooms, has for over twenty years been a resident of Kendallville. He is a native of Boston, Mass., where at the age of thirteen, he commenced learning the painter's trade. He remained with the Slade & Widon carriage works for nine years in Boston, and went thence to Cleveland and entered the employ of O. W. Hurlbut, and was employed by him ten years on fine carriage painting. After one year spent in traveling, he located in Kendallville. Mr. Hastings is a natural mechanic, and in the line of fine carriage painting has no superiors in Northern Indiana. He keeps constantly on hand at the warerooms, carriages, buggies, phaetons, etc., and does general repairing in all branches, trimming, painting, woodwork, blacksmithing, and also deals in second-hand buggies. His location in Kendallville is permanent, and his reputation for superior work extended. He ranks as one of the prosperous and enterprising citizen of Noble County. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., advanced to the Ligonier Encampment.

H. L. HELMAN, grocery and produce, is a son of R. P. Helman, and a native of Allen Township, Noble County, Ind. He commenced an active business career when sixteen years of age, during the late war buying horses for the army, in association with his father. He then went to Michigan and was engaged in the lumber business and in dealing in horses until 1867, when he went to Iowa, buying land in Henry County, and followed farming, attending school in the meantime at Mt. Pleasant, and handling stock for three years; he purchased this stock in Missouri and the Indian Territory, shipping it to the east. Returning to Indiana, he purchased a farm near Lisbon, soon after trading for a hardware store in Kendallville, which he conducted, in association with his father, for five years, doing a large and successful trade and carrying a valuable stock. He then sold out on account of ill health, went to the West and was dealing in land until January, 1877, when he returned to Kendallville and commenced a broker's business, also as commercial traveler for a Bryan (Ohio) manufacturing company, continuing about three years. In the meantime, had engaged in the grocery and produce trade, to which he now devotes his atten-



tion. Mr. Helman carries a fine line of groceries, and is also an extensive shipper of apples, produce, etc. He is an enterprising and wide-awake business man, and a citizen of value to Kendallville. He is a Knight Templar and a fifth-degree member of I. O. O. F. Mr. Helman was married in April 4, 1871, to Miss Maria Merchant, a native of Adrian, Mich.; they have two children, Robert and Claude.

R. P. HELMAN (deceased), was a native of Center County, Penn. His parents removed to Wayne County, Ohio, when he was a youth, settling upon a farm near Wooster, where the remainder of their days were passed. Our subject, in 1836, came with D. S. Simons to Noble County, and located some land near Lisbon. Returning to Ohio, they remained until 1844, when the two families came to this county in a one-horse wagon, settling upon their land in Allen Township. Mr. Helman was an active and progressive man, at various times engaged in mercantile and milling enterprises. In 1850, he removed to Grant County, Wis, remaining there only one year, then returning remained here until his death, in 1872. He was for several years a resident of Kendallville, and, in connection with his son, H. L. Helman, carried on the hardware trade for several years. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and a typical pioneer. His wife, whose maiden name was Louisa M. Smith, was a native of Stark County, Ohio, and daughter of Ralph Smith. She is now living with her son in Kendallville. Three children from this union now survive: H. L. Helman, in Kendallville; Doran and Gordon in Kansas; five are deceased—Ralph, Juline Sherman, Mary, Elizabeth and Lucretia.

WILLARD C. JACKSON is a son of Eldad and Olive Jackson, the former a native of Kentucky, the latter of New York. Willard Jackson was born in New York, Delaware County, April 3, 1818, and there remained until he came to La Grange County, in 1844. Here he remained about seven years, then moved to Steuben County, and in 1865 to Kendallville, since which time he has made this place and vicinity his home. He owns valuable town property, besides a farm of 80 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have a family of twelve children; the eldest was born in 1840.

E. G. JOHNSON, contractor and builder, is a native of Virginia. His parents were pioneer settlers of Seneca County, Ohio, and at an early day came to Jefferson Township, Noble County, settling upon a farm. His father, William Johnson, remained there until his death; his mother still survives. Our subject remained with his parents upon the farm until he was seventeen years of age. He then learned his trade, and has followed it ever since, achieving a splendid reputation as a workman and builder. He came to Kendallville in 1858, where his home was established and has remained. In 1858, he constructed the old schoolhouse. In 1859, he built the first Methodist Church and many other of the old buildings of the community. His work of later years is to be seen all over the surrounding country, and ranks among the best. He is a citizen of established integrity and worth; has served upon the City Council, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He married in 1859 Miss Emily J. Kerr, daughter of John C. Kerr, Esq. They have three children—Willie C., George B. and Ina P.

W. C. JOHNSTON, proprietor of tannery, is a native of Canada, where he learned his trade. He came to the United States when twenty-two years of age, going to Rochester, N. Y., where he was employed two years, subsequently going to Spencerport, a town near Rochester, where he remained twelve years, working at his trade. In 1864, he came to Kendallville, where he has since

resided. He was employed at first at his trade, subsequently, 1871, formed a partnership with Mr. Oviatt, which lasted two years, at the expiration of which he bought out his partner, since which time he has conducted business alone. Mr. Johnston has a complete institution of its kind, and manufactures superior grades of leather, also doing custom tanning. He is an honorable business man, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In the order of Masonry he is a Master. Mr. Johnston was married in New York State to Miss Mary Kinney in the year 1852. They have one child—Mrs. Dora Waltman, wife of J. G. Waltman, cashier First National Bank of Kendallville.

**J. KELLER & CO.**, general merchandise. This is one of the most enterprising commercial firms in Northern Indiana. In 1862, M. Jacobs, after six years' business experience at Ligonier, came to Kendallville, and, in association with J. Kaufmann, under firm name of Jacobs & Kaufmann, began a general mercantile business. In 1864, J. Keller became a partner. In 1869, Kaufmann retired, and Jacobs & Keller conducted the business until 1871, when J. Kann became connected with them, continuing until 1876, when he retired from the business, since which time the partners have been M. Jacobs and J. Keller. Their salesrooms are commodious and their trade extensive. They carry a large stock of dry goods, boots and shoes, carpets, etc., also a full line of gents' furnishing goods and ready-made clothing, making a specialty of merchant tailoring. This latter department is under the charge of Mr. Wolff, a courteous gentleman, with a long business experience. To Mr. Keller, the managing partner, a large share of the prosperity which this firm enjoys is due. He is a shrewd buyer and possesses progressive views. He has served on the City Council and is a Mason. Keller & Kann consist of M. Jacobs, J. Keller and J. Kann. They handle yearly a large amount of grain and general produce, in which business they are the most extensive in Kendallville. J. Kann, the manager, came to Indiana in 1854, and was for several years in business in De Kalb County. In 1859, he went to Ligonier, where, until 1870, he was a partner with Sol Mier. He then came to Kendallville, where he has since lived.

**JAMES B. KIMBALL**, commercial traveler, is a native of Monroe County, N. Y. His parents moved, when he was a youth, to Maumee City, Lucas Co., Ohio, where they resided until their death. Our subject, at the age of twenty-two, went to Akron, Ohio, and learned the machinist's trade, where he remained from 1842 until 1850, engaged at mechanical work. In 1850, he went to Defiance, Ohio, and started a foundry and machine-shop, which is in successful operation at the present time. Mr. Kimball conducted these works for three years, at the expiration of which he removed to Adrian, Mich., and was in the machine-shops of the Michigan Southern Railroad for three years. He next embarked in the mercantile trade, running a retail grocery house there for one year, and, in 1857, commenced his career as a commercial traveler, and in which he has passed the last quarter of a century, for the past twenty-three years without losing a day's time. He began traveling for a Toledo grocery house, with whom he continued two years; thence to Cleveland, Ohio, representing a boot and shoe house for over six years, and then representing a New York house in the same line of trade for nearly the same period. In April, 1871, he again became the representative of a Toledo grocery house, and in that line of business he is still engaged. Mr. Kimball has traveled over about the same territory during his career—Ohio, Michigan and

Indiana. He selected Kendallville as his home in 1861, where he has been an enterprising and valued citizen ever since, taking an active interest in the advancement of the city and in building it up. He has served upon the City Council, and upon the School Board, being a member of the latter at the time the schoolhouse was built. Mr. Kimball is one of the prominent and leading members of the I. O. O. F. of the State of Indiana. He was admitted to Summit Lodge in Akron, Ohio, in 1845, and was a charter member of Apollo Lodge, No. 61, of Middlebury, Ohio. Since coming to Indiana, he has filled all of the offices of the Grand Lodge of the State, in 1876 being Grand Master, and in 1877 and 1878 represented the Grand Lodge of the State at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of the United States, held at Baltimore. In Masonry, he is a Knight Templar. He was admitted in Toledo April 21, 1858; demitted and joined at Kendallville in 1861. He was one of the charter members of Apollo Commandery, No. 19, of Kendallville, and in 1877 and 1880, during the triennials at Cleveland and Chicago, was Eminent Commander. He is also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Kimball was united in marriage, December 17, 1844, with Miss Sophia D. Tyler, a native of Summit County, Ohio. They have one child—Charles D.

J. M. KINNY, livery, is a native of Illinois, and went out as a member of Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in active service three years, participating in several of the leading battles of the rebellion. Upon his return, he practiced his profession of veterinary surgery for several years. He next was contracting upon the construction of railroads until 1872, when he returned to Illinois and engaged in merchandising for three years, subsequently engaging at farming one year. In 1877, he came to Kendallville, since which time he has been engaged in veterinary practice and the livery business; in the latter, associated with William Hall. He is a member of the Society of Chosen Friends. Mr. Kinney married, in 1870, Miss Jennie L. McCune. They have two children—Bernice H. and Clarence M.

HERMAN KRUEGER, wholesale wines and liquors, is a native of Germany. He came to America in the spring of 1853, and settled in Kendallville, which at that period consisted of only a few houses. Here he has been identified up to the present writing. In 1856, he embarked in the grocery business with R. Miller, which association lasted about one year. For a period of years, up to 1864, he was mainly engaged in real estate. He then again entered in partnership with Miller, continuing until 1867, when they dissolved partnership. His next enterprise was the building of the present Kelley House, in which building he conducted a grocery trade until 1870, when he started in his present business. Mr. Krueger has added much to business interests of Kendallville, his latest enterprise being the "Krueger Block," on the corner of Main and Mitchell streets. This block consists of three fine salesrooms, is two stories in height and neatly trimmed, built under the contract of James Brace. Mr. K. has served one term as member of the Common Council, and, in May, 1881, was re-elected. Is a member of the K. of H.

JULIUS LANG, County Treasurer and merchant, is a native of Germany, and emigrated to America in 1849. He first located in New York, where he engaged in his trade of shoemaking, subsequently engaging in the boot and shoe trade in Brooklyn, which he continued for seventeen years. He next moved to Kendallville, when he embarked in the boot and shoe business, and which he is still conducting. He was elected Treasurer of Noble County in October, 1880, and is now serving in that  
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capacity. Mr. Lang has served the city of Kendallville as Councilman for two terms, and as Treasurer of the Board of Education for three years. He ranks as one of the solid substantial business men of Kendallville, and, as a citizen, is progressive and enterprising. He was united in marriage, in 1850, to Miss Katherine Dietrich. They have eight children now living—Emily Bohn, a resident of Michigan; Henry, Julius, Herman, George, Louisa, Minerva and John.

JOHN H. LOHMAN, of G. H. Lohman & Co., druggists and manufacturers of patent medicines, is a native of Germany; he came to America in 1869, and for four years was engaged in various occupations in New York City, after which he came to Kendallville, and was an employe of Miller & Duerr for one year; he then went to Bryan, Ohio, where he was engaged in the dry goods business for two years. At the expiration of this period, he returned to Kendallville, and was employed as a traveling salesman by his brother, G. H. Lohman, for the sale of his patent medicines. In 1877, he was admitted as a partner, since which time he has been the manager of the manufacturing department. He was married, in 1879, to Miss Mollie Reber, of Kendallville.

G. H. LOHMAN, of G. H. Lohman & Co., druggists and manufacturers of patent medicines, is a native of Germany. He became a citizen of the United States in 1865, and for one year was engaged in a drug store in Fort Wayne, coming to Kendallville in 1866 with the business interests of which he has since been identified. He was connected with the drug firm of Beyer, Meyer & Brother, until they sold out to Erickson & Bicknell, with whom he remained until 1869 when he went to Ann Arbor and entered the University of Michigan, from the pharmacy department of which he graduated in 1871. Returning to Kendallville, he engaged with W. & J. R. Bunyan, druggists, with whom he remained eight months. In the fall of 1871, he established his present business; since 1877 associated with his brother, John H. Lohman, under firm name of G. H. Lohman & Co. In addition to a large stock of drugs, medicines, etc., they manufacture six patent medicines, two of which, Dr. Marshall's Lung Syrup and Dr. Marshall's Bromoline, have an extensive sale, and are made a specialty. Mr. Lohman is a member of the Board of School Trustees, of which he is also Treasurer. He was married, in 1873, to Miss Mary Brust, of Kendallville, daughter of Charles Brust, a deceased merchant of former prominence. They have three children.

S. J. M. LOOMIS, dry goods, notions, etc., is a native of Portage County, Ohio. In 1855, he came to Kendallville and engaged as clerk for George F. Clark, one of the first dry goods merchants of Kendallville, coming there from Medina, Ohio, in 1855, and in business until 1861. Mr. Loomis was associated as an assistant with Mr. Clark until 1861, when he embarked in business for himself, at Corunna, Ind., where he remained only nine months. Returning to Kendallville, he began business for himself, where he has since remained. Mr. Loomis is now the oldest dry goods man in business in Kendallville. He carries a large stock of dry goods, notions, boots, shoes, etc., and has secured a large and extended trade, which he manages successfully, giving his exclusive time and attention to its management. He is a member of the City Council and an advanced Mason, being a member of Kendallville Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Council. He was married, March 20, 1861, to Miss Angeline E. Fowler, a native of Huron County, Ohio. They have three children—Homer, Harry and Morton.



HENRY J. LONG, editor and proprietor of the *Kendallville Standard*, is the oldest son of Michael F. and Jane C. Long, natives of Maryland. The marriage of Mr. Long's parents was solemnized at Georgetown, Penn., though their youth was spent in Lancaster County, of the same State. At an early day, they immigrated to Wayne County, Ohio, and subsequently, in 1836, removed to Auburn, De Kalb County, Ind., where they resided until their death. On the 1st of March, 1846, Henry J. Long was born in a log cabin near Auburn, De Kalb County, and here his youth was passed. Fair educational advantages were afforded him at Auburn, in the earlier part of his youth, but in March, 1860, he began his career as a printer, in the office of the *Waterloo Press*, where he remained working diligently until the spring of 1865, when he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry. When his term of service expired, at the close of the war, he came home, and purchased a one-half interest in the *Waterloo Press*, retaining the same until the spring of 1867. The following year, he entered the *Standard* office, at Kendallville, as foreman, and served in that capacity twelve successive years, and then purchased the entire paper, and has since been editor and proprietor. Under his management, the circulation of the *Standard* has been almost doubled, the circulation being largest of any in the county. Mr. Long is a practical printer, and was, during one winter, in the Public Printing Department of the Government, at Washington, D. C. He has also been in the employ of the *Chicago Times*. He is a genial, whole-souled gentleman, an active Republican, and has worked faithfully for the success of his party. He is a Knight Templar, and is a fifth degree member of the Odd Fellows. On the 3d of February, 1869, he was united in marriage with Miss Louise M. Rogers, of Rome City, Ind. Two children have been born to this union—Charles and Arthur. Mrs. Long is a lady of culture, and furnishes many interesting articles for the *Standard*.

V. C. MAINS, attorney at law, is a native of Belmont County, Ohio. His parents subsequently moved to Muskingum County, where upon a farm our subject passed his boyhood days. He received good advantages of education, and at the age of eighteen commenced teaching, which he followed for three years; in the meantime commencing the reading of law, with J. M. Buell, of Dresden, with whom he remained until he was admitted to bar of Ohio, in 1854. He commenced the practice of his profession immediately in Muskingum County, where he remained until 1856, when he came to Noble County, Ind. He located at Albion, remaining in practice there for three years, during two of which he served as prosecuting attorney for the counties of Noble and Whitley. In 1859, he became a resident of Kendallville, where he has been associated ever since, being one of the oldest lawyers in practice there. He is one of the progressive spirits of Kendallville, and a citizen of advanced standing and worth. Mr. Mains formed a matrimonial alliance in October, 1873, when he was united to Miss Leah Omsted, a native of Lancaster County, Penn. They have two children—Wilder D. and Maud M.

M. T. MATTHEWS, local editor of the *Kendallville Standard*, is a native of Morgan County, Va. His parents, Rev. L. W. Matthews, a divine of the U. B. Church, and Mary A. (Michael) Matthews, became residents of Wabash County, Ind., in 1860, where they have since resided. Our subject received fine educational advantages, having taken an academic course at the South Wabash Academy, and subsequently a collegiate course at Fort Wayne. He began the journalistic profession in August, 1881, by becoming the local editor of the *Standard*, and possesses the necessary attributes to make a successful career in his chosen field.

H. McCRAY & SON, butter and egg packers. Mr. McCray, Sr., is a native of Licking County, Ohio. He is by trade a carpenter, which occupation, together with egg packing, occupied his attention prior to his coming to Indiana. In February, 1868, he came to Kendallville and engaged in his present business. This business he has given his attention to up to the present time; since May, 1880, in partnership with his son Elmer. They are doing a large trade in their line, for which they have excellent facilities. In eggs, they make a specialty, for which they have erected a building, which is, in fact, a mammoth refrigerator, and which will store several hundred barrels; their market is principally New York. Mr. McCray, Sr., has been a member of the Kendallville Common Council two terms, and in the order of Masons is a Knight Templar. He was married, in 1857, to Miss Amanda Reynolds, also a native of Ohio. They have five children—Homer (in Fort Wayne), Elmer, John, Cora and Lena. Mr. McCray is also the owner of a cooper-shop in which he manufactures barrels in large quantities.

G. S. MERKLING, marble dealer, is a native of France. In 1831, he came to America with his parents; they located in New York, where they remained for about one year, subsequently emigrating to Wayne County, Ohio, where they settled permanently. Our subject lost his father when twelve years of age, and was bound out to a farmer. When sixteen years of age he commenced learning the shoemaker's trade, subsequently learning the marble cutter's trade, at Wooster. This trade was his principal occupation until 1863, when he came to Noble County and engaged at farming in Wayne Township, at which he continued until 1873, when he came to Kendallville and inaugurated his present business, which he has, by skillful management, brought up to an extensive trade. He has the reputation of carrying the largest and finest stock of marble and granite between Toledo and South Bend. Employing also skilled and artistic workmen, he is prepared to compete with all opposition. He is also in association with T. M. Evans, engaged in the undertaking business. Mr. Merkling is a member of Kendallville Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council, F. & A. M. He was married in 1852, to Miss Mary A. Miller, a native of Lancaster County, Penn. She died in December, 1872, leaving five children—Lewis, Rachel, Della, Luther and Otis. In 1874, he was united to a second wife, Mary Smith, of De Kalb County, Ind.

H. P. MILES, general produce dealer in butter, eggs and poultry. Mr. Miles is a native of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and until nineteen years of age was associated at farming and milling. He then went to California, where he passed four years engaged in mining. He then became a member of a company of Massachusetts soldiers, enlisting at San Francisco, Cal. Upon their arrival in Massachusetts they were assigned to the Second Massachusetts Cavalry, and for two years served upon severe and active duty, participating in thirty-four battles, among which we briefly name Gettysburg, Cedar Creek, Winchester, the Shenandoah campaign, the siege and capture of Richmond, and was a witness of the surrender of Lee. The severity of his service is most forcibly illustrated when from 500 men who enlisted with him in California, only seventy-five returned. Returning to Ohio, he engaged at the carpenter trade, which, together with milling, occupied his attention until 1870, when he went to Cleveland and engaged in selling produce there for three years. In November, 1873, he came to Kendallville, where he has since continued to reside. His business has been in the produce line, shipping extensively to New York. He represents the typical business man, being honorable, attentive and pro-

gressive. He is a member of the Masonic order, and is a valuable addition to the business interests of the city. Mr. Miles married, in 1862, Miss Eliza J. Manuel, of California; they have four children—Emma, William, Lottie and Archibald.

REUBEN MILLER, deceased, was born in Ohio, October 3, 1829. In 1853, he came to Kendallville, Ind., and remained until his death, which occurred October 17, 1879. He was married in 1855, to Eliza Browand, a native of Pennsylvania. Four children were born to them—Katie, William B., Mason M. and George W. Mr. Miller, during his life, was a very successful grocer, and at his death left property estimated at about \$50,000. He belonged to the Knights of Honor and Odd Fellows.

JOHN MITCHELL, a banker and prominent citizen of Kendallville, born June 2, 1830, in Montgomery County, N. Y.; a son of William and Nancy (Keller) Mitchell, also natives of that State and farmers. William Mitchell was of Scotch-English and his wife of German descent. In 1836, they removed to this county, and located on a tract of 160 acres of timber land, on which he platted the first village lots in the present city of Kendallville. He occupied a position of distinction and influence among the people, and, although he had but meager scholastic opportunities, yet his good sense and sound judgment made him master of a practical education. In 1843, Mr. Mitchell was the leader in the construction of the plank road built from Fort Wayne to Ontario, La Grange County, a distance of about fifty miles, which opened up that section of country to the trade of a large part of Southern Michigan. In connection with others, in 1852, he also engaged in the completion, under contract, of the Ohio & Indiana Railroad (now a part of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad), the first constructed in northeast Indiana, extending from Crestline, Ohio, to Fort Wayne, Ind., a distance of 131 miles, and to Mr. Mitchell is largely due the credit for the commercial importance of the city of Kendallville. He was an attendant of the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife was an active member. In 1840, he was elected by the Whig party to represent his district in the State Legislature, and in 1860 he was elected by the Republicans of his district to Congress, and has also served the public in minor offices with distinction. When on a business expedition to Macon, Ga., in 1865, he died, lamented by a large circle of friends. His wife, a lady of marked worth, died in 1864. John Mitchell was six years of age when he came West with his parents. He attended school winters and worked on the farm the rest of the time during his minority. In 1863, the First National Bank of Kendallville was organized, in which he was a stockholder and Director. His father was President until his death, when John succeeded him, which position he still holds, and to whom the success and prosperity of the bank is due. In connection with the banking business, Mr. Mitchell is engaged in farming and real estate transactions. He is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church, belongs to the Masonic fraternity, of which he is a Knight Templar, and politically a Republican. He was married January 6, 1857, to Miss Sophronia J. Weston, of Rome City, this county. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is highly esteemed. They have three children—Lydia A., Kate R. and William. Mr. Mitchell is eminently successful in business, and a citizen of sterling worth. He has recently remodeled his residence, and surrounded himself and family not only with comfort but luxury.

JAMES NELLIS, Postmaster, is one of the old business men of Kendallville. He is a native of New York, born near Fort Plain, upon a farm,

where he was reared until sixteen years of age. He then learned the trade of carriage making at St. Johnsville, where he remained for five years carrying on the business there. In 1855, he came to Kendallville and started a carriage shop, and for about twenty years was engaged in that branch of industry. He manufactured all kinds of wagons, carriages, buggies, etc., continuing until 1867, when he was appointed Postmaster of Kendalville and engaged in the duties of that office, where we now find him. He has been, for twenty-eight years, a member of the Presbyterian Church; is a member of Blue Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Kendallville, and a trustworthy honored citizen. He was married in 1855, at St. Johnsville, N. Y., to Miss Elizabeth Borden, also a native of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Nellis have one child—Mrs. Agatha Tyner, of Chicago, Ill.

A. B. PARK, hardware, is a native of Ohio. He came with his parents to De Kalb County, Ind., in 1836. His father, Wesley Park, was a pioneer of that county, and subsequently one of its prominent business men. He laid out the county seat at Auburn in connection with other parties, and was for several years a county officer. Our subject was associated in the dry goods trade with his father at Auburn until 1861, when he followed the fortunes of the late war until 1865, when he came to Kendallville and commenced business life, where he has since continued. He was first in partnership with his brother, Harry A. Park, under firm name of A. B. Park & Bro.; they continued in business together until 1877, when his brother retired, since which time he has conducted business alone. He carries a line of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, tinware, agricultural implements, etc., and is the agent for the Eldridge and Domestic Sewing Machines. He has served the city several terms as a member of the Common Council, and takes a leading interest in all matters of progress and advancement. He is a Knight Templar and an encampment member I. O. O. F. He was married, in 1858, to Miss Mary A. Cook, of Richland County, Ohio. They have three children—Mary S., Flora E. and Frank B.

A. S. PARKER, M. D., and proprietor of the *Weekly News*, Kendallville, is a son of Rial and Achsah (Snow) Parker, both natives of New York, and married in Huron County, Ohio, where they resided until their death. The senior Parker being a farmer, the early impression and education of A. S. were received under the influences of that occupation. He was afforded good school opportunities of which he made valuable use. After his maturity, he attended the Homeopathic College in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1857, he began the practice of medicine in Kendallville; continued until 1862, when he went to Iowa, remaining there two years, engaged in his profession. Returning to this State he entered the hardware trade in Ligonier; this, together with the foundry business, he followed until 1871, when he resumed the practice of medicine in Kendallville. In the meantime, the Doctor attended lectures at Cleveland, where he graduated at the Homeopathic College. In 1875, he went to Garrett and entered upon his practice, but subsequently purchased the *Garrett News*, which he conducted there until the fall of 1877, when he returned to Kendallville, bringing with him the paraphernalia of his printing office and started the *Weekly News*. This venture has proved a success, financially and otherwise. A profitable job trade has been maintained in connection with the paper. In 1868, the Doctor served as School Examiner of Noble County, and has been a member of the City Council in Ligonier. In 1869, he was married to Miss Chloe E. Wadsworth, daughter of Elihu Wads-



worth, a pioneer in Allen Township. She was the first white female born in that township. They have four children living—Maud P., Wadsworth A., May G. and Wilson B.

P. B. PEPPLE, foreman of the sash and door department of L. N. Reed's establishment, is a native of Pennsylvania, and, in 1846, came with his parents, Abraham and Mary (Koons) Pepple, to Allen Township, where his parents still reside upon a farm. Our subject passed his early life upon the homestead farm, remaining until twenty years of age, when he learned his trade of carpenter and joiner, and at that vocation passed the years from 1852 until 1862. He then engaged upon the manufacturer of sash and blinds and doors, and for the past few years has been the foreman of that department, together with finishing, for L. N. Reed. Mr. Pepple is recognized as a superior workman, and is a citizen of worth and intelligence. He is in Masonry a Knight Templar. He married, in 1862, Miss Melissa Kerr, daughter of John C. Kerr, one of the pioneer settlers of Allen Township. Mr. and Mrs. Pepple have five children—Wilda, Edwin, Minnie, Bertha and Cora.

L. N. REED, a prominent manufacturer, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1834, on a farm, and there remained till 1849, when he went to Euphemia, Preble County, to learn blacksmithing; worked four years there and in Salem; then, in 1853, came to Indiana and opened a small shop at Wolf Lake. In 1856, he moved to Wolcottville, where he was seriously injured while shoeing a vicious horse. The winter following, he taught school in Washington Township; visited Illinois and Missouri; returned to Ohio in the fall of 1857, and, on the 12th of December married Miss A. M. Cramer, of Piqua, who bore him one child—Ernie B. He tried farming in Montgomery County, and was drowned out in 1858, losing all his summer's work. He settled all his bills, however, and, with only \$14 capital, traveled six hundred miles through the West; then reached Rome City; this point he deserted, as he found no credit or security, for Wolcottville, where he met with no better success, and finally located in Kendallville, where he commenced work for Nellis & Hill, blacksmiths. He labored four years as a journeyman, and then started a shop on West Mitchell street for manufacturing lumber wagons. His health failing, in May, 1866, he sold out and went to Elkhart, where he started a hub and spoke factory; lost \$1,000; returned to Kendallville, and started the lumber trade in 1868, and January, 1869, bought one-third interest in the planing-mill of Hill, Brace & Wakman, Mr. Brace retiring. In January, 1870, he bought out Mr. Wakman, and the business prospered under the firm name of Reed & Hill until January, 1877, when Mr. Hill withdrew. During this interval (1872) Reed & Hill, in company with A. J. Brace, erected the La Grange County Jail. Our subject continued the business, and now owns the most complete establishment of its kind in Northeastern Indiana, and is one of the oldest manufacturers in the town, carries a heavy stock of lumber, as well as builders' supplies, and does a heavy building contract business. Mr. Reed is a Mason, and is in the Knight Templar degree.

F. O. ROSSBACHER, manufacturer and dealer in furniture, etc., is a son of Oscar Rossbacher, who emigrated from Germany to the United States, and after a few years' residence at Fort Wayne, came to Kendallville in 1857, and embarked in the manufacture of furniture and cabinet work. He established a good business, and was connected with this branch of industry until his death, in 1879. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and a respected citizen. The subject of this sketch succeeded to the business of his

father, and is carrying a complete line of furniture. The cabinet department is presided over by Gustav Sprandel, who came to Kendallville in 1863, and learned his trade of the elder Rossbacher, since which he has been nearly all of the time employed by that house.

**NORMAN L. SOUTHWORTH** is a son of Lorenzo and Miranda (Isabell) Southworth, early settlers of Allen Township. His father was a native of New York, his mother of Ohio. They were married in Allen Township, Noble County, in 1840, by Elihu Wadsworth, and immediately settled in Michigan, where they remained three years. Returning to Noble County, they settled at Lisbon, where his father commenced a mercantile business, which continued for a number of years. They are now living in Wayne Township. Seven children are descendants from this worthy couple—Norman L., Sarah M. Hill, Bradley C., Mary A. (deceased), Leander, Harriet Gibson and Ida Duerr. Norman L. was born in Michigan in 1841. Until 1861, he was employed principally in a saw-mill, when he enlisted in Company F, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in service over one year, receiving his discharge on account of disability. In February, 1865, he re-enlisted, and March 4 was commissioned First Lieutenant of Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and upon landing at Charleston, was detailed on Gen. Egan's staff, in which connection he was assigned commander of Provost Guards. His services continued until the close of the war, when he returned to Kendallville. During the past seven years he has been employed as solicitor for Merklings Marble Works. He is a member of I. O. O. F. In 1863, he was married to Miss M. J. Baughman, of Allen Township. They have six children—William, Minnie, Charlie, Guy, Clyde and Ray.

**HENRY J. STICHT**, Union Carriage Manufactory, is a son of John M. Sticht, a native of Germany, who came to America about 1841, settling first in New York, soon after removing to Canajoharie, N. Y., and started in the boot and shoe trade, also running a harness shop. He continued there until 1867, when he came to Kendallville and engaged in banking, continuing for two years, at the expiration of which he was forced to take a carriage manufactory, and to this business he devoted his attention for several years. He was also engaged in the livery business. His carriage works he enlarged, and at one time employed over thirty men. His connection with the business interests of Kendallville was of a leading character, and continued until his death. He served as a member of the City Council, and was a respected and valued citizen. His wife's maiden name was Caroline Winsman. She was also a native of Germany. They were married in New York State, two children being the issue—Charles, and Henry J., the subject of this sketch, now one of the young business men of Kendallville. He is a native of New York State, and while there learned the trade of shoemaking of his father. Upon coming to Kendallville, he went to work at tinning, following that for one and one-half years. He then learned the trade of blacksmithing, to which he has devoted his attention since. In 1876, he became associated with his father in the management of the Union Carriage Manufactory, in which business he has continued. He was also at one time interested in the livery business with his brother. Mr. Sticht is now conducting the blacksmithing and trimming departments of the Union Carriage Manufactory; also does general repairing and blacksmithing.

GEORGE B. TEAL, hardware, son to George and Nancy (Brower) Teal, is a native of Preble County, Ohio. When three years of age, his parents became residents of Perry Township, where, upon the farm, he passed his boyhood days, remaining at home until twenty-two years of age. He then went to Ligonier and embarked in the drug trade with Dr. Arnold, continuing for four months, when they divided up the stock, and our subject removed to Albion, starting in that trade, then in association with his brother, Dr. Norman Teal. They continued there until 1861, when Dr. Teal entered the army, and our subject returned upon the farm, soon after going to Ligonier, when for ten years he was engaged as clerk in dry goods, hardware, drug and grocery stores, also learning photography. He next went to Geneseo, Ill., where he remained only two months, returning to Ligonier. In 1865, he removed to Brimfield, where for nine years he carried on the drug business, also serving as United States Express Agent for five years. He then accepted the agency for Kendallville for that company, and in 1875 added to his business by buying a stock of hardware in association with A. P. Frank, which partnership lasted until 1880, when Mr. Teal became the sole owner. In 1880, he severed his connection with the express company, and is now devoting his attention exclusively to the hardware trade. In 1877, he was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Joseph Cox, and performed the duties of that position for six months. He is a Knight Templar, and a progressive and liberal-minded citizen. Mr. Teal was united in marriage, in 1861, to Miss Anna A. Mason, a native of La Grange County, and daughter of Peter L. Mason, one of the early settlers, and the first Sheriff of that county. She died in December, 1863, leaving two children, Adda B., now deceased, and William B. In October, 1880, he was united to a second wife, Mrs. Clara Ray, of Coldwater, Mich. Her maiden name was Clara Redfield, formerly of Clifton Springs, N. Y.

J. M. TEAL, dentist, is a son of George and Nancy (Brower) Teal, early settlers of Perry Township. He was born in Perry Township, and is the seventh son of a family of eleven children. His early life and associations were upon the home farm until twenty years of age, when with Dr. Gants, of Ligonier, he commenced the study of dentistry, remaining associated with him until 1867, when he was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Crone, a resident of Allen Township, and native of Ohio. He then removed upon the farm with his father, soon after resuming his practice with Dr. Gants for one year. In 1871, he became a resident of Kendallville, where he has been in successful practice since. He is a member of the State Dental Association, and is a thorough student in his profession, having a valuable medical and dental library, and strives to keep pace with the progress of his calling. He is a member of the Chosen Friends, and, with his wife, of the Methodist Church, of which for many years he has been Trustee. Mr. and Mrs. Teal's family consists of two children—Mattie and Angie. A daughter, Hattie A., died September 11, 1881.

NORMAN TEAL, physician and surgeon, whose portrait appears in this work, is one of the successful practitioners of Northern Indiana. He was born in Preble County, Ohio, in December, 1829, the third of eleven children, to George and Nancy (Brower) Teal, who were pioneers of Perry Township. Nine of the children are now living. Dr. Teal passed his earlier years on his father's farm, in teaching school and as a clerk in a store. He commenced the study of medicine in 1851, at Ligonier, with Dr. C. L. Wellman. In about

one year, he went to Preble County, Ohio, where, for a short time, he was under the tutorage of Dr. Nesbitt, and subsequently with Dr. Latta, of Goshen. He is a graduate of the Rush Medical College of Chicago. In 1854, the Doctor commenced his practice in Swan Township. Spending one summer there, he went to Springfield, Elkhart Township, where, in association with Dr. W. N. Nimmon, he remained several years. He then removed to Albion, where, with a brother, George B. Teal, he engaged in the drug trade, and also practiced his profession. In 1862, the Doctor entered the service as Assistant Surgeon. During the winter of 1862-63, he was in charge of a hospital at Murfreesboro, Tenn.; at Chattanooga, in hospital service in winter of 1863-64; and during Sherman's campaign, of the summer of 1864, was upon the operating staff in the First Division Hospital of the Fourteenth Army Corps. He rejoined Sherman's army at Goldsboro in April, 1865, and was with the advance when Joe Johnston surrendered at Durham Station, N. C. The valuable experience gained during this service has been of inestimable value to him in his later practice, especially in the field of surgery. With the exception of a few years passed in Michigan, where he was in practice, and also engaged in editing a local newspaper, which he established at Hersey, Dr. Teal has, since the war, resided at Kendallville. Here he has established a successful and lucrative practice, and as a citizen is held in high esteem. His acquaintance with the people and past events is extensive. In current literature as well as in medicine, the Doctor is well informed and keeps apace with the times. He is an influential Republican, and a member of the County Medical Society, of which he has been Secretary since its organization in 1873. He also belongs to the N. E. Medical Association. Dr. Teal was married, in 1855, to Miss Electa Shupe, of Richland County, Ohio. She died in 1860, leaving a son, George A., who graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1882. In 1866, he married Miss Angeline Gruay, of Kendallville; they have one child living, Nannie; two dead, viz., Norman Teal, Jr., who died September 17, 1870, aged two years and two days; Alice Dutton, who died November 4, 1881, aged fourteen years one month and twenty days. Alice was a child in years, but of intellect far in advance of them—thoughtful, unselfish, tender, loving and gentle; a favorite with her teachers and classmates, and was sincerely mourned by all who knew her.

L. A. THOMPSON, who is engaged in the grocery and produce trade, is a native of Morris County, N. J., where he was born in 1809. At the early age of ten years, he began work at the tanner's and shoemaker's trades, and for forty years continued in those industries in his native county, building up an extensive business; finding sale for his boots and shoes principally in the South. In 1863, he disposed of his interests there and came to Kendallville in 1864. Here he commenced in the grocery trade by purchasing the interest of Whitford, in the firm of Whitford & Bosworth. Mr. Thompson subsequently started the business in another locality alone, his relations with Bosworth having been dissolved. In the new venture he soon associated with himself, his son William H. This business in about eighteen months was wiped out by fire, the loss to Mr. Thompson being about \$3,000. From this they started in the grocery and bakery business, dissolving in about four years. Mr. Thompson has since been engaged, first in the poultry business, then in groceries and produce. He is a Mason and a member of the society of I. O. O. F., and in New Jersey filled several positions of trust. Although now about seventy-four years old, he is vigorous and active, and has more "push" in him than most of the



younger generation. In 1832, he married Miss Jane C. Mase, who was also a native of New Jersey. Five children have been born to them—Sarah J., now Mrs. Seeley, of New York; Anna B., now Mrs. Andrews, of Coldwater, Mich.; Mary C. Holbrook (died in Coldwater); David Headly, who was a volunteer in the Seventh New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and in active and severe service nearly three years, was captured by the rebels near Petersburg and passed eleven months in captivity, being in five different prisons. From the effects of this confinement, he never recovered, living but fifteen months, when he died in Kendallville September 7, 1866. The youngest son, William H., resides in Kendallville. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Presbyterian Church. Have a decidedly comfortable home in a large brick residence, where Mrs. Thompson accommodates a few boarders to occupy the extra room in their large dwelling. Those who find a home under her roof can testify as to the generosity with which she dispenses her hospitality. Fifty years of wedded life have been the lot of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, and in their almost perfect health they seem to have the promise of many years more.

J. G. WALTMAN, Cashier of the First National Bank, is a son of Emanuel and Barbara (Algire) Waltman, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. They were married in the latter State, where they lived on a farm until about 1854, when they removed to this county, locating in Allen Township. In 1870, they removed to Kendallville, where the father is now engaged in stock dealing. Himself and wife are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Three children have been born to them—J. G., Mary C. (now Mrs. Parks) and Ivan J. The subject of this sketch is a native of Richland County, Ohio. When eighteen years old he commenced the mason's trade. This he followed for about five years. He then for a time served in his father's employ in a meat market. Then, after a few months in the railroad freight office, he entered the bank in 1873, assuming the duties of cashier after the death of Mr. Schulze. In this capacity, he is both popular and efficient, and as a young man has a bright future before him in business life. He is a member of the Chosen Friends, and was married in 1880 to Miss Dora Johnston, of Kendallville.

FRED J. WESTFALL, Union Carriage Manufactory, is a native of Prussia, where he learned his trade of carpenter and wagon-maker, and followed it for five years. In 1863, he came to America and located at De Kalb County, Ind., where he remained for seven years employed at his trade. In 1870, he came to Kendallville and was employed by Mr. Sticht one year; subsequently, by Mr. Nellis three years. He then moved to Orange Township, where, for a period of four years, he followed farming and also working at his trade. He then went to Wolcottville, where he remained one and a half years, and then returned to Kendallville where he is now established. In January, 1881, he became proprietor and manager of the woodwork department of the Union Carriage Works, to which he is now devoting his attention. In 1862, he was married to Frederica Lamback; she died in 1868, leaving two children—Lewis and John. In 1869, he was united with a second wife, Miss Margaret Hunter, of De Kalb County. They have one child—Inez. Mr. Westfall is a member of the I. O. O. F., and an industrious, enterprising citizen.

E. J. WHITE, Union Carriage Manufactory, is a native of Miami County, Ind., and, since the age of seven years, has been a resident of Kendallville; at the age of eighteen, commenced to learn his trade of carriage painting with Mr. Gradon, with whom he remained eighteen months. He subsequently was in

the employ of J. H. Hastings about fifteen months, and thence to the carriage works of James Nellis, where he remained seven years. In October, 1876, he became connected with Mr. Sticht's carriage works as proprietor of the painting department, which he has operated and controlled up to the present time. Mr. White is conceded to be a superior workman, and has done no small share toward the establishing of the extended name for first-class and honorable work which the Union Works bears. He is a Royal Arch Mason (office of Senior Warden), and also a member of the Good Templars. Mr. White was married, in 1874, to Miss Ida Shoyer, a native of Noble County. They have one child—Libbie.

A. C. F. WICHMAN, superintendent of brewery, came to America in 1849, with his parents, from Prussia, his native country. They located in Cincinnati, where our subject learned the cabinet-maker's trade. After working at it there two and a half years, he came to Fort Wayne, where he pursued his calling about the same length of time. After a short period in Logansport, Ind., he returned to Fort Wayne and remained until January, 1864, when he came to Kendallville, engaging in the furniture trade until 1867. For several years, subsequent to this period, he worked at different things—principally book-keeping. In 1877, he bought one-half interest in the brewery with William Seifert, which they conducted until the death of Seifert in September, 1879, when Mr. Wichman became the sole owner, and which he has conducted up to the present time, being now, by a subsequent change in proprietorship, manager for the owner, Henry C. Paul, of Fort Wayne. This brewery was built in 1867, by Louis Schwartzkopf and Geo. Aichele, subsequently becoming the property of Francis J. Beek, Seifert and Heinike, and the parties mentioned above. Mr. Wichman has served as City Clerk three years; as Township Assessor one term, and is now the City Civil Engineer. He is a prominent member of the German Lutheran Church, having been a member, together with his wife, since 1864. Mr. Wichman was united in marriage, in 1857, with Miss Elizabeth Eberlein; she came from Bavaria, Germany, in 1848, to America. They have nine children—Emma, Herman, Lizzie, Magdalena, Albert, Lydia, Paul, Henry and Clara.

WILLIAM WILLETT is a resident of Kendallville, and engaged extensively in contracting for stone masonry and bridge work. He is a native of England, from which country he came to America in 1850, locating in New York, where for a short time he followed painting. He then came to Michigan, and soon thereafter located at Lima, La Grange County, this State, where he was occupied at his trade of stone masonry for several years. He then located in Goshen one year, and in 1865 became a resident of Kendallville. Mr. Willett was married in 1851 to Miss Maria Taylor, who was also a native of England. They have four children of their own, living—William E., Frankie, Lena and John, and one grandson, Claudie. Four of their children are deceased—Annie (who became Mrs. Emerson), Harry, Grace and an infant. Mr. Willett is well up in his business, being a practical workman and a successful manager. As a citizen, he stands high, and is regarded with much favor as a member of the community in which he lives. He belongs to the I. O. O. F. and to the K. of H.

DR. S. T. WILLIAMS is a native of Mount Gilead, Morrow Co., Ohio, and son of Dr. N. and Lydia (Eicher) Williams. He had superior educational advantages, for about four years attending select school at Defiance, Ohio, under the tutelage of a Professor of Languages, who was a ripe scholar

and an excellent educator. Dr. Williams was a close student, and, having decided upon the medical profession, began his studies with his father, also in association with Drs. Colby and Moss. In his professional course, he was the same careful, earnest student, and after two series of lectures at an Eclectic medical institute, in 1858 he graduated therefrom. He began teaching when fourteen years of age, which he followed at intervals until he began his practice in 1858. He was associated with his father at Defiance, Ohio, until 1863, when he entered the United States service as Surgeon, remaining until 1865, during which period he was in charge of Hospital No. 14, of Nashville. Tenn., and acquired a most valuable experience. Returning to Ohio, he soon came to Kendallville, where he has been in professional association with his father. Dr. Williams is a thorough gentleman, progressive, well-read in his profession, and also in general literature. He is a Knight Templar Mason, and in 1879 held the office of Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, K. T., of the State of Indiana. He is a member of the Northeastern Indiana Medical Association; was Surgeon for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad until the office was discontinued in 1879; is a Surgeon of the Railway Hospital Association of Toledo, and is Pension Examining Surgeon. Dr. Williams was married in 1858 to Miss Mary E. Lehman, of Defiance. They have four children--Effie, Warren S., Minnie and Allie.

DR. N. WILLIAMS is a native of Fayette County, Penn. At the age of ten years, he was thrown upon his own resources by the death of his father, and hired out for \$2.00 per month at farming; this he followed until sixteen years of age, attending school in the meantime at every opportunity. He next engaged at cabinet-making, which he continued about three years; he then began the study of medicine, and also acquired a higher education. At the expiration of four years of study, he graduated from a school of medicine at Connellsville, Penn., in 1828, and for nearly two years practiced in Eastern Ohio. From this time up to 1845, he was engaged in various occupations; coming then to Columbia City, Ind., where, after nearly two years' residence, he again resumed the study of medicine with the intention of making that profession a life business. In 1847, he removed to Defiance, Ohio, in which vicinity for nearly twenty years he was actively engaged in practice. In July, 1865, he came to Kendallville, where he has since been one of the leading members of the medical profession. He is a genial gentleman, and although passing into the "sere and yellow leaf" his years sit lightly upon him. He was united in marriage in 1831 to Miss Lydia Eichler, of Pennsylvania. They have two children living, Salathiel T. Williams, M. D., in practice with his father, and Tryphenie, wife of Dr. Wilson, of Kendallville. Dr. Williams has been for over fifty years a member of the Methodist Church, and in society ranks as one of its most valued members.

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#### WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

ABRAM R. ACKERMAN is a son of John and Jane (Bennett) Ackerman, who were natives of New York State, and residents there until 1845, when they emigrated to Indiana and located in Wayne Township, where they resided with their son William up to the time of their death. Abram is a native of the Empire State. His life has been passed in farming, at which he is

still actively engaged—for the past twenty-five years in Wayne Township, where he now owns seventy-five acres of good land, which is well improved and which he has cleared and cultivated himself. He was united in marriage, in 1855, to Miss Mary A. Wade, daughter of Robert Wade, who was an early settler of La Grange County. Mr. and Mrs. Ackerman have one child—Mary J. Trindle, living in Wayne Township. Mr. Ackerman is a progressive and practical farmer and a citizen with enterprising ideas. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Kendallville.

ANDREW ALLSHOUSE, son of Henry and Catharine Allshouse, was born in 1828. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married in 1818. In 1825, they went Westward, locating in Stark County, Ohio, where they lived until 1840, when they moved to Crawford County, Ohio, remaining there the remainder of their life. Andrew Allshouse, who was one of eleven children, lived with his parents until twenty-five years of age. January 12, 1853, in Crawford County, Ohio, he married Rosanna Eley, who was born in 1832. After three years, they came to Indiana, this county, and settled near Albion. In 1861, removed to Wayne Township, their present home. Mrs. Allshouse has had six children—two, Henry and Dora, now living. Mr. Allshouse owns 160 acres of farming land and is prospering. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

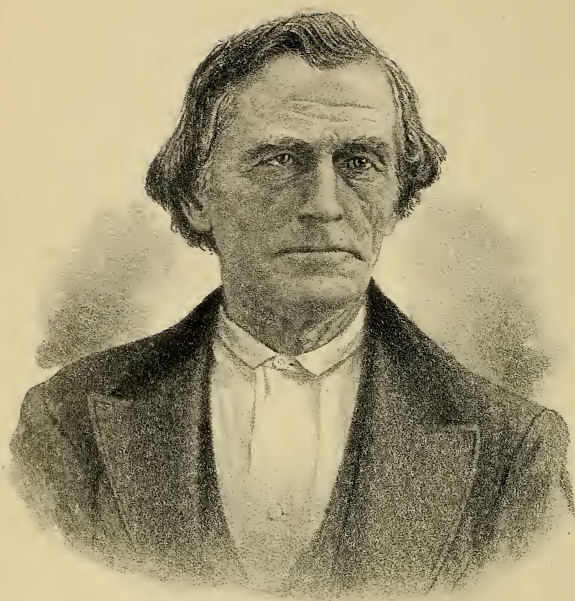
C. F. BRUNDIGE is a native of Noble County, Ind., where he was born March 1, 1857. His parents, John and Mary Brundige, were natives of New York, and had four children—Charles F., Ruthann (deceased), Albert and Lydia. Charles Brundige has always made this county his home. July 2, 1879, he was married to Estella L. Milks, a native of Indiana, born September 20, 1861. Their only child, Getta F., was born April 5, 1881. Mr. Brundige owns ninety acres of land and is identified with the growth and progress of the county.

DANIEL DECKER is one of the old residents of Wayne Township. He is a native of Orange County, N. Y., where he remained until eighteen years of age, upon a farm; he then went to Onondaga County, where for twenty years he was engaged in farming. He then became a pioneer settler of Richland County, Ohio, farming for six years near Plymouth. In 1852, he became identified with the farming interests of Wayne Township, settling upon the farm where he now lives. Mr. Decker has followed farming all of his life, and has helped develop his share of Noble County. He owns eighty-three acres of land which he has cleared and improved himself, and is a citizen of worth and enterprise. He married Miss Cornelia Bevier, a native of Broome County, N. Y., December 12, 1835. They have six children—Phedora (wife of James A. Brace, of Kendallville), Gem, Adeline Isbell (of Kendallville), Mate, Justus and Augusta.

HARMON A. DIGGINS, whose parents were natives of Vermont, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1827, from which locality the family emigrated in 1832, and settled in La Grange County, Ind., near Lima. The father and mother were Luke and Silence (Wheeler) Diggins, and had eight children, only three of whom are now living—Lucia A., Artemas and the subject of this sketch. Those deceased were Fidelia, who died at Wolcottville in 1881; William, at the age of forty-five years, in Allen County; George, aged forty-six, at Kendallville; Harriet, when nineteen; and Mary, at the age of thirty-one. The father moved to Wayne Township with his family in about 1835. He kept the first hotel in Kendallville about five years and was Postmaster on the







*W. L. Hall*

WAYNE TP.

old Fort Wayne road. He died in 1864, and his wife, who was a member of the Methodist Church, in 1872. Harmon A. Diggins has been a resident of this township since his parents moved here in 1835. He was married, in 1859, to Miss Eliza Deuell, daughter of John Deuell, an early resident of the township. Their children are Ada (now Mrs. Berhalter), Flora, Hattie and Jimmie. Mr. Diggins is the owner of a farm of ninety acres of land in the township, which is productive and valuable property.

S. T. EMRICK is one of the leading farmers of Noble County. His father, John Emrick, was a native of Pennsylvania. His mother, whose maiden name was Diane Green, was a native of Virginia. They both went to Ashland County with their parents, who were among the pioneers of that locality and there were married, residing there until 1861, when they came to Wayne Township, where our subject had settled in 1854. Here the mother still remains, now at the home of her son, our subject. The father died in the township in 1879. Seven children of a family of eight are now living—Rachel Eberhart, in Missouri; S. T.; John, also a resident of this township; Diane Tryon, Kendallville; Sarah Bucher, Wayne Township; Eliza Chesroun, in Ohio; and Martha Roush, a resident of Wayne Township. The subject of this sketch was born in Ashland County, Ohio, where, in 1849, he married Miss Catherine Eberhard, of that county. He remained there, engaged at farming, until 1854, when he came to Noble County, settling in Wayne Township. He has cleared up and improved a large tract of land and is now the owner of 230 acres of as fine land as there is in the county. Mr. Emrick has given his entire attention to farming, and the splendid condition which his property presents attests the value of a practical and industrious manager. He has served the township as Justice of the Peace for two years and is a leading member in all public matters of merit. Mr. and Mrs. Emrick have seven children—Sylvester, Rachel Randall (in Michigan), Noah, Ella, Jane Hantee (a resident of this township), Joshua and John F. They are members of the M. E. Church. Mr. Emrick is a member of the F. & A. M. of Kendallville.

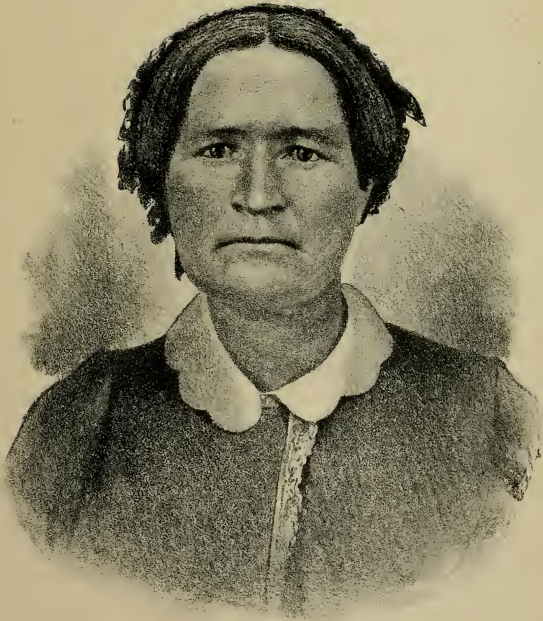
WILLIAM J. HALL, of this township, stands prominent throughout Noble and La Grange Counties as an extensive and successful farmer and stock dealer. He was born in Clark County, Ohio, in 1809, in the midst of pioneer surroundings. His father and mother, John and Margaret (Williams) Hall, were natives of Kentucky, in which State they were joined in wedlock. In 1807, they moved to Ohio, settling in Clark County. That country was then new, and the settlements sparse, necessitating the trying experiences of frontier life. After a number of years, the family moved to Logan County, but returned to Clark County at the expiration of about four years, where the mother died in 1824. Seven children had been born to her, three of whom are now living, viz.: John, in California; Emily, now Mrs. Collins in Lima, La Grange County; and the representative of this sketch. Subsequently the father married Widow Judy, and in 1835 came to La Grange County, where he entered upon his second experience as a pioneer settler, making his location in Springfield Township of that county, where he resided up to his death in 1843. His wife survived him a number of years. She was the mother by Mr. Hall of seven children, only three of whom are living: Charles, Whitley, and Ann, now Mrs. Osborn. William J. was married in Ohio in 1830 to Miss Lucinda Hull, also a native of Clark County, born in 1811. Her parents came there about 1810 from Pennsylvania, their native State, where they remained until their death. Mr. Hall, after his marriage, commenced farming, and in 1835 joined his father's family and emi-

grated to La Grange County. There, in Springfield Township, he rented a farm for a time, subsequently buying land. In 1845, he went to Greenfield Township, where he had acquired land by trading his Springfield property. In that township he labored early and late in clearing up his new possessions, to which he gradually added other acres by purchase, until his landed estate numbered 675 acres, all accumulated by unceasing toil and judicious management. In 1865, he sold out, and, purchasing 228 acres where he now resides, he moved his family to the new location. Here in 1869 his wife died; she was the mother of eight children, five of whom are now living—Griffith F. and George W., in Springfield Township, La Grange County; Ezra D., in Kansas; William H., in Michigan, and Benjamin F., in this township. William H. and a son Rollo were soldiers in the war of the rebellion. The former entered the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry as a private, and served through the entire war, being mustered out at its close as Captain. Rollo became a member of the Seventh Indiana Cavalry, and at the end of fifteen months, while yet in the service, was stricken with disease and died. Mr. Hall, out of the abundance of his heart and with a paternal regard for his children, divided a portion of his land among them. Wherever he has lived, he has been true to honorable citizenship, thrifty and successful in most of his undertakings; eschewing political honors, he has devoted his best energies to his own business affairs. Since coming to Wayne Township, he has given his attention largely to fine stock of the Durham blood, first purchasing this class of cattle in Ohio; in this branch he is achieving merited honors.

NICHOLAS HILL is the eldest son of Simeon and Catharine Hill, who emigrated from Germany to America in 1840. They located in Ohio, Licking County, where they remained about six years; then came to Noble County, settling in the woods, upon what is now the splendid farm of our subject. The father, soon after their arrival, was run over by a heavy wagon while clearing up the land, and died from the injuries received. The mother lived until 1878, attaining the age of past ninety-four years. Three children were descendants, Nicholas, Lawrence and Mrs. Catharine Ringle, the latter now deceased. Nicholas is a native of Germany. Since 1846, his home has been upon the land upon which they first settled, which consists of one hundred acres, with superior improvements. He has been connected with the Methodist Protestant Church since its organization, being one of the six members to create the society, and aiding materially in its progress. He built the present church building in 1869. He was united in marriage in 1845 to Miss Mary Kinney, a native of Licking County, Ohio. She died in 1870. Their children now living are Mary Lawrence, in Michigan; Arvilla Wright, Wayne Township; Orange, now operating the homestead farm; Wilbur and Charles, in Michigan, and Albert and Rilla at home. Mr. Hill was united to a second wife in 1871, Mrs. Frances Warner, whose maiden name was Zimmerman. She is a native of Ohio.

LAWRENCE HILL is the second son of Simeon and Catharine Hill, early settlers of the township, locating there in 1846. Lawrence was born in Germany in 1830. With the exception of six years' residence in Michigan, in his early life, he has been a resident of Wayne Township since his parents settled there. Dividing up the land entered by his father with his brother Nicholas, he chose the eastern portion, upon which he settled and has cleared it up and improved it until it ranks with the best in Wayne Township. He now owns 120 acres, upon a portion of which an Indian village was located in early days, the chief's





LUCINDA HALL

WAYNE TP.



house, Schock-o-pee, standing where the residence of W. C. Jackson is now located; an Indian mound was also upon this farm, and many curious articles and implements of the Indians have been found from time to time. Mr. Hill is one of the valued residents of the township, and always identifies himself with progress and improvements. He was united in marriage in 1855 to Miss Elinor Creigh, a daughter of Samuel and Lydia Creigh, who came to Wayne Township in 1844. They have four children—Catharine A. Johnson, Alice E. Johnson, Elinor L., Emrick and Alfred L.

JACKSON IDDINGS is a native of Portage County, Ohio, and son of Henry and Sarah (Mettlen) Iddings, who were pioneers of Portage County, now Summit County, Ohio, where they settled prior to 1812, and remained until August, 1836, when they started for Indiana, landing in Allen Township September 10, 1836. They settled in Wayne Township, and after some years removed to Allen Township, where the remainder of their lives was passed. Five children now survive them—Hiram, Eliza Reed, Lewis, Warren and Jackson. The last-named was born in 1816, and was twenty years of age when his parents removed to this county. In August, 1837, he married Barbara Dingman, a daughter of Mrs. Frances Dingman, subsequently Mrs. Truman Bearss, early settlers of Allen Township. He immediately settled upon eighty acres of land in Allen Township, where he resided for one and one-half years. His land, however, proved to be a "second entry," and he was forced to have it exchanged. After living in Wayne Township one year, he secured another tract in Allen Township, upon which he remained five years. He then removed to Green Township, where he resided eight years, then to Jefferson Township for eight years, and in 1863 made a home on the farm where he now resides. This consists of 154 acres conveniently located and well cultivated. Mr. Iddings has devoted his time exclusively to farming, and has been amply rewarded. In Green Township, he held the office of Justice of the Peace for one year. Mr. and Mrs. Iddings have seven children—Hiram B., Owen, Asa J., Frances Bloomfield, Sarah Jordan, Ida Strayter and Ruth Bailey.

E. T. ISBELL, a son of Charles and Adah (Tryon) Isbell, born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1817, in the midst of pioneer life. He married there, in 1835, Miss Elizabeth Cosper, daughter of John Cosper, who became an early settler of Allen Township, Noble County. Our subject learned the shoemaker's trade of his father, which occupied his attention until about 1837, when, with his parents, he removed to Michigan, where he farmed for eighteen months. In 1838, with his parents, he came to Noble County, settling in Allen Township. Here he followed his trade, also farming and carpentering; he built the first frame house in Lisbon, and subsequently removing to Kendallville, built the first frame house there. In a short time he removed to La Grange, where he erected and used the first shoe shop. He next removed to La Porte, Ind., to secure medical advice. Then, on account of ill health, he went to Texas, traveling the entire distance with a wagon. He worked at his trade there four years; then returned to Kendallville, subsequently removing to Valparaiso, Ind., where he conducted a large boot and shoe business for twelve years. He subsequently returned to Kendallville, and in 1877, purchased his present property, where he is following gardening. Mr. Isbell has been a member of the Methodist Church for over forty years, of which he is an exhorter, and has also done good service as an advocate of Temperance. His first wife died in 1860, having ten children, five of whom are now living—William H. is a farmer, now living in the West; he was a volunteer in the late war, and in service over three years ;

Nathaniel H., now in Mexico, was also in the service about one year; Adelina Moore, of Chicago; Alice Goodwin, of Valparaiso, Ind.; and Harriet Nellis, a resident of Chicago. Mr. Isbell was united with a second wife in 1862, Mrs. Mary G. Lash, widow of William Lash, one of the early residents of Noble County.

P. C. ISBELL, son of Charles and Adah (Tryon) Isbell, born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1819. His parents were natives of New York, and pioneers in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, settling in Allen Township, Noble County, about 1838, where they died. Charles served as Justice of the Peace, and was an exhorter of the Methodist Church, of which denomination he and wife were members for many years. His family were participants in the Revolution, and himself a volunteer in the war of 1812. He died in November, 1865, aged sixty-nine years, his wife November, 1857, aged fifty-seven years. Their children are as follows: Ezra T., P. C., Rosanna Weston, of Iowa; Miranda Southworth, of Plymouth, Ind.; Fanny Salisbury, of Kendallville; Hannah Dodge, Nebraska; Neomi Rickey, Kendallville; Martha Lehr, Kendallville; Emily Bidwell, of Fort Wayne, and Louisa Bidwell, of Albion. P. C. Isbell was reared in Ohio; when eighteen years of age, he went to Michigan, and engaged in farming, near Kalamazoo. In 1838, he came to Noble County, and settled in Allen Township, where he cleared up a farm. In 1852, he removed to his present farm, where he owns eighty acres of land; but for the past twenty years he has been manufacturing trusses and abdominal supporters, elastic trusses for males and females, and braces and supporters of all descriptions, and has an extended trade. His office, in Kendallville, is at the drug store of Lohman Brothers. Mr. Isbell has the first ballot box of Wayne Township, in which five votes were cast. He has, for many years, been Superintendent of the Cemetery, and is a member of the Masonic Order. He was married, in 1838, to Miss Maria Cosper, daughter of John Cosper, a pioneer settler of Noble County. They have seven children—Elias, Elizabeth, Gretzinger, of Jefferson Township; Marion, who was a member of Company E, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, serving about two years, now a resident of Goshen; Alonzo; William, Manager of the Commercial College of Terre Haute, Ind.; Leander and Anna Winans, of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Isbell are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Isbell, for many years, was identified with Sunday school work, and traveled extensively, organizing and aiding schools.

G. L. KIMMELL is one of the earliest settlers of Wayne Township. His parents, Henry and Susanna (Rust) Kimmell, were natives of Pennsylvania, and in 1817 emigrated to Illinois, settling near Kaskaskia, where they remained for eight years. The country then was inhabited by only a few white settlers and the Indians. His father erected a grist-mill, and did an extensive business trading with the Indians. He was engaged in stock raising and dealing. He emigrated to Michigan with his family and 100 head of cattle, taking a "bee line" through the forest, cutting their road as they went. After a journey of thirty-nine days, during which they saw no white person, they arrived at their destination near Ypsilanti. This country was also a wilderness, and in clearing, improving and cultivating it his parents passed the remainder of their lives. His father was a large land owner and speculator, an extensive dealer and raiser of stock; erected large manufactories of potash and pearlash, and was a respected and beloved citizen. Our subject is the third child of a family of eleven. He is a native of Pennsylvania, and was a small child when they emigrated to Illinois, where he had for his associates and playmates Indian children.



He has been associated with pioneer life in three States—Illinois, Michigan, where he remained with his father, assisting him until twenty-four years of age, and in Indiana, where he came in 1838 to Wayne Township, upon a venture for himself. He located upon Section 13, having to cut a road for three miles, to get to his land, and had no neighbors within three miles. Here he began to clear up his land, keeping "bachelor's hall." In 1840, he married Miss Phoebe Ann Gail, a native of New York, and upon this farm the worthy couple still live, enjoying a well-earned prosperity. Mr. Kimmell owns 245 acres of valuable land, which is operated by his sons. Mr. and Mrs. Kimmell have been members of the Baptist Church over twenty-five years. They had five children—Henry S., George Edgar, Albert J., Charles Grant, and Mary Ann (deceased).

HENRY S. KIMMELL is a son of George L. and Phoebe A. (Gail) Kimmell, early settlers of Wayne Township. Henry is a native of Wayne Township, and has passed his life, from its earliest associations up to the present time, in farming. He now owns 135 acres of fine land, which he has in a good state of cultivation. He is a young man with good practical ideas, and is progressive in all matters of public interest. He was united in marriage in February, 1877, to Miss Lucinda Rendel, of Michigan. They have four children—George C., Camillus H., Linus E. and William W.

J. W. LEARNED is a native of New Hampshire, and son to Samuel and Polly (Fowler) Learned. His father was a wealthy farmer of New Hampshire, and was thrice married, his last wife being a widow; her maiden name was Susanna Hills, and she was the mother of the subject's wife. The parents were unfortunate in losing their entire property, and their last days were passed in this county, where they were cared for by their children. Their deaths occurred in August, 1855, only fifteen days intervening. J. W. Learned, when nearly twenty-one years of age, paid his father \$20 for the few remaining months of his time, and went to Boston, where he was employed about two years; then returned to New Hampshire, and in 1831 was married to Miss Abigail M. Darling, also a native of New Hampshire. He then bought a piece of timbered land upon which he lived two years; next emigrated to Cayuga County, N. Y., then to Seneca County, Ohio. In 1836, he came to this county and entered 180 acres of land, and in 1837 moved upon it with his family. In 1861, he purchased the land where he now resides, locating upon it in 1869. This he has well improved. Mr. Learned now has 220 acres, and is a successful farmer. He has served the township as Trustee several terms; has been County Commissioner; is public-spirited and alive to the best interests of the people. Mr. and Mrs. Learned have two children living—Olivia Call and Almira Milk.

R. T. LYMAN is a native of Massachusetts. His business experiences have been varied and extended. He engaged at lumbering in Vermont for his first venture, remaining there ten years. He then went to Washington County, N. Y., where he was engaged at farming five years. He then returned to Vermont and conducted a hotel for three years, at the expiration of which he engaged at farming there for two years. His next departure was in Ohio, where he remained until 1868, embarking in the egg and butter trade in various portions of the State. In 1868, he came to Kendallville, soon after forming a partnership with H. McCray, in the egg and butter trade, remaining in association with him until 1875; when he again turned his attention to farming, at which he is still engaged. He is now the owner of the old "Green" farm, located in the central portion of the township. It is finely cultivated and well improved. Mr. Lyman is a member of the Masonic Order

and an enterprising citizen. He was married in 1850 to Miss Angelina Moore, of Washington County, N. Y. They have three children—Milton, Elmer and Annie.

HENRY POPPY is a son of Frederick and Dorothy (Roarie) Poppy, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America about 1830, settling in Maryland, where they resided for several years, subsequently emigrating to Richland County, Ohio. In 1848, they removed from Ohio to Noble County; becoming residents of Orange Township, where they settled upon a piece of timbered land. Here they resided for the remainder of their lives, clearing up and improving their property, becoming valued and respected citizens, and esteemed members of the Albright Church. Five children came with them to Indiana—Wilhemina; Thomas, living in Iowa; Augustus, a resident of Orange Township; Henry; Charles, deceased; and Sarah A. Walker, a resident of Kansas. The father died in 1872, the mother in 1850. Henry Poppy, our subject, is a native of Germany. Since the removal of his parents to Noble County in 1848, he has been identified with the agricultural interests here. He married, in 1856, Miss Susanna Rendel, of Wayne Township, daughter of William Rendel, and the same year he became a resident of Wayne Township, where he has improved a farm of 114 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Poppy have five children—Emma, Rettie, Dora, Marshall and Charles. They are members of the Disciples' Church.

JOB RENDEL is one of the young and successful farmers of Wayne Township. He represents also one of the early families of the township. His parents, William and Susanna (Likes) Rendel, were natives of Pennsylvania; they came from Wayne County, Ohio, to Wayne Township, about 1853, settling in the southern portion of the township, where the mother died in 1875. His father still claims it as his residence. They were parents of eight children—Mary J. Poppy, Susanna Poppy, Job, George, a leading farmer of Wayne Township; John, of Springfield Township, La Grange County; Maggie Kimmel, residing in Michigan; Arminda Mawhorter, of La Grange County, and Sarah Muter, of Orange Township. Job was born in Wayne County, Ohio, but since the removal of his parents to Noble County, has been associated in agricultural pursuits here. He now owns 160 acres of superior land with splendid improvements, and is one of the leading practical farmers of the township. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Drowley, of De Kalb County, in 1863. They are members of the Disciples' Church, and have three children—Hattie B., George O. and Herbert.

HIRAM ROBERTS is a son of Nehemiah and Charlotte (Tanner) Roberts, natives, respectively, of Vermont and Massachusetts. They were married in the State of New York, subsequently moving to Pennsylvania, then to Wayne County, Ohio. In 1841, they came to this county and settled in Allen Township. The father died in 1850, while on a visit to Ohio, and the mother in Allen Township in 1853. They were parents of thirteen children, only three of whom are now living, viz.: Hiram, who is the eldest; Amy, the wife of Wm. Whitford, of Allen Township; and Nathan, of Allen Township. Hiram Roberts was born in Jamestown, New York, in 1820. He came to Allen Township, from Wayne County, Ohio, in 1840, and purchased eighty acres of land, after which he returned to Ohio, and in 1841 brought his parents to Indiana. While a resident of Allen Township, he cleared and improved his land. In 1865, Mr. Roberts removed to his present home. His landed possessions are very valuable, and comprise over 400 acres, well improved and





*Yours Truly*  
*John Shipaly*  
WAYNE TP.



cultivated, making a farm difficult to excel. He was first married in 1847 to Miss Betsey Munger, of Orange Township. She died in 1852, leaving two children—Mary M., now Mrs. Smith, of Kendallville, and William Henry. Mr. Roberts married for his second wife, in 1856, Catherine Lash, a native of Pennsylvania, daughter of Phillip Lash, who came to Wayne Township about 1852. By this union three children have been born—Charles, on the old farm in Allen Township; Rose Long, of Ligonier, and John E. Mr. Roberts is a member of the Chosen Friends, and a practical, substantial farmer.

ANDREW ROSENBURY is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, born in 1811. His parents, Oliver and Ann (Jack) Rosenbury, were natives of Pennsylvania, and early settlers of Columbiana County, Ohio, subsequently removing to Summit County, and thence to Tuscarawas County, where they died. Our subject passed his early days in pioneer life in Ohio, subsequently engaging in farming in Summit County, where he remained for twelve years. In 1848, he became a resident of Wayne Township, locating in the extreme northeast corner, where he entered 80 acres, clearing and improving part of it, and then selling it, after seven years' residence. With the proceeds, he purchased 280 acres where he now resides. Here he has lived up to the present time, improving and clearing his land himself. He now owns 260 acres, 160 of which are in a splendid state of cultivation. Mr. Rosenbury is one of the many pioneers who have added much to the wealth and prosperity of Noble County, whom posterity should justly hold ever in grateful remembrance. He was married, in 1833, to Miss Justa Metland, a native of Summit County, Ohio. They have seven children living—Ann E. Shultz, of Kendallville; Louisa, deceased; Oliver, in Missouri; Jane Devoe, in Kansas; Joseph, a farmer of Wayne Township; Harriet Chaffee, of Missouri; Warren, a resident of Allen Township, and Norman.

JOHN SHIFALY is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born July 17, 1838, and attended school until fourteen years old, when, November 23, 1852, unaccompanied by friends, he left home and made the trip to the United States, landing in New York City January 9, 1853. After one year on a farm in Mahoning County, Ohio, he landed in Kendallville, Ind., March 27, 1854. Here young Shifaly, though not able to speak English, entered as clerk in the grocery store of J. Kime, where he worked one season for three dollars per month. On the 24th of December, 1854, he commenced to make Thomas B. Weston's his home. During that winter, he attended school two weeks, and, though commencing with his A B C, by his characteristic perseverance, in studying at home nights by the flickering light from the fire-place, in the spring he was able to read quite well. Home studying has been the source of his English education. As evidence of his attainments, he has been identified with school interests, as Director, for years, and there is to be found in his house one of the best libraries of any farmer in Indiana, comprising such works as Encyclopedia Britannica, Appleton's Encyclopedia, Bancroft's History, Edward Everett's, David Hume's, and most of the standard works of other noted authors. Mr. Shifaly continued to work for Mr. Weston until January 2, 1859, when he was united in marriage with Emily Pauline Weston, only daughter of his employer. He then took entire charge of the farm, making improvements, building, clearing, etc., continuing in full control until Mr. Weston's death. To the original tract—which was inherited through his wife—he has added by purchase 240 acres, the whole now comprising 510 acres, and constituting one of the best stock and grain farms in Northern In-

diana. Mrs. Shifaly was born in Plymouth, Wayne Co., Mich., August 30, 1838, and has lived on their present farm nearly 38 years. Their children are as follows: Mary Pauline, born May 5, 1860, and married to Albert Chaffee September 16, 1877; they have one child, born September 28, 1881; Charlotte Josephine, born August 18, 1862; Grant George Thomas, born May 7, 1864, died, July 21, 1872. Mr. Shifaly has the greatest reverence for the memory of Mr. and Mrs. Weston, and entertains for them both the highest appreciation for their kindnesses to him during his stay under their roof, which will always be remembered as equaling parental affection. Mr. Shifaly is a true representative of perseverance, energy, thrift and strict integrity. In physical endurance he is a prodigy, having performed an amount of labor that would have broken down a man of ordinary constitution, but no doubt much of this ability to endure is attributable to correct habits and his temperate mode of life. For twenty years past he has neither used tea nor coffee, neither has he used tobacco in any shape or manner. Never did drink spirituous liquors, nor does he drink beer, or even hard cider. This is the more remarkable when his nationality is taken into consideration. The good judgment and labor bestowed in the management of his farm has been almost marvelous in results. Two thousand bushels of shelled corn were marketed in one season, besides retaining sufficient for stock feeding; another year he raised 188 bushels of clover seed, and another season 2,000 bushels of wheat. From this same farm he has sold wood for twenty-two winters, often three and four loads per day, hauling a distance of six miles, and not an uncommon thing to unload on his first trip at 4 o'clock in the morning. He has now 400 head of sheep, thirty-five head of cattle and several head of horses. Mr. Shifaly is of a social disposition, a staunch Republican, and, in public matters, keeps apace with the progress of the age. He is a fitting representative of the progressive and practical farmers of Noble County.

ADDISON B. STANTON is a son of Caleb S. and Chloe (Caldwell) Stanton. Caleb was a native of New York; his wife of Canada. They were married in Wayne County, N. Y., and in 1834 emigrated to Michigan, where they remained until 1836, when they removed to Noble County, Ind., settling on Section 10, Wayne Township. There the worthy couple passed the remainder of their days, assisting in the development of the community and aiding as best they could in the progress and advancement of the township. He served in various offices of trust, for three years as Township Trustee. He died in 1872; his wife in 1873. She was a consistent member of the M. P. Church. They were parents of four children—Dorliska Andrews, now a resident of La Grange County; Addison B.; Alphonzo, a resident of Michigan; and Luftus, also of Michigan. Our subject is a native of the "Empire" State. He has been identified with Wayne Township from the "pioneer" days of their early settlement up to the present time. Mr. Stanton has always followed the vocation of farming, and is now the owner of 160 acres of valuable land. He has always taken an interest in public measures for the improvement of Noble County and is one of the representative and practical farmers. He was united in marriage, in 1850, with Miss Lucinda Potter, daughter of Henry Potter, an old resident of the county. They have two children—Adelaide Devoe, living in Wayne Township, and Seymour, who is a divine in the M. P. Church and (in 1881) located in Grant County, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Stanton have been identified with the M. P. Church for many years and are esteemed and valued citizens.

CHAUNCEY G. R. WATERHOUSE represents one of the leading farmers and large land owners of Northern Indiana and also a pioneer family of La Grange County. His parents—Benjamin B. and Harriet Waterhouse—were natives of Vermont, and in 1837 emigrated from New York State to Milford Township, La Grange County, Ind. His father became a prominent citizen and successful farmer, and remained there until his death. His mother still survives. They were parents to five children, four of whom are now living—Sarah Wilson, of Sturgis, Mich.; Emma Cosper, of Milford Township; Artemissa Spellman, residing in La Grange; and the subject of this sketch, who is a native of New York, and who, since the removal of his parents to this county, has been prominently identified with its progress, especially with the agricultural interests. He remained in La Grange County until 1869, when he removed to Wayne Township, where he has resided since and has permanently located. He erected, in 1831, an elegant residence, one half a mile north of Kendallville, where we now find him, superintending personally his large farming interest. He owns about eleven hundred acres of land, divided into six farms and located in La Grange and Noble Counties. Mr. Waterhouse, while giving his entire attention to farming interests, is a public-spirited and valued citizen, and favors all measures of progress and advancement. He was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Vine in 1860. Her parents were early settlers of Milford Township, coming there from Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse have four children—Albert, Frank, John and Homer.

CHARLES WEINGART, a native of Germany, was born September 12, 1844. His father, Joseph Weingart, came to America in 1852, locating in this county, and in 1860 was followed by his wife (Elizabeth Weingart) and family. They have had three children—Louis, Rosa (now dead) and Charles. The latter was married, in 1869, to Salome Kundert, who afterward died, leaving one child, William, born August 18, 1870. Mr. Weingart subsequently married Margaret Zonker, a native of Indiana. Their children were Joseph A., Mary E. and Waldo C. They own a well improved farm of 140 acres and are industrious and intelligent people.

THOMAS B. WESTON (deceased) came from a pioneer family whose ancestry can be traced back in the seventh degree to his namesake, Thomas Weston, who landed from the Mayflower at Plymouth in 1620, and another named John Weston who came to Salem, Mass., in 1644, from Buckinghamshire in the North of England, just 200 years before Thomas B. moved into his log cabin in Indiana. The Westons are a numerous family; those bearing the name and springing from one common source are distributed over the whole of the Eastern, Western and Northwestern States. A significant remark was often made by the representative of this sketch, that he could travel on foot to his birthplace in York State and stop every night but one with those belonging to the Weston family. As a whole, those of the name are found to be equal to any family in the land in the possession of those sterling qualities—morality and integrity. Thomas B. Weston was a native of Pompey, Onondaga Co., N. Y., where he was born October 13, 1799, and was amongst the earliest pioneers of this township. When a boy he moved with his father, Nathan Weston, to Monroe County, N. Y., where he worked on the home farm until the death of his father, August 26, 1823. The care of the family, consisting of two brothers and two sisters, then devolved on him. The succeeding thirteen years he tilled the soil and, in the meantime, taught writing-school and studied surveying. In the spring of 1836, he came to Indiana, and in later years took delight in recount-

ing his experiences while hunting land; how he with others were seven nights in the woods of what is now De Kalb County with the wolves howling around them, and other hair-raising events. On making his selection of land, he went on foot to the land office at Fort Wayne and made the entry of a rich tract, a part of which being in what is now Wayne Township, the balance being located in Wells County, this State. Returning to the Empire State, he married, on September 7, 1837, Miss Paulina Maxfield, of Copake, Columbia Co., N. Y., moving the next spring to Plymouth, Wayne Co., Mich., where their only daughter, Emily Paulina, was born August 30, 1838. On June 20, 1841, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. Thus left with the care of his child, with home broken up, he came, in 1842, to make a permanent settlement in this county, and was married a second time to Catherine Anderson, who was born in Huntingdon County, Penn., January 6, 1802, emigrating to Licking County, Ohio, with her parents, and from there to La Grange County, Ind., in the year 1838, her father being one of the first settlers on Pretty Prairie. July 16, 1844, Mr. Weston with his wife, and his child by his first wife, moved into the log cabin which was to be their future home, situated on the northwest corner of Section 11. It was in this rude home that the first religious services held in the township were conducted by the Rev. John Martin, of La Grange County. Through the deprivations and laborious toil of those frontier days, Mr. Weston found in his wife a source of moral and material aid that buoyed him up under the most trying circumstances, and it was through her heroic efforts in his behalf that many seeming impossibilities were surmounted. While he was engaged in clearing, she was to be found at her spinning-wheel or the loom, preparing cloth for their clothing or other fabrics for household use. Their home farm was heavily timbered, hard maple predominating, and one spring there were thirteen sugar camps on his land worked by different parties on shares, the fact being admitted that he had the most extensive sugar bush in the country. Mr. Weston possessed qualities of a social nature in an eminent degree; this with his strict ideas of honor and justice made him deservedly popular. Politically, he was conservative, voting with the Whigs until the birth of the Republican party, whose standard he followed on all national issues, but at local elections he cast his vote for the best man. In 1855, he, having served the public as Town Clerk for about six years, was elected Justice of the Peace, which office he filled for twenty-four years. In 1863, he had declined to be again a candidate, but being pressed finally consented to his name being presented in the caucus by certain parties, who turned against him and nominated a teetotaler in his stead. This aroused the old pioneer, and at the earnest request of the leading men in the township, he came out as an independent candidate and was triumphantly elected, only lacking six votes of beating both the Republican and Democratic candidates combined. A few years after he settled on his land, he donated to the public a piece of ground for a cemetery—an exceedingly pleasant location on what is known as the "Big Hill," that part of the farm passing a few years later into the hands of his son-in-law, John Shifaly, who donated ground for a church, which was named Weston Chapel in honor of the memory of the old pioneer. Just thirty-four years to a day from the time they moved into their log cabin, Mrs. Weston died July 16, 1878. Mr. Weston retained his mental faculties in his old age to a remarkable degree; he excelled in penmanship, and a letter written just before his death was a piece of art worthy of a writing master. After an illness of only thirty-six hours he died July 26, 1881, at the advanced age of eighty-one years, nine months and thirteen



days. His funeral was attended by the largest concourse of people of any that ever occurred in this part of the country. The last twenty years of his life he made almost daily rounds among his neighbors for a social chat, and "Uncle Tommy," as he was familiarly called, was ever welcome. With the closing of this noble life we can appropriately say with the poet :

" Life's race well run ;  
Life's work well done ;  
Life's crown well won ;  
Now comes rest."

L. D. WHITFORD is a son of Stutley and Elizabeth Whitford, who are old residents of Wayne Township. He is a native of Wayne County, Ohio. Since the removal of his parents to Noble County, he has resided here and given his attention to agricultural pursuits. He became the owner of the old " Childs " farm in 1880, which he is now operating. His farm consists of eighty-five acres of improved land, conveniently located. In 1866, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Louisa Wright, daughter of James Wright, one of the early residents of Wayne Township. Mr. and Mrs. Whitford are members of the M. E. Church. They have one child, Charles F. Mr. Whitford is one of the enterprising young men of Wayne Township, who are soon to fill the places of the old pioneers who are passing away.

JAMES W. WRIGHT is the oldest son of James Wright, a native of England, who came to America in 1833, first locating in Ohio, where he resided until 1844, when he came to Wayne Township and settled upon the farm now owned by the subject of this sketch. Here he remained, clearing and improving his land, passing his time in the quiet tenor of farming life until his death, dying as he had lived, a Christian gentleman, July 22, 1881. His wife's maiden name was Emily Finch. They were married July 5, 1838. She is a native of New York, and is now living with her son. She is a member of the M. P. Church, which, together with her husband, she has been identified with for over forty years. Seven children are descendants. Sarah Shaffer, of Wayne Township; Mary Weaver, deceased; Margaret Weaver, in Nebraska; James W., William C., Frances Browand, in Nebraska; and Louisa L. Whitford, of Wayne Township. James W. is a native of Wayne Township, where he has always resided and engaged in farming. He is now the owner of the old homestead farm, which consists of 110 acres of well cultivated and improved land. He is an industrious and liberal-minded citizen, and one of the reliable farmers of the township. He was married in 1869 to Miss Mary A. Gallup of Wayne Township. They have two children, Mattie and Nellie.

WILLIAM C. WRIGHT is a son of James and Emily (Finch) Wright, early settlers of Wayne Township. William is a native of Wayne Township, where he has always been identified. He is now the owner of the " Joseph Childs " farm, consisting of eighty acres of land, which is well improved and adjoins his father's old farm. Mr. Wright is a young and promising farmer, of industrious habits, and will doubtless become one of the standard farmers of the future. He was married, 1876, to Miss Arvilla Hill, a daughter of Nicholas Hill, another pioneer settler of the township. They have two children—John and Amelia.

### TOWN OF LIGONIER.

JOHN ABDILL, hardware and tinware, is the third child in a family of seven children, and was born in Delaware. He came here with his parents, Joseph and Jemimah (Blockson) Abdill, natives of Delaware. His father was a farmer, and also a local preacher of the United Brethren denomination, and moved to Richland County, Ohio, with his family in 1835; thence to Noble County, settling, in 1849, in York Township. At the age of seventeen, John commenced his apprenticeship at the tinner's trade in Ligonier, serving three years; then followed his trade there until 1856, when he went to Michigan and remained there working at his trade till the fall of 1858. He returned to Ligonier, and in August, 1873, went into the hardware business, on his own responsibility. This proved a successful enterprise. Mr. Abdill has served as Councilman, and is now a member of the school board, in his second term; is also a member of the Masonic Order. He was married in Michigan in 1856 to Miss Mary E. Crane, a native of Indiana and former resident of Ligonier. They have four children, Edward E., now reading law in Ligonier; Zula M., Wallace and Merton, and are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ALBERT BANTA, Justice of the Peace, is a native of Montgomery County, Ohio. He was engaged in farming in Preble County, Ohio, until 1836, when he came to Elkhart County, Ind., and commenced in the mercantile business. This he followed until 1840, when he was elected County Sheriff, and served four years, and then returned to farm life in Benton Township. In 1854, he came to Ligonier, where he located and remained until 1862, when he went to Bluffton, Ind., returning to Ligonier in 1870, where he has since resided. In 1872, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and has since held that office. He was a member of the City Council one year, and belonged to the Methodist Church in 1840, but is now a member of the Disciples' Church. In 1824, Mr. Banta married Mary Brower, of Ohio. She died in 1870, leaving six children, five now living: Albert J. and John D., both living in Elkhart County; Peter, now residing in Kansas; Mary J. Carmean, of Noble County; and Elizabeth Sherwood, of Ligonier. He was married again, in 1871, to Mrs. Mary J. Parks, of Ligonier. Mr. Banta has been a member of the Masonic Order since 1844, and is now a Royal Arch Mason.

A. C. BEECHER, dentist, son of A. B. and Mary J. (Bailey) Beecher, was born in Hancock County, Ohio, is the eldest of five children, and came with his parents in 1859 to La Grange, Ind., where his parents still reside. Here, he attended school, and in 1870 commenced the study of his profession with F. M. Hamsher, with whom he remained two years. He spent one and one-half years in Butler County, Ind., practicing; and then went to the University at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he took the course of study, and in 1876 graduated from the Dental Department. He returned to La Grange, and followed the practice of his profession there until 1881, when he came to Ligonier, where he is building up a good business. He is a proficient workman, and a promising young business man. While in La Grange, he served as Deputy Postmaster. He is a member of the Knights of Honor. He was married

in 1874 to Miss Alice Speed, of La Grange; they have two children—Charlie and Veva.

J. M. BELTS, manufacturer and dealer in furniture, is one of the successful business men of Ligonier, in his line of trade, having secured a large and successful custom. He was born in Livingston County, N. Y., and in his native State learned the trade of cabinet-making. He followed this calling in various locations in different States, and came to Ligonier in 1874, where he was employed at his trade for two years. In 1876, he started his present business, which has proved most successful. He has extended it, and now carries a large and splendid stock of furniture, and his business is steadily increasing. Mr. Belts was married, December 27, 1859, to Miss Sarah L. Brooks, a native of New York. They have three children—Adelbert M., Claude J. and Maud.

F. P. BOTHWELL, of Green & Bothwell, lawyers, is a native of this county, and son of T. H. and Zillah A. (Eagles) Bothwell, who were married in Noble County, and were residents of Sparta Township until the death of Mr. Bothwell in 1867. He was one of the early settlers, and, besides farming, carried on the lumber and saw-milling business. The mother is still living in Ligonier. They had five children—Lucy Galloway, of Ligonier; Harriet Jones, of Sparta Township; the subject, Melvin and Leslie. Our subject lived in Sparta Township, attending district school there until the age of fourteen, when he went to Hillsdale, Mich., and attended college for three years, then for one year went to school at Valparaiso, Ind. In 1875, he became a student in the law office of I. E. Kinsley, at Ligonier, and remained two years, then went to Chicago, and after completing the course of study in the Union Law College there, was admitted to the bar of Illinois. He returned to Noble County in the fall of 1878; was admitted to practice there, and formed a partnership with J. W. Scott; this existed only a short time, and in December, 1878, he became associated with D. W. Green. Mr. Bothwell is an able and rising young lawyer, and has already attained a prominent position among the attorneys of the county. He was united in marriage, April 22, 1880, to Miss Lena M. Decker, daughter of J. Decker, of Ligonier.

S. M. BRADEN, of the firm of Braden & Peck, millers, is a native of Fostoria, Seneca County, Ohio, and a son of William Braden, who for a number of years operated there woolen and grist mills. In Fostoria our subject passed his earlier years, where he became familiar with milling. He subsequently went with his father to a farm in Illinois, where he became familiar with agricultural life. After his father's death, he engaged in milling in different States, until 1869, when he located in Ligonier, and assumed the charge of Ulmer & Clark's mill, subsequently becoming a partner in the firm of Strauss, Henderson & Co. Mr. Braden has continued his connection with this mill up to the present time, although the above association lasted only about two years. The present firm was organized in July, 1879, by the association of Jarvis Peck with Mr. Braden. They have four run of stone, and possess an extensive trade. Mr. Braden has, for nearly twenty-five years, been engaged in superintending mills. He obtained a patent in 1879, on "Braden's Improved Wheat Heater," which proved of practical utility, and is meeting with good success in the market. Mr. Braden married Miss Rachel Henderson, of De Kalb County, Ind., in 1865. He is a Mason, and valued citizen of Ligonier.

G. W. CARR, M. D., began life during the pioneer days of Stark County, Ohio. His parents, Benjamin and Mary (Jennings), were early settlers of Stark

County, and farmed there for many years. The mother died there in 1852, and the father subsequently remarried. He came to Ligonier in 1856, where he died in 1861. Of their children, twelve attained maturity, and ten are now living. Our subject, who is next to the youngest child, assisted on his father's farm in Stark County until seventeen years of age. He then went to Navarre, and commenced reading medicine with Dr. Leeper, under whose tutelage he remained three years. In 1850, he came to Ligonier, and for two years studied medicine with Dr. Wellman. He then established an office, and practiced his profession for four years, when he went to Cleveland, and in 1856 graduated from the Cleveland Medical College, returning at the end of that time to Ligonier, where he has since been in practice, with the exception of three years' service in the late war. He went out in 1862 with the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and remained with them as Assistant Surgeon until March, 1864, when he was appointed Surgeon of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served in this capacity until the war ended. He has established a large and successful practice. His popularity as a physician is well deserved, and he is well-informed on the science of medicine and surgery. Since the year 1880, he has been in partnership with William A. Shobe, who, since fourteen years of age, has been with Dr. Carr, having made the study of medicine a pursuit. He graduated from the Detroit Medical College in 1880. Dr. Carr is a Royal Arch Mason, and was married to Miss Dulcina Teal, daughter of Joseph Teal, of Perry Township, in 1852. She died in 1862, leaving two children—Wallace W. and Denoyer P. In 1864, he was united in marriage with Sarah McMillan, a native of Rochester, N. Y.

**WILLIAM CULVEYHOUSE**, gunsmith, is a native of La Porte County, Ind., and lived at home on his father's farm until thirteen years of age, when he was crippled, and went to Plymouth, Marshall Co., Ind., where he commenced learning the gunsmith's trade, finishing it in Indianapolis. He spent four years in the different States; then, in 1859, he enlisted on an English man-of-war at Baltimore, but failed to go with them. For two years, he was connected with the hydraulic water-works of Annapolis Naval School. In 1862, he went to La Porte, Ind.; remained nine months, and in 1863 came to Ligonier, where he conducted a gun and sporting store, and followed his trade until in March, 1880. He then went to Easton, Md., returning to Ligonier in August, 1881, where he is permanently located in his old business calling. He was married in 1862 to Miss Eliza A. Stewart, of Annapolis, Md. Their children are William H., Maretta V., Elizabeth and Vesta A.

**L. J. DUNNING** is the eldest of five children born to Jesse and Lorinda (Lawrence) Dunning, natives of New York, and was reared on his father's farm in the place of his nativity, Dutchess County, N. Y. At the age of twenty-one, he went to Fairfield County, Ohio, where he practiced farming, teaching school winters. He came to this county in October, 1859, and entered a farm in Perry Township, which he managed one year. He then went into the grocery business with J. E. Braden, in Ligonier. This partnership lasted until 1867, when Mr. Braden retired, Mr. Dunning continuing the business alone. In 1865, his parents left their farm, and came from New York to Ligonier, residing with their son until their deaths; that of the father occurred in 1866, and the mother in 1880. In 1873, Mr. Dunning's son, Jesse L., became a partner in his store, and in 1881 they associated with them Frank Jackson, making the firm of Dunning, Son & Co. Their stock consists of general groceries,



produce, tobacco, cigars, crockery, lime, salt, cement, etc. Mr. Dunning's wife was Anna Huber, a native of Fairfield County, Ohio. They have four children living—Jesse L.; Lucinda, wife of W. A. Jackson, of Ligonier; Emma, wife of Frank Jackson, of the firm Dunning, Son & Co.; and Libbie, at home; and two deceased—Mary Miller and Jacob. Mr. Dunning has been Township Trustee four years, and the Dunning family are all members of the Disciples' Church.

C. ELDRED, druggist, lived on a farm in New York, his native State, until about sixteen years of age, when he went to Akron, Summit Co., Ohio, where he learned the tinner's trade. To Stark County he next went, where he was employed at Navarre, in the hardware and tinning business, until 1854. The following eleven years, he followed his trade in Huntington County, Ind., and in 1865 began his present business in Ligonier. He first formed a partnership with P. Serbert, which existed only a few months, Mr. Eldred conducting the business alone until in 1872, when his son became a partner, and the firm has remained to the present C. Eldred & Son. Mr. Eldred was married to Miss Eliza Hawk, a native of Pennsylvania and resident of Stark County, Ohio, in 1845. They have three children—S. T. Eldred, druggist; John H., a printer at La Porte; and Mary Hoffman, of Ligonier. They are both members of the Methodist Church and Mr. Eldred is a Knight Templar.

S. T. ELDRED, junior member of the firm of C. Eldred & Son, was born in Stark County, Ohio. In 1865, he began his business experience in Wabash, clerking in a drug store, then was in his father's store at Ligonier until he became a partner in 1872. They are both courteous gentlemen and progressive business men. The son is also a Mason, and was married, in 1873, to Miss Elizabeth Randall, a native of Indiana. They have one child—Frank.

S. B. ENGLE, son of Andrew and Ann R. (Conrad) Engle, was born in Perry Township. His parents were there engaged in farming, and came at an early day. The subject's younger days were associated with farm life, and his educational facilities were up to the standard, which sufficiently warranted him in teaching school during the winters. He officiated three years as a preceptor in the public schools at Ligonier, to which place he came in 1877, where he he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss M. E. Myers, who was a resident of Illinois at the time of her marriage, but originally came from Ohio.

J. F. GARD, M. D., one of Ligonier's prominent professional men, was born in Preble County, Ohio, where he was reared on a farm. In 1859, he began the study of medicine with A. D. Potts, and continued it until the opening of the war, when he enlisted, in May, 1861, in the Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was with this regiment for one year, and during the remainder of the war and until January, 1866, he served in the First Indiana Heavy Artillery, thus making over four years' service, during which time he acted chiefly as Assistant Surgeon. After the war closed, he commenced the practice of his profession in Miami County, Ind., where he remained six years. He named the town of North Grove, in Miami County, Ind., where he went in 1866, succeeded in establishing a post office, and when he left the place numbered 300 inhabitants. Mr. Gard came to this county in October, 1871, and remained at Wawaka, where he built up a large practice, until he came to Ligonier and located in 1877. He has secured an extended and lucrative practice, and is well known as an able physician. Mr. Gard is a graduate of Bennett Medical College of Chicago and is a Knight Templar. He was married to Miss Mary J. White, a native of Ohio, in 1867. They have two

children living—Ettie B. and Addie. Albert L. died in 1870, aged eighteen months.

W. G. GARDNER, merchant tailor, was born in Germany, March 10, 1833, is the youngest of five children, and the only one of the family that came to this country. His parents, Alexander and Regene Gardner lived and died in Germany. The subject emigrated to New York City in 1854, and after four months went to Newton, N. J., remained six months, then returned to New York City. He then went to Burlington, Va., and after returning, spent some time in New York, and after an extended trip throughout the Western States and Canada, returned again to New York, subsequently going to Connecticut, where he stayed until 1862. In that year he enlisted in Company F, Nineteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and served until July 17, 1865, then returned to Connecticut; he received two wounds while in the army. He came to Ligonier in 1877, and was employed for some time by Jacob Straus & Co., as cutter and fitter in their clothing establishment. In 1879, he established a business of his own and has been very prosperous; he employs from five to seven workmen. Mr. Gardner was first married in Connecticut, July 3, 1860, to Louisa Kohlor, who was born in Germany in 1842. She died in 1861, May 18, and he married January 1, 1862, Mary A. Commings, a native of Connecticut, born February 25, 1838. By his first wife Mr. Gardner had one child, W. F., and the remaining children are Phebie A., Sophia J., Nellie M., and an infant as yet unnamed. Mr. Gardner is a Mason, and owns town property in Ligonier; he is a popular citizen as well as an honorable business man.

E. B. GERBER, hardware, etc., a genial gentleman and an energetic, thrifty business man, was born in Stark County, Ohio, one of eleven children, whose parents were David and Susanna (Buchtel) Gerber, early settlers of E. B.'s native county. The father was a persevering farmer, who, with his family, removed to La Grange County, Ind., in 1855, settling in Eden Township, where he died in 1872. In 1876, the mother moved into Ligonier, where she still resides, in the consciousness of a well spent life and with the respect of her many acquaintances. Eight of the children are now living—Eliza Shrock and Abraham, in La Grange County; Lydia Yoder and Daniel, in Perry Township; and E. B., Sarah Bruner, Tena King and Christopher W., of Ligonier. In 1861, Jacob J. entered the army for the suppression of the rebellion, as a member of Company C, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until he was taken prisoner at the battle of Chickamauga. He was then taken to the rebel prison at Andersonville, where he died September 2, 1864. Benjamin F., the youngest of the family, was a tinner by trade, and had charge of that department in E. B.'s hardware store until the 5th of June, 1881, when he and his wife were drowned in the Reservoir at Rome City. They were married in 1878. Her maiden name was Maxwell. E. B. Gerber, in his early manhood, learned the carpenter trade, also civil engineering, in addition to which he commenced teaching school whilst yet in Stark County, Ohio. In 1855 he came to La Grange County with his parents, but went to Nebraska the same year. Here bringing into requisition his knowledge of engineering, assisted in laying out Omaha City. After about eight months, having visited other parts, he returned home and resumed school-teaching and carpentering. In 1857, Mr. Gerber was appointed Deputy County Surveyor of Noble County under William Dowling, and in 1858 was elected County Surveyor, serving until 1865, with his residence in Ligonier. Was engaged in publishing town and county maps, from 1864 until 1867. The real estate business then en-

grossed his attention for one year. In January, 1869, he purchased the interest of Mr. Wadsworth, of Wadsworth & Parker, hardware, and one year later bought Mr. Parker's interest, thus succeeding to the proprietorship of the whole establishment. He carries a full line of hardware, stoves, tinware and agricultural implements. This business is conducted in a progressive manner characteristic of the man. In 1871, Mr. Gerber, in connection with Mr. Treash and Kirchbaum, established a foundry in Ligonier, which business, in 1880, was changed to a carriage manufactory. In 1874, he, with Carlton Jones, started a handle manufactory, but is not now connected with that business. In political positions, in addition to that of Surveyor, Mr. Gerber has served in nearly the whole line in his town and township. In 1856, he was elected as Trustee of Eden Township, La Grange County, and served as first Assessor of Ligonier after its incorporation. Has been City Councilman for several terms; has also filled the office of City Clerk, and is now President of the City Council, and has served several years as School Trustee. He is a Knight Templar, and now Master of the Ligonier Lodge, No. 185, F. & A. M. In October, 1857, Mr. Gerber was married to Miss Mary Moses, of Perry Township. They have four children—Owen F., Delta, Minnie and Dwight. The honorable and active career of Mr. Gerber, as summed up in his record, is a higher commendation of his usefulness as a citizen than can be bestowed upon him by any words of praise.

D. W. GREEN, of Green & Bothwell, attorneys at law, was born in Stark County, Ohio, son of John F. and Christina (Bowers) Green, natives of Germany, and early settlers of Stark County, where they resided up to 1860, the father engaging in blacksmithing, being a mechanic by trade, learned edge tool-making in the old country. They moved to Wayne County, Ohio, where they lived one year; then, in 1861, came to Ligonier. While in Noble County, he followed farming; then, in 1875, removing to Jasper County, he engaged in the hardware trade, in connection with his son, which still occupies his attention. They had six children, the subject being the fourth. He had a good education, and after coming to Noble County, with parents, attended Wittenburg College, at Springfield. In 1862, he enlisted Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and soon after was appointed Steward of No. 1 Hospital, at Louisville, Ky. When this was closed, he was transferred to Crittenden Hospital, where he was connected until 1865. He returned to Ligonier, and attended commercial college at Fort Wayne one term. He then spent a short time at Kendallville, in the grocery business, with Albert Banta, subsequently farming two years in Perry Township, where he was elected Justice of the Peace. Moved to Ligonier in 1870, and served eight years. Previous to this, he had been studying law, which he has been practicing since 1876, when he was admitted to the bar. In 1878, he formed his present association with Frank P. Bothwell. He is now serving as City Attorney, and is an eminent lawyer, and progressive citizen. He was married, in 1867, to Miss Ellen Banta, daughter of Albert Banta. In 1872, she died, leaving a child, Lulu M. Mr. Green married again, in 1874, Ladora D. Dodge, of Elkhart Township; she died in 1875. His present and third wife was Mrs. Electa W. Fleming, whom he married in 1877. They have one child, Charles F. Mr. Green belongs to the Methodist Church.

A. C. HARDENBROOK, grocery and saloon, is a native of Elkhart Township, this county. His father, Ralph Hardenbrook, was a native of Virginia, and his mother, Eunice (Carr), was a native of Ohio. They left Richland County,

Ohio, in 1835, and came to Noble County, locating in Elkhart Township. Here they passed their remaining days on a farm ; the mother died in 1849, and her husband in 1862. Of nine children, there are now living—Freman, Harriet Hardenburgh and Emily Gibson, of Iowa ; Solomon, of Albion, Ind. ; Francis, of Michigan, and the subject. The latter's early life was passed on a farm, until he reached his majority, when he went West, and passed nine years among the mountains in Idaho, Montana and Nevada, engaged in packing and mining. He returned to Ligonier in 1866, and engaged in the livery business ; subsequently starting a grocery and saloon, which he has since continued. Mr. Hardenbrook has crossed the plains seven times, and has been once by water to California. He has served on the City Council, and is one of the oldest citizens born in the county. He possesses a fine library, is a well-read man and a progressive citizen. He was married, in December, 1866, to Miss Melinda Hathaway, native of Ohio. They have five children—Harry, Lora, Vernon, Allie and James.

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, jeweler, passed his early life in Ohio, Stark County, where he was born. He came to Ligonier with his parents. His father, Mark B. Higginbotham, was a native of Ireland, and was married in Stark County, Ohio, to Jane Scott, who was a native of Scotland. He was a jeweler by trade, and followed it throughout life, working at the bench for over half a century. They remained in Ohio until 1857, when they came to Ligonier, and he commenced his trade with a small stock of goods, that he afterward enlarged, his son, J. W., being the manager. He died in 1876, and his wife in 1881. They were both Episcopalians, and had two children, the subject, and Elizabeth Miller, of Bloomington, Ill. The former learned the jeweler's trade of his father, and was in partnership with him, making the firm of Higginbotham & Son. Since his father's death, he has conducted the business alone ; through constant practice, has become a superior workman ; makes repairing a specialty ; and carries an extensive stock of watches, clocks, silverware and jewelry. He has been a member of the City Council one term ; has served as Town Clerk one term ; and is a member of I. O. O. F. In 1864, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Fisher, of Stark County, Ohio, daughter of Henry C. Fisher, an early settler of Noble County, and now a resident of Kansas. They have four children—Harry M., Maud, Pearl and John J.

J. H. HOFFMAN, books, stationery, news, wall paper, etc., an energetic business man. He is a native of De Kalb County, Ind. His parents, George R. and Sarah (Cramer) Hoffman, came from Pennsylvania to De Kalb County about 1837, being pioneer settlers and residents there until their death. They located in Butler Township. His father was a prominent citizen and served that county as Recorder several years. Our subject was associated with his father on the farm until 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in active service about one year, being wounded at the battle of Pittsburg Landing. Returning to his home, he engaged at school teaching, using the money earned in attaining a higher education. In 1867, he came to Ligonier and embarked in his present business, also teaching in the public schools for three years. His stock is varied and extensive, and embraces everything in the line of a first-class book and stationery store. He is the agent for various makes of cabinet organs and the Weber piano. Mr. Hoffman has served in the City Council one year, and as Town Clerk three years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. In 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary C. Eldred, daughter of C. Eldred, druggist, of Ligonier.



HON. HENRY HOSTETTER is the present Representative to the State Legislature from Noble and La Grange Counties, to which position he was elected in 1880. He is a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, where he was born July 14, 1813. His parents, Henry and Catherine (Maughmer) Hostetter, were natives of Virginia and Maryland, and of German and Scotch descent. Ulrich Hostetter, the grandfather of our subject, emigrated to this country from Germany at the close of the Revolutionary war, and located in Greenbrier County, Va., afterward removing to Rockingham County, same State. Henry Hostetter, at the age of fifteen, was apprenticed to the tanner and currier's trade, but was compelled to abandon that occupation on account of failing health. In the spring of 1831, he came with his father's family to what is now Perry Township. Here they began clearing a large tract of land. His father was a representative man, serving as one of the first County Commissioners, and as Township Trustee several terms. They had a family of twelve children, five of whom are now living—John, Benjamin, Henry, Joel and Mrs. Mary A. Walker, a widow living in Goshen. The parents remained here until their death, the father, in 1847, and the mother in 1855. After coming here, Henry served for a time on the home farm and then entered the employ of Spenser & Dawson, of Fort Wayne, as a salesman. After two years in that capacity, he attended school for four months at Goshen, after which he taught school four months in the year and worked at common labor the rest. July 5, 1839, he married Miss Margaret Ann Harsh, whose parents, with their family, came to Ligonier, in 1837, from Hocking County, Ohio, she, then only fifteen years old, walking the whole distance, over three hundred miles. Mr. Hostetter and wife settled on the Haw Patch and cleared a farm. In 1853, they moved into Ligonier, where he entered upon the practice of the law. Mr. Hostetter is a Republican in politics; he filled the office of Justice of the Peace for fourteen consecutive years, and Township Assessor for twelve years; in 1840, he was elected County Sheriff, and, in 1842, was defeated for re-election by only three votes, the Democratic majority for other candidates being about 350. In 1840, he was also appointed County Appraiser by the Legislature. His long continuance in official position by the people is a fitting tribute to his efficiency and moral worth. In religious views, Mr. Hostetter is liberal, though he and wife both were reared under strict orthodox teachings. He is an active Mason, having joined that fraternity in 1853. His business enterprises have been so successful as to place at his command an ample fortune which he and wife are enjoying in their home in Ligonier. They have four children—Dewitt Clinton (agent of the B. & O. R. R. at Milford Junction, Ind.), Mary W., Alma E., Barney (of Elkhart), and Alice E. Sandrock, of Ligonier.

DAVID HOUGH, farmer, was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., and was brought up on his father's farm. He remained in Pennsylvania, farming in Westmoreland and Allegheny Counties for himself until 1864. In this year, he came to Indiana, locating in this township, where he still resides. In 1852, he was married to Miss Amanda Guffey, of Westmoreland County, Penn. They have four children—Mary Wade (who resides in Ligonier), Benjamin, Margaret and Andrew. Mr. Hough owns eighty acres of well-improved farming land situated on Section 19, and is one of the prominent and practical farmers of Perry Township. From 1871 to 1875, he filled the office of County Sheriff and creditably discharged the duties assigned him.

J. E. HUFFMAN is a contractor and builder, resident of the city of Ligonier, which has been his home since the close of the war, and where he has prosecuted his business with success. Mr. Huffman was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 20, 1840. He remained with his parents until he was eighteen years old; then learned the carpenter's trade. In 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which regiment he served with bravery. Returning home, he subsequently entered the Thirteenth Indiana Infantry, and served until the close of the war, sharing in the campaigns and battles of his command. Mr. Huffman, at the termination of his service, settled in Ligonier, and commenced work at his trade. November 28, 1869, he was married to Miss M. B. Smith, native of York State, born January 18, 1840. The parents of Mr. Huffman were Frederick and Elizabeth Huffman, he a native of Switzerland, and she of Pennsylvania, both born in 1808. He came to this country in 1816, remaining in Pennsylvania until 1834. In the meantime, learned the shoemaker's trade. He then came to Stark County, Ohio, and was married in 1835 to Elizabeth Simmons. In 1848, he moved with his family to De Kalb County, this State, where the old people still reside. The father and mother have been members of the Christian Church upward of fifty years. Their family of children consisted of Adam L. (who was killed in the army), Ann, J. E., A. C., Elizabeth, Almira (deceased) and Frederick. J. E. Huffman owns some property in the city; belongs to the Masonic Order, having passed through the Grand Lodge, and is a member of the Christian Church.

C. V. INKS, importer and dealer in granite and marble, is an active business man of Ligonier. His parents, Joseph and Louisa (Vinson) Inks, were early settlers of Elkhart County. In 1846, they removed to Noble Township, where they resided until 1868, when they became residents of Ligonier. Here the mother died in 1869; the father is still living. Two children are descendants, John F., connected with the marble works, and the subject of this sketch, who was born in Goshen, Elkhart Co., Ind., in 1836. When seventeen years of age, he commenced to learn his trade with his uncle, Beecher Inks, of Elkhart, with whom he remained one year, subsequently going to Goshen, where he finished. In 1855, he embarked in the marble business at Wolf Lake, prosecuting the same for two years. He then removed to Goshen, where he remained in business until 1860, returning at that period to Wolf Lake, and resuming his business connections there. In 1868, he removed to Ligonier, establishing his present works. He executes artistic and substantial designs, and besides supplying an extensive local trade, has extended his sales to the adjoining States of Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Illinois. For several years he has been importing granite from Scotland, also dealing in the best American grades. He is a member of the Masonic Order, and at one time was a candidate for Representative on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Inks, in 1860, married Miss Caroline Myers, of Medina County, Ohio. They have four children, Harry, William B., Albert and Rosa.

ANDREW JACKSON, Justice of the Peace, is a native of Cumberland County, Penn., and came in early youth with his parents to Ohio, finally locating in Fayette County. Here his boyhood days were passed on a farm, and he subsequently was engaged in farming for himself until he came to Ligonier in 1859, where he has since been located. For several years he was employed in draying at the depot and as grain inspector. Although he has been elected Justice of the Peace heretofore, he never served until 1878, when he was elected

to, and has since administered the duties of, that office; he also has served as Corporation Assessor one year. He was married, February 3, 1848, to Julia A. Shobe, of Fayette County, Ohio. They have seven children living—Sarah E. Wolf (of Ligonier), Samuel T., Ira M., William L., Charles E., Edward and Addie. Mr. Jackson has been a member of the I. O. O. F. since 1852, having joined in Ohio. He passed all chairs in subordinate lodges, and has been a member of Grand Lodge for the past eleven years. He is also an Encampment member of the lodge, and has been an officer in that department since its organization in about 1869. Since the Encampment was organized, he has held the office of High Priest, and in the lodge has been Recording Secretary for four years, and for one year was Grand Guardian in the Grand Lodge of the State.

JACOBS & GOLDSMITH, merchants, one of the leading mercantile houses of Noble County, was organized in December, 1873, by the association of M. Jacobs and A. Goldsmith, who purchased the stock of Straus & Meagher, and, in 1878, E. Jacobs was admitted as a partner. The firm now consists of the three enterprising young-men; they carry a large line of dry goods, boots and shoes, carpets, notions and groceries; they also deal in clothing and gents' furnishing goods, having purchased, in 1878, the entire stock of J. Straus, Jr. This department is presided over by M. Jacobs, and under the firm name of M. Jacobs & Co., they make a specialty of merchant tailoring.

M. JACOBS has been connected with the business interests of Ligonier since 1866, when he entered the employ of Straus Bros., and subsequently as clerk for Straus & Meagher, until he entered his present partnership. Mr. Jacobs is an Encampment member of the I. O. O. F., and also member of the I. O. B. B., No. 298, of Ligonier.

A. GOLDSMITH began his business career in Ligonier as book-keeper for Straus Bros., in 1867, retaining the position under Straus & Meagher. He spent one year in New York, employed in his previous capacity for a wholesale firm there; then returned to Ligonier, and began his present business. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, A., F. & A. M., and of the I. O. B. B., No. 298, of Ligonier.

E. JACOBS came to Ligonier in 1869, and engaged as clerk for Straus & Meagher with whom he remained until 1873; then was employed by Jacobs & Goldsmith until 1878, when he became a partner. He is a member of the Council, A., F. & A. M., and also of the I. O. B. B., No. 298, of Ligonier.

E. W. KNEPPER, M. D., was reared on his father's farm in Portage County, Ohio, the place of his nativity. Having received a good education, he commenced the study of medicine in 1853, with Dr. J. M. Viers, of Bryan, Ohio, under whose tutelage he remained two years, finishing his studies with Dr. Cooney of the same place, and subsequently graduated at a Cincinnati medical college, commencing the practice of his profession at Eden, Williams Co., Ohio, where he remained until the spring of 1866, when he came to Ligonier, where he has built up a lucrative practice besides performing for eight years the services of his profession for the L. S. & M. S. R. R. The Doctor keeps the advance in his profession, and takes advantage of opportunities for information. He belongs to the American Medical Association; is President of the N. E. Indiana Medical Association, and was President two years of the Noble County Medical Society; also served as President and Secretary of the Ligonier Medical Association, now defunct. As Secretary of the Ligonier Board of Health he has served the public since its creation six years ago. He is a Past Chief Patriarch and Past Noble Grand of the I. O. O. F., No. 267, Excelsior Lodge, and No.

89, Washington Encampment. In 1855, Dr. Knepper was united in marriage with Miss Margaret J. McQuilkin, of Carroll County, Ohio. They have two children living—Edwin W. and Mabel J.

J. M. KNEPPER, lumber dealer and express agent, is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio. His early life was passed on a farm with his father in his native county and in Portage County. At the age of seventeen, he started out for himself and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed about ten years in Columbiana and Williams Counties, Ohio. He lived at Bryan, Ohio, from 1852 to 1860, when he came to Ligonier and filled the position of telegraph operator for ten years, when he became express and freight agent, and conducted all three for some time. In 1877, he engaged in the lumber trade, dealing in laths, shingles and all other building materials. This, in connection with the express agency, has occupied his attention since. In 1854, Mr. Knepper married Miss Delia M. Patterson, a native of Columbiana County, Ohio. They have four children—Evah Sisterhen (of Ligonier), Albro, Rosa M. and Oliver Morton. Mr. and Mrs. Knepper are both members of the Disciples' Church, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and a prominent citizen of Ligonier.

SAMUEL KRICHBAUM, of Krichbaum & Gilbert, merchants, was reared on a farm in Stark County, Ohio, the place of his nativity. He learned the carpenter's trade, which he was engaged in there until he came to Perry Township in 1863, where he followed the same calling until he became identified with the firm of Gerber, Treash & Krichbaum, of the Ligonier Foundry. In 1876, he discontinued this and embarked in his present business, in association with Huffman & Teal, Huffman soon retiring and the business continued by Teal and Krichbaum until 1879, when our subject became the sole proprietor. In the fall of the same year, he associated with him a partner, Mr. M. E. Gilbert, and since then the firm have been actively engaged in their present business operations, viz.: the manufacture of handles, snow-shovels, and dealing in and manufacturing hard-wood lumber. Mr. Krichbaum is an enterprising, pushing business man, has served on the City Council and is a valued citizen of Ligonier. He was, in 1862, married to Miss Susan Buchtel, of Stark County, Ohio.

MATTHIAS MARKER is the eldest of a family of ten children. He was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., November 6, 1811, and remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, then came to Indiana in 1834, and after a stay of about one year returned to Pennsylvania. Spending another year there, he retraced his steps to St. Joseph's County, Ind.; again returning to his native State in about one and one half years, where, on May 29, 1839, he was married to Miss Charlotte Felgar, born in Pennsylvania March 17, 1817. In 1844, they came to this county and settled on land purchased by him in 1835. Mrs. Marker died February 24, 1848. He married for his second wife Sarah Wright January 27, 1859, who died March 27, 1866. Mr. Marker was married again November 25, 1870, to Nancy Shidler. He is the father of six children, viz.: Henry, John, Lewis, Albert, George and Philo J. Himself and wife belong to the Christian Church. He has retired from active life; owns 219 acres of land and town property by his last wife. The parents of Mr. Marker were George and Mary Marker, both natives of Pennsylvania. He was born November 15, 1785 and she April 20, 1790. They were married February 5, 1811, emigrated to this county in 1845, where he died September 24 of that year and she in 1866.



A. R. McNAIR, barber and hair dresser, son of William and Elizabeth McNair, was born in Allen County, Ind., December 20, 1856. When about a year old, his grandmother undertook the care of him, and he lived with her until about nine years of age, when he returned to his home in Allen County; his grandmother had, in the meantime, moved to a La Grange. The subject remained with his parents about six months, then came with them to La Grange County. After living at home three years, he commenced an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for some time, and, after a vacation of fourteen months, resumed it again. After another year in La Grange, he spent six months at Brighton, then went to Sturgis, Mich., all the time working at his trade, which he discontinued in 1877, and began his career as a barber in Sturgis. He subsequently sold out and returned to La Grange, where he formed a partnership with J. Jagger. In 1881, he came to Ligonier, and established himself in his present successful business. He was married, October 7, 1879, to Miss Orcena Selby, who was born in La Grange County March 9, 1860. Mr. McNair owns property in La Grange and Ligonier, and is a good citizen.

SOL MIER, banker and capitalist, stands among the men of Northern Indiana, who have made their career a successful one by industry and good business management. Mr. Mier came to Indiana in 1852, and, for two years sold goods through De Kalb County. He came to Ligonier in 1854, and for twenty years was engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1874, he established his present bank business, which is considered one of the most reliable in Noble County. He is also largely interested in real estate operations, and in buying grain and general produce, and horses. Mr. Mier has assisted materially in building up the business interests of the community. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Ligonier, and of the Emek Beracha Lodge, No. 61, I. O. B. B., of Fort Wayne.

JOHN S. OHLWINE is next to the eldest of twelve children of Charles and Elizabeth Ohlwine, and a native of Greene County, Ohio. His mother died in Ohio, and his father emigrated to Noble County in 1855, where he died in Sparta Township, in 1856. Until twenty-four years old, our subject worked on a farm in Ohio, where he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed until 1856, when he came to Ligonier and formed a partnership with a Mr. Smith in the mercantile trade, which business he has principally been engaged in since. For ten years he was associated with J. C. Zimmerman. In the fall of 1857, Mr. Ohlwine, having been called to Sparta Township on business, found, upon arriving there, some men engaged in hunting a bear in a huckleberry marsh. Mr. Ohlwine entered the bushes and there witnessed John H. Ward struggling with a huge bear. Armed with a gun, he advanced, and was about to put the muzzle of the gun against the bear, when the latter turned and rushed upon him, and succeeded in getting him down in a sitting posture. Mr. O. managed to hold the bear off by the throat, when the bear was killed. This encounter is one of the many stories of early times related by Mr. Ohlwine, who is one of the oldest business men of Ligonier. He is a Mason, and has served on the City Council several times. He was married, in 1846, to Miss Maria Kendall, a daughter of John Kendall, an old settler of the county. They have two children—Laura Hays and Elizabeth Hepler, both residents of Ligonier.

FAYETTE PECK is the second of twelve children, and was born in La Grange County, where his youth was passed in assisting his father in distilling

peppermint, and working on the farm. His parents, Hawley and Harriet (Burnett) Peck, were early settlers of La Grange County, where he now resides. Our subject came to Ligonier in 1866, and with his brother, Jarvis Peck, was engaged in running a planing-mill until 1873, when they added a saw-mill. In 1878, he bought out his brother's interest, and since then has conducted the business alone. He contributes largely to the business interests of the town, and employs several hands in his mill. He was married in 1866 to Miss Ida S. Perry, a native of New York, and daughter of James Perry, who was an early settler of Steuben County. She is a member of the Disciples' Church, and they have two children—Oscar G. and James H.

JARVIS PECK, of Braden & Peck, millers, son of Hawley and Harriet (Burnett) Peck, was born in Ontario County, N. Y. His father is a native of Connecticut, and his mother of New York. They were farmers, and came from Ontario County, N. Y., to La Grange County, in 1844, and settled in Clearspring Township, where they purchased land, and where she died in 1873. The father has held numerous offices of trust; was Justice of the Peace several terms, also served as School Director and Township Trustee, and is now living in retirement. Jarvis Peck is the third of twelve children, and was reared on his father's farm in La Grange County. In the spring of 1866, he came to Ligonier, and started a planing-mill, in connection with his brother, Fayette Peck. In 1873, they added a saw-mill, and conducted the business until 1878, when Jarvis Peck sold his interest to his brother and engaged in the lumber trade with J. M. Knepper, which he continued one year. In 1879, purchased an interest with S. M. Braden in a flouring-mill, with whom he is now associated. Mr. Peck possesses good business qualifications. He was married in 1870 to Julia Maxon, a native of New York. She has been a member of the M. E. Church since eighteen years old. They have two children—Gertrude and Edith.

A. W. RANDOLPH, wholesale and retail lumber, left his native State (New Jersey) at the age of fourteen, and came to Ohio. His parents, Abram F. and Abbey (Wilcox) Randolph, were also natives of New Jersey, and pioneers of Ashtabula County, Ohio, where their last days were spent, and where the father was engaged in farming and carpentering. Our subject was reared on a farm, and for nine years followed the carpenter's trade. In 1864, he came to Perry Township and purchased a saw-mill, which he operated until the fall of 1879, when he came to Ligonier and built his present planing and saw mill. This, in connection with the wholesale and retail lumber trade, engages his present attention, and has become a leading industry. He constantly employs, on an average, seven men. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and occupies a position of prominence among the business men. In 1855, he was married to Miss Jane Rose, of Ashtabula County, Ohio. She died in 1874, leaving two children—Nevada McConnell, of Ligonier, and Oakley. Mr. Randolph, in 1875, married Miss Mary Britton, native of Cuyahoga County, Ohio. They are both members of the Methodist Church.

E. REEVE, general produce, son of Hiram and Catherine (Elum) Reeve, was born in Columbia County, N. Y. He began his career in life as fireman on a steamboat on the Hudson River; engaged in this capacity for two years, then for three years he was salesman on a stationary barge in New York. He located in Bristol, Ind., in 1857, and followed his present business in connection with mercantile trade for five years, when he came to Ligonier, and has since remained in the general produce business, viz., eggs, butter, hides,

poultry, etc. His business is extensive, and he is principally engaged in shipping large supplies to New York. At one time he employed six teams, but at present runs four. Mr. Reeve is at present serving his second term on Town Board. He was married, in 1862, to Miss Julia Jeanneret, a native of London, Canada, then a resident of Bristol, Ind. They have eight children—Alice A., Marion A., Minnie E., Mary J., Henry J., Frederick E., Edith and Robert E.

H. REYNOLDS, attorney at law, is a native of Branch County, Mich., and the eldest of three children of Ambrose J. and Margaret (Deloria) Reynolds. The father is a descendant of the Puritan stock, and a native of New York. The mother is of French descent, and was born in Canada. They were married in Michigan, where they settled in about 1836, and farmed for many years. They are now living with their son in Ligonier. Our subject remained on the farm until twenty-three years old, when he went to Sturgis, Mich., and became a student in the law office of Daniel E. Thomas, and afterward studied with Gen. William L. Stoughton. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1879, but had previously commenced practicing with Daniel E. Thomas, with whom he was associated four years. Afterward, he practiced alone, until he came to Ligonier in January, 1881. In September of the same year, he formed a partnership with S. D. Crane, now dissolved. Mr. Reynolds is a member of the I. O. O. F., and was married in 1873 to Miss Amy E. Whitman, of Michigan. They have one child—Elliott Deloria.

E. L. SCHLOTTERBACK, M. D., was born in Perry Township, Noble County, Ind., the fifth of a family of twelve children. His parents, Gideon and Mary (Engle) Schlotterback, were the first couple married in Noble County. Our subject lived on a farm until eighteen years old, when he went West and spent several months. In 1861, he entered the army, enlisting in the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. After fourteen months, he received his discharge, having received injuries which rendered him unfit for duty. He returned to this county, and attended school; afterward, taught several terms. For a short time after this, he was engaged as an agent for medical works. In 1864, he was drafted and served several months in the Provost Marshal's office at Kendallville, when he was exempted and went to Michigan, where he was engaged in securing substitutes. He commenced the practice of medicine in Detroit, Mich., and then had an extensive traveling practice throughout the States of Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri. In 1867, he solicited for paintings, then embarked in the patent rights business until the fall of 1868, when he resumed soliciting for paintings, continuing this until the spring of 1870. After one year at home, he started out traveling again. At Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1872, he practiced in his profession, and traveled over the State of Iowa in specialties. In 1873, after a few months spent at home, he returned to his practice over Iowa and Illinois; desiring new territory, in January, 1875, he went to California, and traveled over the State in his profession, remaining until 1876. During the winter of 1876-77, he attended a course of lectures at Jefferson Medical College, in Philadelphia, afterward practicing over Illinois until the fall of 1877, when he came to Ligonier, and established himself in his profession. He makes a specialty of chronic diseases, also of head and throat diseases. These, he has made his study, and has been his own preceptor. He has considerable artistic talent, and has painted anatomical views descriptive of the veins, arteries, etc., for his professional use. Mr. Schlotterback is a Mason. He was married, in 1864, to Ellen M. Matthews,

who was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and whose father, David Matthews, is now living in Albion. They have one child—Vivian.

GIDEON SCHLOTTERBACK, father of the subject, is a native of Snyder County, Penn., where he was born, May 23, 1811. At the age of ten, he accompanied his father to Ohio, remaining there until he came to Noble County, Ind., in 1832, where he yet resides, and is a prominent citizen. He owns 500 acres of land, and has served creditably as Justice of the Peace, Trustee, Town Clerk and County Commissioner. The first court assembly in the county was held in an old house that stands on his farm. April 16, 1833, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Engle, born in Ohio November 20, 1810. She died January 23, 1856, and Mr. Schlotterback was again married to Miss Mary Hoak, a native of Ohio. Mr. Schlotterback has seven children living, viz., Peter, Henry, Eli, Amelia, Adam, Ira and Amy.

D. S. SCOTT, one of the leading merchants and influential citizens of Ligonier, is a native of Greene County, Ohio. His father, James A. Scott, was among the prominent men of Greene County. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and for over forty years, served efficiently in public offices, having been Representative, Sheriff, Auditor and Recorder. After sixty-five years of married life, himself and wife departed this life in the year 1881, he at the age of eighty-eight, and she at eighty-six. Our subject, while in Ohio, learned the millwright trade, and followed it a number of years in connection with lumbering. After coming to Indiana in 1850, he was engaged in the lumber trade, at Rider's Mill, in Washington Township, where he located, until in August, 1851, when he went to Wolf Lake, Noble Township, and began general merchandising. In 1866, he sold out, came to Ligonier, and started as a broker, continuing this business until 1878, when he established an interest in the drug store of his son, J. W. Scott, and F. Sandrock, now the firm of D. S. Scott & Son. Mr. Scott also continues to do some brokering. He was Trustee of Noble Township for many years, and has rendered services to the public schools of Ligonier, also been a member of the City Council. In 1872, he was chosen Representative of Noble and Elkhart Counties, and served one term. During the time of the "Regulators," he was President of one of the societies. In 1850, Mr. Scott was married to Miss Amanda Leonard, a native of Pennsylvania, and resident of Miami County, Ohio. They have had three children—James W., David E. and Frank L.

J. W. SCOTT, of the firm of D. S. Scott & Son, druggists, is a native of Washington Township, Noble County. He learned the trade of dentistry with Dr. Gants, of Ligonier, and practiced it about eighteen months in Columbia City. He returned to Ligonier in 1873, and entered the drug business with F. Sandrock; this partnership lasted until 1878, when Sandrock retired, and his father became a partner; they carry a complete stock of goods in their line, and have an extended custom. James W. Scott married Miss Margaret Brandt, of Columbia City, in 1873.

JACOB SHEETS, of the firm of Sheets & Wertheimer, dealers in general merchandise, dry goods, clothing, carpets, groceries, boots and shoes, and custom tailoring, came to Noble County in 1855. His first experience in the mercantile business was with J. E. Braden in the grocery trade; this partnership was of three years' duration. Then, for ten years he was employed by S. Mier & Co., dealers in general merchandise; at the end of this period, he became Mr. Mier's partner. This association lasted two years, when Mr. Mier retired in 1873, and Nathan Wertheimer became an equal partner with



Mr. Sheets. They have since conducted the business and established a good trade. Mr. Sheets is a Mason, a present member of the City Council, and a good business man.

S. SHOBE, livery, is a native of Ross County, Ohio. His father being a tanner, he was in that business until 1838, when he came to this place and became a farmer in Perry Township, following this until 1849, when he started a tan-yard. This business he conducted until 1854, when he was forced to retire on account of failing health. After a year and a half's residence in Iowa, he returned and made a venture in the hardware business with George McLain, with whom he was associated three years. From this, in 1859, Mr. Shobe engaged in the livery business, which he still conducts. He owns fifteen to twenty good roadsters and fine buggies and carriages. He is a member of the Masonic Order, Blue Lodge. In September, 1839, he was married to Miss Mary Smalley, daughter of Joseph Smalley, who came to Perry Township in 1836. They have six children—Sarah E. Kerr, Taylor C. (in Ligonier), Isabella Parsons, Mary Henry (in Coldwater, Mich.), Charles H. and Allie. Mr. Shobe is one of the oldest business men of Ligonier, and well known all over the country.

SAMUEL S. SHROCK, painter, is a son of Samuel and Catherine (Johns) Shrock, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and who came with a team, at an early day, to La Grange County, settling in Eden Township, where the father died in 1856. Three of their children are living—John M., with whom the mother is now living, in Eden Township; Joseph S., a jeweler at Ligonier; and Samuel S. The latter spent the first twenty years of his life on his father's farm. His education was obtained at the schools of Valparaiso and La Grange, Ind., and Battle Creek, Mich. In 1879, he came to Ligonier and learned the painter's trade, which he has since followed. He was married in June, 1880, to Miss Ida B. Kegg, of Ligonier.

JONATHAN SIMMONS, retired farmer, a native of Pennsylvania, was born April 4, 1811. Here he remained until 1833, when he emigrated to Ohio. He was married to Sarah Shidler, also a native of Pennsylvania, and resided in Ohio until 1857. They then came to Noble County, where Mr. Simmons has since lived. October 9, 1872, his wife and one of his daughters were buried, having succumbed to that dread disease, typhoid fever. They died within a few hours of each other, and were laid to rest on the same day. Mr. Simmons was again married July 10, 1873, to Nancy Nelson, a native of Indiana. He has been employed in farming most of his life, and has been very successful. He was one of the early settlers of this county, and owns 158 acres of well-improved land, also town property in Ligonier, where he resides, having retired from the farm. Mr. Simmons was President of the Noble County Fair for two years; is a member of the Christian Church. Of the children of Mr. Simmons, twelve in number, nine are now living. Two of his sons were soldiers in the war of the rebellion, one of them serving throughout the entire war.

P. SISTERHEN, boots and shoes, a native of Germany, came to America in 1847, locating in Stark County, where he followed shoemaking—which trade he had learned in the old country—until 1863, when he became a resident of Ligonier. He was first engaged in the manufacturing of boots and shoes exclusively, subsequently investing in a stock of ready-made goods, and has built up a large and successful trade. Since 1873, his son, George W., has been associated with

him, under the firm name of P. Sisterhen & Son. They make a specialty of custom work. Mr. Sisterhen is a chapter member of the Masonic Order. He was married in 1849, in Stark County, Ohio, to Miss Mina Struble. They are both members of the Disciple Church, and have four children living—George W., Rosa Simmons, of Perry Township, William A. and Edward.

J. C. STANSBURY & SON, merchants; was born in Stark County, Ohio, where his parents, William and Elizabeth (Armstrong) Stansbury, came at an early day, and are still residing. He remained on his father's farm until fifteen years of age, when he went to Canal Dover, and served a three years' apprenticeship at the tailor's trade. Then went to Greenville, Ohio, and was there in business for himself one year; thence to Massillon and clerked two years. Here, also, he had two years' experience in the grocery business in company with T. Tinkler. In 1856, he came to Ligonier, where he has resided since. He followed his trade a number of years, then was engaged in railroad-ing. In 1870, he started on a small scale his present business, which he has extended, and succeeded in establishing a large trade. He has two fine sales-rooms, which were constructed for this special purpose. He carries a large line of dry goods and groceries. His son Robert has been a partner in the business since 1875. In 1852, he married Miss Mary Watchorn, a native of Stark County, Ohio. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Robert is their only child.

STRAUS BROTHERS, bankers and capitalists, consist of an association of three brothers—F. W., Jacob and M. Straus. F. W. Straus came to Ligonier in 1853, and in 1855 was joined by his brother Jacob, when they formed a partnership in general merchandising. In 1856, the firm of Straus & Kaufmann was organized, consisting of the two brothers and Mr. Kaufmann. The firm were actively engaged in general merchandising until 1863, when Mr. Kaufmann retired, and M. Straus, who had come to Ligonier in 1862, was admitted as a partner. They continued together in the mercantile business until 1869, when M. Straus and Meagher bought out the goods and continued that business, while F. W. and Jacob Straus started a broker's office. In the spring of 1870, Jacob withdrew from this association, and went to New York, where for six months he was engaged in manufacturing colored papers, when he returned to Ligonier, and re-instated himself with his brother in the broker and real estate business. In 1873, M. Straus entered with his brothers, having disposed of his interest in the mercantile business, thus organizing the present firm. They do a general banking business, together with buying and shipping grain, and dealing in real estate. The firm of Straus Bros. is situated in one of the best business blocks of Ligonier. The senior member, F. W. Straus, is a Mason, and has served on the City Council. Jacob and M. Straus are both members of the Emek Bera-cha Lodge, No. 61, I. O. B. B., of Fort Wayne.

JOHN B. STOLL, journalist, was born in Wurtemberg March 13, 1843. His father, Bernard Stoll, was an extensive land-owner and the proprietor of a large country hotel. In the fall of 1842, before the subject of this sketch was born, the father was drowned in the River Murg while watering his horses. When young Stoll had reached the age of ten years, his mother immigrated to the State of Pennsylvania, locating in the city of Harrisburg. Two years later, the beloved mother died, and our subject was placed on a farm near Harrisburg owned by Simon Cameron. In this position he remained one season;

in the meantime being kindly advised by Mrs. Cameron to learn her husband's trade—that of printing. He resolved to accept the advice, though, as he was too young at the time to begin, he engaged himself for a time to George Dress, a baker in Harrisburg. About six months later, through the influence of his Sunday-school teacher, William K. Verbeke, he entered the office of the State Printer, George Bergner. Here he served an apprenticeship of three years, beginning the latter part of 1855. Having no educational advantages after his tenth year, he applied himself industriously to the accumulation of knowledge and to a general familiarity with newspaper work. He learned to read the English language in the Lutheran Sunday school. His readings were extensive, especially in newspapers; and though a worker in a Republican office, he evinced decided Democratic tendencies. During the campaign of 1856, he organized a juvenile "Buck. and Breck." club, and participated in all the Democratic festivities. At this time, though still in the office of ardent Republicans, the boy frequently contributed to the columns of the Harrisburg *Democrat*. After his three years' apprenticeship, the boy accepted a position as journeyman in the office of the Middleburgh (Penn.) *Volksfreund* (People's Friend), published by A. J. Peters, father of the foreman in the *Banner* office at Ligonier. A year later, when in his seventeenth year, he bought an interest in the *Independent Observer*, at Johnstown, Penn. Here he continued about a year, or until his partner had robbed him of his earnings. Young Stoll made his first political speech in 1860, after the nomination of Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency. At this time, though but seventeen, he weighed 183 pounds and was considered "of age." A large audience greeted the young orator, and, though shaking with fright, he spoke for two hours without notes, and after that was in great demand. At the commencement of the war, he took a decided stand for the suppression of the rebellion. He delivered many addresses to that effect, and induced numerous hesitating Democrats to enlist. He enlisted in one of the eight companies that were organized at Youngstown within ten days after the fall of Sumter. His company was rejected (as the quota was overflowing) and was disbanded. About this time Mr. Stoll resumed his old position on the *People's Friend*. Here he remained, subject to various changes of fortune until he came to Noble County. At the almost unprecedented age of twenty-three years, Mr. Stoll boldly shouldered the responsibilities of editorial life in a Republican county, having to encounter the merciless criticism of a keen-edged editor of opposing politics in a neighboring town, and the frowns and gibes of numerous enemies. In appearance, he seemed older than he really was, and, from his first arrival in the county, was "dubbed" "Old Stoll," a phrase that yet clings to him like Sindbad's burden. Possessing great physical vitality, vast mental energy, and a placid and hopeful demeanor under difficulties, he steadily grew in popularity, influence and social worth. His style in speaking and in writing is much the same. His diction is excellent; his sentences clear and sweeping, somewhat too heavy for light reading, but extremely forcible and convincing when delivered from the stage. He soon attained great notoriety as a public speaker, and became the leader of his party in the county. In December, 1867, he was, by special direction of President Johnson, appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, in recognition of his unwavering support of the President's reconstruction policy. In 1868, he was elected Chairman of the Democratic County Committee, filling the position during 1868, 1876 and 1880. In 1870, he became a candidate for the Democratic nomination for

State Auditor, and, though less than four years a resident of the State, came within twenty-nine votes of securing the nomination against heavy odds. Two years later, he received the nomination for State Auditor against his successful competitor of 1870; but at the election, with the bulk of the Democratic ticket, was defeated by 172 votes, most of the other candidates suffering a much heavier defeat. In 1876, Mr. Stoll was elected a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis, of which body he was elected one of the Vice Presidents. In 1878, he received the nomination for Congress, and made a vigorous campaign, reducing the Republican majority from 2,300 in 1876 to about 1,600. Mr. Stoll was largely instrumental in organizing the Northern Indiana Editorial Association, of which he was President for six terms; at this writing he is President of the Democratic State Editorial Association. He was two years Treasurer and three years President of the Noble County Agricultural Society; was a member of the Ligonier Town Council for five consecutive years; was President of the two Building, Loan and Saving Associations of Ligonier, and is now Secretary of the Ligonier School Board. In 1869, after Mr. Stoll had retired from the Internal Revenue service, he established the *La Porte Argus*, of which he was publisher and editor until the fall of 1872, when he sold his interest. In 1875, he assisted in establishing a German paper at South Bend, called *The Courier*, of which he was editor-in-chief for something over six months. It is scarcely necessary to add that Mr. Stoll, in his political, editorial and social capacities, has done a great deal for the prosperity of Ligonier, for schools and churches, for industrial enterprises, for his patrons and for the county. On the 4th of August, 1861, while at Middleburgh, Penn., he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Snyder, a lady of much social worth. The young couple began housekeeping upon the husband's income of \$5.50 per week, and as both were practically familiar with economy, they managed to save some of their earnings, with which Mr. Stoll purchased of his employer the little "print shop" in which he had for several years worked. Four children of these parents are living—Ella C., aged nineteen; Eva B., eleven; Edgar A., seven; and Elmer Roscoe, four. Four children have died in infancy, the severest loss being that of Johnny B., aged four years and three months, whose death occurred during his father's absence in the southern part of the State, during the campaign of 1870.

U. R. TREASH, of Gerber & Treash, is a native of Stark County, Ohio, and lived until eighteen years old upon his father's farm. After learning the carpenter and joiner's trade, he worked at it in that county several years. He then went to Akron, Ohio, where he resided two years, and in 1861 came to Indiana; located in Marshall County; engaged two years in following his trade summers and teaching school winters. He returned to Stark County, and spent two years, finally, in 1866, settling in Ligonier. Here, until 1871, he was employed at his trade, when he became a member of the firm of Gerber, Treash & Krichbaum, manufacturers of plows and agricultural implements. For four years they conducted this business, when they added another branch of industry, viz., that of carriage and wagon making. They continued both until 1879, Mr. Krichbaum in the meantime retiring. The present firm of Gerber & Treash, at one time, employed about eighteen men, but now furnish work for ten, under the supervision of Mr. Treash. Their works are large and commodious, and their sales extensive. Mr. Treash is a member of the Order of Chosen Friends. He was united in marriage, in 1863, with Miss Sarah Evans, of Stark County, Ohio. Their children are Olive M. and Mabel.



JACOB VANCE is a native of Preble County, Ohio, where he was reared on a farm. He came to Indiana in 1834, locating in Elkhart County, where he remained two years, when he came to this county, Perry Township, with which place he has been identified up to the present time. He is familiar with all the phases of pioneer life, and has cleared 160 acres of land. He married Margaret Price in 1833. They have five children—Harrison and Jacob, Caroline Long and Mary L. Redmon, of Ligonier, and Sarah Long, a widow, living in Perry Township. Mr. Vance retired from active life, and came to Ligonier in 1881, where he now is living. He owns eighty acres of land in the township which his son Harrison operates. When Mr. Vance first came here, Ligonier consisted of but one log cabin. He is a valuable citizen, and is worthy of mention as one of the typical pioneers.

D. C. VAN CAMP, counselor and attorney at law, son of Benjamin F. and Hannah E. (Kirby) Van Camp, both natives of Virginia, passed his early youth upon his father's farm. He learned the machinist's trade, and also worked at carpentering. In 1864, he became a member of the West Virginia troops, and served until the war closed, participating in some severe engagements. He then returned to West Virginia, and followed carpentering until February, 1867, when, in company with his father's family, he came to Indiana, and located in Huntington County, where, with his brothers, he went to lumbering, furnishing timber for railroad purposes. Subsequently, he formed a partnership with William Crabbs, for contracting and building; this was a successful enterprise, and they employed a large number of hands, and were extending their trade into various counties, when, in 1869, Mr. Van Camp met with a severe accident, that lamed him for life; and he was forced to discontinue the business. While engaged in business, he was, *ad interim*, attending school and reading law. When his condition had improved sufficiently to admit of his attending school, he spent three years at the Roanoke Seminary, teaching at intervals, and afterward in the Seminary. In the fall of 1873, he was a teacher in the County Normal School. The ensuing winter he was elected Superintendent of the High School of Drovortown, Ind. He afterward entered the law office of Hon. H. B. Saylor, and was with him over two years. During this time (in 1874) he was admitted to the bar. In 1876, he came to Ligonier, where he has since resided, and has established a leading practice. He is well versed in all law matters, and ranks as one of the rising young lawyers of the county. During the year 1878, he served as City Attorney. He was married, in 1875, to Miss Lillie Truax, daughter of William Truax, of Whitley County, Ind. They have two children—Lloyd H. and Maud.

JOHN WEIR, of Weir & Cowley, hardware, is a native of La Grange County, Ind., and son of Elijah W. and Amy (Hern) Weir, both natives of Eastern New York. They were married in La Grange County. The father came to La Grange County in 1836, and is now living in La Grange. His wife died in 1847, and he subsequently remarried. He has occupied a conspicuous position in public life; at one time served as State Senator, and has been connected with numerous minor offices. Our subject, in 1861, started in the drug business, as his father's representative, continuing about two and a half years. He commenced his career as a hardware merchant in Ligonier in 1864, with the firm of Weir, Welch & Co. This partnership, after three years, was dissolved, Weir continuing the business in association with his father until 1873. From that time Mr. Weir was the sole proprietor until in 1881, when B. W. Cowley became a partner. In addition to a complete line of hardware, they

deal largely in agricultural implements. Mr. Weir is a public spirited citizen, and a substantial business man. He is now serving his sixth year as City Treasurer. He was married, in 1865, to Miss Alcinda J. Welch, whose father, John W. Welch, was an early settler of La Grange County. Their children are two in number—Fred E. and Harry W.

JACOB WOLF is next to the oldest living settler in Noble County. He was born in Pennsylvania (Cumberland County) in 1805. His father, George W., was of the same nativity, and his mother, Margaret Wolf, was a native of New Jersey. They were married in Pennsylvania, and in 1816 went to Hocking County, Ohio. From there they moved to this county in 1836, locating in Perry Township, on a farm where their last days were spent. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church. Of twelve children, six came with them to this county—Leonard (now deceased), Jeremiah, Nancy Harsh and Catharine (deceased) and Margaret. Jacob, after he was twenty-one years of age, was for five years employed on the Ohio Canal. In August, 1831, with \$500, he came to Perry Township, and bought 160 acres of land, which now adjoins Ligonier. Upon this tract, in 1844, he erected the first brick dwelling built in the county. In 1833, Mr. Wolf was elected Justice of the Peace and received twenty-four out of twenty-five votes cast, filling the position five years. As Township Trustee, he served several terms, and was appointed Road Commissioner, during which service \$1,000 of the three per cent bonds were expended in opening roads. In 1846, he was elected County Commissioner and served three years. Being elected to the same position in 1866, he served three years more. During this time, the County farm was purchased and the poor-house built, as also were a number of the large bridges in the county. December 31, 1833, Mr. Wolf was married to Miss Delilah Hostetter, of Perry Township. She died in 1865. They had ten children, six now living—Abel, Henry, Silas, Allen, Matilda and Mary. Mr. Wolf moved to Ligonier in 1875 and retired from active life. His son Abel is probably the oldest living male child born in Perry Township. In 1862, he engaged in the livery business, and after five years opened a saloon with Mr. Hardenbrook, in which line he continues. He was married, in 1861, to Miss Loantha Walker. They have one child living—Ollie.

HARRISON WOOD, retired farmer, is the son of Niah and Polly (Hoyt) Wood, natives respectively of New Hampshire and Vermont. They were residents of Franklin County, N. Y., for many years, and subsequently spent one year in Michigan, coming to Noble County in 1837, and settling at Rochester, Perry Township. He was a pioneer settler of New York and also of Noble County. He followed farming in Perry Township, where they both died. They brought with them six children—Achsa, Harrison, Charles (now a resident of Nevada), Charlotte Kinnison (of Perry Township), Evaline Shobe and George (both of Iowa). The subject is a native of Franklin County, N. Y., where his early life was passed. In 1834, he went to Michigan, where he resided near Detroit for three years, then came to this county. He purchased land in Perry Township and farmed until 1844, when he was elected County Sheriff and moved to Augusta, then the county seat. He served two terms and subsequently was appointed Probate Judge, was re-elected and served until 1851, when the office was abolished. He then returned to Perry Township and re-engaged in farming. In 1874, he retired from active labor and located in Ligonier, where he has a fine home residence. Mr. Wood owns 500 acres of land, 350 of which are finely improved. Besides the above offices, Mr. Wood served one term as

Township Trustee and is a prominent citizen, esteemed by all. He was married, in 1844, to Miss Barbara Engle, her father, Adam Engle, being one of the early settlers of Perry Township. She died in 1858, leaving two children—Frank and Alice. In 1860, Mr. Wood married again. His wife, Elmira L. Drake, is a native of New Jersey.

J. C. ZIMMERMAN, retired merchant, is a native of Switzerland, and came to America with his parents about 1831, locating in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on a farm, where his parents remained until their deaths. At the age of twenty years, our subject quitted farm life and went to Canal Dover, where he began his mercantile experience. His stay here was brief, and he came in 1849 to Indiana, locating in Elkhart Township, where he worked at carpentering for a short period, when he went to Albion, and became a clerk for Judge Clapp. After four years with him, he started in business—general merchandise—with Owen Black, of Albion. One year at this, then he sold out, and in 1857 came to Ligonier, and established a successful merchandise trade. For many years his sons, Greeley M. and Frank W., were working with him, and in the spring of 1879 became his partners, under firm name of Zimmerman & Sons. They carried a large line of dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots, shoes, etc., and did an immense business. November 10, 1881, the father disposed of his interest to his sons, and the firm was changed to Zimmerman Bros., and he is at present retired from business. He has figured conspicuously in public offices; for eight and one-half years served as Township Trustee, and represented the counties of Elkhart and Noble, in 1877, in the State Legislature one term. He has also served several times on the Common Council, and has been an active worker in the schools. He is a Mason—Knight Templar—having been connected with that order since 1853. In 1853, Mr. Zimmerman married Miss Sarah J. Brown, daughter of Abram Brown, an early settler of Elkhart Township. She was a native of Ohio, and died in 1876. Three of six of her children are now living—Greeley M., Frank W. and Verona J. His present wife, to whom he was married in 1877, was Miss Callie Young, daughter of John Young, a prominent citizen of Noble County.

COL. S. M. ZENT, tinsmith, is a native of Stark County, Ohio, and son of John and Jemima (Masters) Zent, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and early settlers of Stark County, subsequently moving to Richland County, Ohio, and in 1853 to Huntington County, Ind., where the father is now living; he is a farmer. The mother died in 1863. The subject is the eldest of ten children, and followed farming until eighteen years old, when he learned the tinner's trade at Mansfield, where he remained four years. In 1854, he came to Indiana, and until 1861 was in the employ of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad. At the beginning of the war, he went out as private in the Thirteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, being the first man in Fort Wayne to enlist. He was actively engaged throughout the war, passing through forty-seven battles and engagements, being most of the time with the Army of the Potomac. He was regularly promoted through the different grades up to that of Lieutenant Colonel, excepting that of Major, and was commissioned Colonel by brevet by the President. After four years' service, he returned to Roanoke, Ind., and engaged in the hardware and tinware trade. He continued this until 1871, when he went to Fort Wayne, and spent one and one-half years, then went to Ligonier, where, in 1875, he was instrumental in starting a Gordon expedition to the Black Hills, but they were intercepted by United States troops, and compelled to return. The following year he spent West, mining among the Black

Hills, and since then has been residing in Ligonier, where he is now proprietor of a tin store, giving particular attention to the repairing of goods in that line. jobbing, spouting, etc., and fitting iron, tin, copper, etc., for their various uses, Col. Zent is a Mason and a very desirable citizen. He was married in 1858 to Miss Sarah A. Price, of Roanoke, Ind. They have five children living—William S., John F., Charles F., Eva M. and Henry H.

### PERRY TOWNSHIP.

MRS. ELIZA BECKNER, whose maiden name was Slabaugh, was the wife of Eli Beckner (deceased). He was born in Elkhart County, Ind., February 12, 1837, and lived on his father's farm until his death, November 6, 1869, of consumption. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and had a family of thirteen children, seven girls and six boys. Mr. Beckner's mother died October 24, 1861, at about the age of sixty-two years; his father died October 14, 1881, at the age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Beckner, after the death of her husband resided with her parents for about five years. Her father, Elias Slabaugh, then gave her a farm, upon which she erected a house, and with her children moved in; this she has since made her home. She has three children—Jacob W., born October 16, 1861; Mary A., October 27, 1863; Chauncey A., November 6, 1866. Mrs. Beckner's farm of sixty-nine acres is well improved, and with the judicious management bestowed in its cultivation affords a comfortable and well provided home.

FRED BORCHART came to Chicago from Germany in 1855. After a stay in that wonderful city of about two years, Fred took his baggage, and transferred his place of residence to La Porte, Ind., and then to Elkhart, where he remained some time. In 1862, Mr. Borchart came to Noble County, settling on his farm of eighty-four acres, where he now lives. March 9, after his arrival, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Salina Lorman, a native of Prussia. They have become the parents of four children, whose names are Henry, Emma, Frank and Minnie. Fred Borchart was born in Germany May 27, 1827, the youngest of four boys, whose names were Charles, John, Henry and our subject. They constituted the family of children born to John and Elizabeth Borchart, who died in Germany in the year 1857, about four months apart. Fred Borchart and wife belong to the German Methodist Church, and live according to its precepts.

ISAAC CAVAN is a native of Pennsylvania, born October 27, 1807. At the age of 23, in 1830, he came to Indiana; remained about six weeks, when he returned to Pennsylvania. After a stay there of six months, Mr. Cavan came back to Indiana, with \$400, and worked in this vicinity about one year, and in the meantime bought one-half section of land, following this up with a purchase of one-quarter section more, whereupon he went back to Pennsylvania. In 1833, another trip was made to this, then new country, and an addition by purchase of one-quarter section more made to his previous possessions. Returning again to his home in Pennsylvania, Mr. Cavan married Elizabeth Marker, March 27, 1834. She was born in Pennsylvania January 6, 1814. The same year they made the trip to this township, and settled on Section 2. Here Mr. Cavan carved himself and family a home. His markets for grain were Fort Wayne and Michigan City. Indians were then his most



numerous neighbors, with whom he preserved the kindest relations, and with whom he bartered and traded. Two children, William and John, have been settled on land divided between them by Mr. Cavan. His landed possessions at one time comprised several hundred acres, and among his early entries was the tract, now the site of Ligonier, made in 1833. In 1835, in company with a few others, Mr. Cavan laid out the town of Ligonier. Of the families that moved into this section at that early day, his is the only one that still resides upon the original homestead.

DAVID CUNNINGHAM is the only surviving member of the family of Michael and Elizabeth (Dennison) Cunningham, who were born in Ireland, he September 18, 1795, and she November 2, 1796. They came to Westmoreland County, Penn., at the age of about twenty-one, where they were united in marriage about the year 1817. Here they remained until their death. She died March 18, 1846, and he February 20, 1880. They had a family of four children, viz.: James, a physician, who died in Pennsylvania when about fifty years old; George, who died when about eleven years old; Eliza, whose demise took place at the age of seventeen; and our subject, who was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., August 20, 1828, where he remained until 1855, when, having married Elizabeth Galbreth, October 9, 1851, he, with his family, came to this county. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham had a family of eight children, viz.: Elizaetta (deceased), Celestia, James (deceased), William F., John W., Ellsworth, Joseph R. and Norris. The six living are at home. Mr. Cunningham is an influential and worthy citizen; is the possessor of 100 acres of well-cultivated land, and now holds the office of Trustee.

ADAM ENGLE, deceased, was born in Lancaster County, Penn, December 19, 1776. At about the age of sixteen, he went with his parents to West Virginia, and was married about the year 1802 to Miss Eve Hoffman, a native of Virginia, born December 27, 1784. Soon after, they emigrated to Ross County, Ohio, thence to Pickaway County, same State, where they were early settlers, and in the town of Circleville. Mr. Engle built the first shingle-roof house, and was engaged in farming and coopering until about 1821, when he moved to Hocking County, Ohio, continuing in the same employment. Having lost his property by indorsing for others, in April, 1832, Mr. Engle and wife, with a family of six children, accompanied by the families of Hostetter, Haines and others, started for Indiana, where they arrived on Perry's Prairie on the 6th of May, and proceeded to build a rude cabin, no nails nor sawed boards being used in its construction. In the fall of 1832, he built a cabin on Section 33, where he resided until his death. In this edifice, the first court was held. Mr. Engle was one of the very earliest pioneers of the county, and was ever a valued and esteemed citizen. The plow used by Adam Engle was one fashioned with his own hands. Oftentimes the little settlement were scarce of provisions, and fish were procured from the Elkhart River, and game from the forests to supply food. The little band brought with them to this county gearing for a saw-mill that they soon succeeded in getting in running order, it being the first constructed in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Engle both died in this township; his death occurred July 26, 1847, and hers August 1, 1862; they were members of the Lutheran Church, and a short sketch of their children is subjoined: Sophia, the widow of Henry Kline, is now a resident of Perry Township; they came from Fairfield County, Ohio, to this township about 1837, where Mr. Kline's death occurred. William Engle is residing in Michigan. Henry Engle came to this township in 1833, and resided here un-

til his death in 1874. Joseph Engle is a resident of Ohio. Mary married Mr. Schlotterback, and died in this township in 1856. Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Coleman, died in 1875. Phœbe married Joseph Bradford and after his death became Mrs. John Squires. She died in June, 1862, in Perry Township. John Engle came here with his parents, subsequently removing to Iowa, where he died in 1856. George Engle is a resident of Ohio, and Andrew Engle of this township. Barbara Engle, the youngest, married Harrison Wood, and died in this township in April, 1859.

ANDREW ENGLE was born in Hocking County, Ohio, February 6, 1822. When ten years old, he accompanied his parents to this township, with which he has since been identified. November 26, 1847, he married Ann R. Conrad, and soon after commenced farming in Section 33. In 1854, he moved to Section 28, where he is now located. Mr. Engle has experienced all the phases of pioneer life, and has assisted materially in the advancement and progress of Perry Township. He owns 160 acres of well-improved land, and is a thorough farmer; has served as Township Assessor two years. Mrs. Engle is a native of Wood County, Va., born March 10, 1819. They have five children living, viz.: Sherman B., Isabell, J. C. Fremont, and Wirten and Clebren, twins.

PHILIP HARPER has been a resident of Noble County since the very early days of its settlement, and where he was born, February 17, 1838, the year following its organization. Thus he was bred in the midst of pioneer life, and reared with the surroundings of frontier experiences. He became inured to its hardships and privations in his tender years, and was schooled by the meager opportunities of log schoolhouse days. From his advent to life in the woods he has lived to see the wilderness turned into a fruitful and prosperous country and has grown into possession, as the result of honest and heroic efforts, of a fine farm of 120 acres well improved and complete in its appointments. October 11, 1863, he was married to Miss C. Keehn, a native of Ohio. They have two children—Eddie E. and Marion J., to revere and comfort them in future years.

SOLOMON HARPER (deceased) was born in Ohio November 7, 1810, and died in Noble County, Ind., January 20, 1873. During his life he was a prosperous farmer and owned 479 acres of land. He devoted considerable attention to stock-raising, which he made a specialty. He was married in Ross County, Ohio, to Mary Shobe, who was born in Ross County February 18, 1807. They came to Noble County in 1831. After Mr. Harper's death, the property was divided among Mrs. Harper and the children. Their descendants were eleven children. Mrs. Harper is at present residing on her share of the property in Perry Township.

Z. E. HARPER is one of the early natives of Noble County, and, therefore, a pioneer in the strongest sense of the word. His mother gave him birth October 15, 1844, in the wilds of this then new country. His boyhood days were passed with the scenes before him of log cabin days, the excitement of the hunter's chase, the "log-rolling bees," and the days when the arrival of a newcomer was heralded as gladsome news. Thus he has "grown up with the country," and advanced with its advancement. Mr. Harper was married October 26, 1865, to Sarah Carmean, at Goshen. She is a native of Ohio, where she was born May 18, 1844. Four children have been born to them—Lida A., Vada, Mary L. and John. Mr. Harper owns 108 acres of excellent land, constituting a farm most desirable in its adaptability for agricultural and stock-raising purposes, in the latter branch of which Mr. Harper gives attention, besides buying and selling to some extent.

WILLIAM D. HAYS, born in Pickaway County, Ohio, April 21, 1830, was a son of Samuel and Jemima (Rittenhouse) Hays, the former a native of Maryland, the latter of Ohio. They were married March 8, 1821, and went to Pickaway County, Ohio, which place they made their home. When our subject was but four years of age, his mother died, and October 4, 1836, his father married Mary Rittenhouse. In 1846, they moved to Indiana, this county, and lived the rest of their days. Mrs. Hays died June 4, 1851, and her husband died January 24, 1853. There were six children in Mr. Hays' family. W. D. Hays married Harriet E. Smith, a native of Ohio, February 24, 1853. Their children number six—James, Rheuann, Luella, Hattie B., William S. and Samuel L. Mr. Hays lives on the old homestead, and owns 500 acres of well-improved land. He is one of the most popular and opulent men of the county, and served at one time as Township Trustee.

JOHN HITE was born in England January 2, 1819, and came to America when ten years of age. He remained in Chester County, Penn., until 1834, when he moved to Portage County, Ohio; stayed there two years, then came to Jay County, Ind., where he resided about twenty-one years. Finally, in 1858, he came to Noble County, and located in Perry Township, Section 5, where he now lives, ably conducting his farm of eighty acres. He was married in Jay County, Ind., April 2, 1840, to Sarah A. Wilson, who was born April 16, 1821. They have had eleven children; eight of them are now living—Thomas W., William, George W., Mary A., Sarah E., Melinda J., John N. and James A. Those deceased are Isabella A., Mattie and Emeline.

T. W. HITE, one of the prosperous farmers of Perry Township, is a native of the Hoosier State, where he was born in Jay County, March 1, 1841. He made his home with his parents, John and Sarah A. Hite, until, at the age of twenty, he began work on his own responsibility. In 1864, he was drafted in the army, and, in company with his brother, went out with Company B, Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served through the remainder of the war. May 12, 1864, he married Harriet Teaford, who was born in Ohio, January 1, 1845. They then settled on their present farm, which consists of eighty acres of excellent land. They have a brick dwelling house; and a new barn, together with the other buildings, adds to the appearance of the place. They have seven children, all at home—Nelson, Alva, Clara, Cecil, Laura, Luella and Nona.

BENJAMIN HOSTETTER was born in Ross County, Ohio, April 1, 1812. When but five years of age, his parents moved to Fairfield County, Ohio, where their home was located a number of years. In 1832, they made their advent in Noble County, and here spent the remainder of their lives. December 31, 1835, Benjamin Hostetter and Elizabeth Shobe were united in matrimony, and shortly succeeding this event he purchased 160 acres of the timber land of this county, and built thereon a rude log cabin. This proved a permanent settlement, as it is still their home, but the surroundings are materially changed. The farm has been enlarged to 220 acres, cultivated and improved by the untiring energy of Mr. Hostetter. His wife died in September, 1847, and he married Sarah Danner in 1850. There are ten children in the family—Jacob, Zerilda, Ida H., Joel W., Mary, George, Effie, Nellie T., Willard and Edgar.

GEORGE KEEHN is a native of Stark County, Ohio, where he was born in 1818. He remained there until 1855, following the carpenter's trade; he then came to Indiana and settled in Perry Township, where his associations have been continued ever since. He was elected Treasurer of the county in

1878, and served one term, upon the expiration of which he returned to his farm, which consists of 160 acres of valuable land, well improved and conveniently located. In Sparta Township he has forty acres, and valuable property in Albion. He served his township as Assessor for eight years, and ranks as one of Noble County's most respected and honored citizens. In 1841, he was married to Lydia Gerber ; she died in 1851, leaving three children—Harriet Harper, Christina Harper and David—all residents of Perry Township. In the fall of 1851, he was united to a second wife, Margaret Simmonds, a native of Pennsylvania ; by her he has three children—Francis K. (residing in York Township), Nancy McDaniel (of Sparta Township), and Helen E.

J. N. KEEHN, a prosperous farmer of Perry Township, is a native of Stark County, Ohio. He is a son of John and Elizabeth Keehn, and his birth occurred June 11, 1835. At the age of nineteen, he left his native home, emigrating to La Grange County, Ind., where he remained some length of time engaged in carpentering. He subsequently came to Noble County, and here was united in marriage with Harriet E. Shobe, December 15, 1861. During the rebellion, in 1864, he enlisted in the Thirteenth Indiana Regiment, Company A. After one year's active service, he returned to this county, where he has since been a resident. Mr. and Mrs. Keehn have a family of four children—Charlie G., Lena A., Roy and Maud. Mr. Keehn owns 110 acres of good land, and has attained the third degree in Masonry.

GEORGE W. McCONNELL is one of twelve children born to Alexander and Polly A. McConnell, nine of whom are now living. The father and mother were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born March 15, 1791, and the latter May 10, 1802. They came to Ohio when young, and were married in that State in 1818. In the year 1838, the senior McConnell made a trip to Noble County, Ind., and purchased 400 acres of land ; after a short stay, he returned to his home in Ohio. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and became prominent not only in his county, but in State affairs. He served as a soldier the last year of the war of 1812 ; was a Representative to the Legislature and a State Senator in Ohio ; officiated as President of the State Board of Public Works of that State, and was Associate Judge of Morgan County, where he lived for some time. The elder Mr. and Mrs. McConnell both died in Ohio ; he October 12, 1853, and she May 20, 1872. George W., the representative of this sketch, is a native of Morgan County, Ohio, born March 10, 1822. In 1849, he went to California, during the gold excitement, and for three years worked in the mines. He then returned to his home in Ohio ; in 1853, after a short stay, he came to Noble County. January 28, 1855, was married to Cornelia Egbert. About two years after this, in 1857, Mr. McConnell moved to Ohio, but after a stay there of three years, he returned to this locality and settled where he now lives. They have had four children—Washington A., Robert E. (deceased), Oliver A., and James B. Mrs. McConnell is a native of Pennsylvania, where she was born February 6, 1835. Mr. McConnell was at one time the proprietor of the Rochester Flouring Mills, in this township, which he operated for some time. He now lives upon a farm of 160 acres with good surroundings ; has been Township Trustee two years, and wields considerable influence in his community.

CHARLES MUNROE is a native of New York, where he was born June 8, 1807. His father died when he was quite young, leaving him to the care of his mother, with whom, when he was about ten years old, he came to Ohio ; there he passed his life until his maturity, when he married Harriet



Burroughs, in September, 1828. In the year 1853, Mr. Munroe moved with his family to Noble County, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He possesses a farm of eighty acres in Perry Township, upon which he makes his home. Mr. and Mrs. Munroe have reared a family of nine children to maturity, all of whom are married and have established homes of their own, excepting the youngest, a girl, who still resides under the old parental roof.

JOHN REESE is a native of Germany, where he was born June 15, 1826, and one who braved the storms of the Atlantic for a home in America. He landed in New York and from there went to Buffalo, where he remained about six months, and during that time was united in marriage with Elizabeth Peters. Soon after, he came to Wawaka, Ind., and resided there or in the vicinity about nine years, when he came to Ligonier and established himself on the farm where he now lives, surrounded by the comforts of home life. Mr. and Mrs. Reese have had eight children—Manda, Lizzie, Henrietta, Daniel, Frank, Albert, Sarah (deceased) and John. They are members of the German Methodist Church. Mr. Reese owns seventy-three acres of excellent farming land, and is counted in every way a first-class farmer and worthy citizen.

H. D. ROGERS was born in New York October 24, 1818, which was his home for some years, after which he passed his time in Pennsylvania, until he reached the age of twenty-two. He then went to Ohio, where he engaged in the lumber and hardware business. In the year 1854, Mr. Rogers pushed farther west to Goshen, Ind. After a short stay of two months in that place, he made another change, coming to Noble County. Here, for some time, he was engaged in bridge-building, subsequently settling in Rochester, this Township, and engaging in the manufacture of brick. After following this for a period, he purchased the saw-mill now owned and operated by him, in the manufacture of lumber; also owns twenty-three lots in Rochester. Mr. Rogers' first marriage was to Betsey Sturtevant, in Pennsylvania, in 1839, from whom he was divorced in 1854. His second marriage was with Sarah Marsh, in 1855, in Sturgis, Mich.; she was born in Pennsylvania April 11, 1814. He is the father of five children.

WILLIAM SHOWALTER, one of six children, was born in La Grange County, Ind., March 25, 1855, and lived at home until about twenty-four years old. His parents are David and Mary Showalter, both natives of Virginia, where they were married in 1849. The former was born March 4, 1825, the latter March 21, 1832. In 1852, they came to La Grange County, Ind., where they are now living. He has been an extensive land-owner, and now has 330 acres. William Showalter followed teaching six years, and in 1879, May 21, he was married to Ella Hitler. Her parents were Ohioans, but she is a native of Noble County, where she was born May 8, 1854. A short time after his marriage, Mr. Showalter came to Noble County and settled in Perry Township, on Section 16. He possesses 80 acres of good farming land, upon which are fine buildings, including a brick residence. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, he is engaged extensively in stock-dealing. They have no children. Mr. Showalter is a prosperous farmer and a genial gentleman.

JAMES SILBURN is a son of James and Hannah Silburn, who were natives of England, where they were married, and about the year 1829 emigrated to America, settling in Ohio. Here Mrs. Silburn died April 3, 1864, and two years later her husband sold his property and came to Indiana,

where he is now living with his children. Mr. Silburn was born January 1, 1800, and his wife March 7, 1807. James Silburn, the subject, was one of eight children and was born January 10, 1833. He was married to Samantha A. Bower September 29, 1874. They have no children. Mr. Silburn possesses 140 acres of good farming land, and is a prosperous and valued citizen.

ADAM SIMMONS, native of Pennsylvania, born February 13, 1831, is one of eight children born to Jacob and Frances Simmons. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born December 8, 1798, the mother also of Pennsylvania, born November, 1799. They were married in Pennsylvania in 1836; moved to Stark County, Ohio; resided there until 1856, when they came to Noble County, Perry Township, and lived the rest of their days. He died April 20, 1868; she died February 4, 1874. Adam Simmons came here with his parents and lived with them on his father's farm, which consisted of 160 acres of land. He was married in Pennsylvania, December, 1855, to Miss Margaret Barr, native of Pennsylvania, born in 1833. She died in Noble County March 5, 1861, and in 1871, April 16, he married Elizabeth Klick; she was born in Ohio February 22, 1844. In 1875, Mr. Simmons located his home in Section 32. His farm consists of 120 acres of fine land. They have six children—Ramah D., born May 6, 1872; Alvin E., August 8, 1873; Franklin B., April 15, 1876; Harry W., August 28, 1877; Carl W., June 10, 1879; and Gracie M., born February 8, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons are members of the Christian Church, and are good citizens.

THOMAS SIMMONS was born in Stark County, Ohio, July 10, 1851, the son of Jonathan and Sarah Simmons, who moved to Noble County when Thomas was about seven years old. His school opportunities were the average of those of the locality where he lived. Believing in the advantages of a trade, he became a shoemaker. This business he followed for about five years, when he sold out and went to farming; this calling he has been engaged in for the past seven years. Mr. Simmons lives on that part of the old farm inherited from his parents. He owns 24 acres of fine land, comfortably improved. November 1, 1876, he married Miss Rosa Sisterhen, a native of Ohio, born April 5, 1854. Her parents were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons have one child—Harry, born August 8, 1877. They have the good will of their community, and, being young, have the possibilities of a satisfactory future before them.

CHRISTIAN SLABAUGH has been a resident of this county since 1863, having been engaged in farming and a dealer in stock to a considerable extent. His farm consists of 201 acres of excellent land, well located, and affording an abundant revenue. The family consists of himself and wife and three children, viz., Sidney, Willard and Olie. Mr. Slabaugh was born in Clay County, Ind., September 29, 1845, where he lived until about eight years old, when his parents moved to Elkhart County, and in 1863 to Noble County—Christian living at home during this time. In the year 1869, Mr. Slabaugh was united in marriage with Catherine Bowsher, January 22. She was born in Noble County, where her parents still reside, December 2, 1851. The result of this union is the birth of the above-named children, and they have a well ordered home.

ELIAS E. SLABAUGH was born in Lancaster County, Penn., February 14, 1818, where he remained until fourteen years of age; then, in company with his parents, came to Ohio. When he had arrived at the age of twenty, he went

to Fairfield County, that State, where he was married to Mary Vertz, in January, 1841. They soon went to Owen County, Ind., and from there to Elkhart County, and then to this county, and made a home on the farm where he now lives, being among the early settlers. They have reared a family of five children, viz.: Eliza J., William H., Christian E., Nancie and Isaac M. Mr. Slabaugh has been an extensive land-owner; but having more than the ordinary paternal care for his children, has divided his possessions among them, and thus starting them with comfortable homes. His farm now comprises 174 acres, with good and productive soil.

BENJAMIN F. SMITH is one of a family of six children, and was born in Ohio, on the 12th day of August, 1837. His parents were Jacob and Abigail Smith, who were also natives of the Buckeye State, where the father died, leaving the care of the family to the mother. She was a woman of sterling qualities; and about four years after her husband's death, removed to Indiana, settling in Noble County, where she remained until her death, in 1879. Benjamin came to Indiana with his mother, and April 25, 1861, was married to Charity Lane, a native of this county, where she was born February 24, 1844. Seven children have been born to this couple, viz.: Emma, G. Ellis, Hattie E., Franklin F., Howard G., William H. and Sarah. Mr. Smith owns a large farm, consisting of 231 acres of land, and is a genial, pleasant neighbor.

THERON TEAL was born in Ohio August 19, 1831. His parents, George and Nancy Teal, emigrated to Indiana and settled in Elkhart County, bringing their family with them, when Theron was about six years old. After two years' residence in Elkhart County, they removed to this county and township, locating on Section 21. Thus it was that Theron Teal, in his youth and early manhood, was reared midst the surroundings of pioneer life, and receiving the advantages of those times. December 25, 1857, he was married to Elizabeth Simmons, who was a native of Stark County, Ohio, where she was born December 8, 1838. After about eighteen months, they moved to Jefferson Township, this county, remaining there two years, when they returned to the old homestead, subsequently purchasing a farm in Section 24, this township. Upon this they lived until 1881, when it was sold, and another farm purchased in Section 25, where they now live. Mr. and Mrs. Teal belong to the Seventh Day Advent Church, and their influence for good is felt in their community. They have a family of eight children, all living at home, viz.: Elmer S., Morton R., Logan L., Ora B., George E., James M., Mina V. and Rosa S.

GEORGE TEAL (deceased), a native of Franklin County, Va., was a pioneer of Perry Township. The Teal family are of Swiss and German ancestry, who settled in Maryland in the latter half of the seventeenth century. George Teal was born the 28th of July, 1799, and with his parents removed to Ohio about the year 1806. His mother's maiden name was Neff, and her maternal ancestors were named Saylor. The subject was married, in 1826, to Miss Nancy Brower, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Harter) Brower, and when he came to this county, in the spring of 1837, had seven children. A brother, Joseph Teal, came with them, and is yet living where he first settled on Section 21, the subject going into Elkhart County, near Benton, removing, in the spring of 1840, to a farm adjoining his brother's, in Perry Township. In 1865, he went to Ligonier, but soon after purchased and removed to a farm south of Wawaka. In about seven years, he again sold out and returned to Ligonier. After a few months' sojourn at Kendallville, he purchased a home on Cavin street, where he died in September, 1876, at the age of seventy-

seven years one month and seventeen days, and was buried in the Ligonier cemetery. The widow of Mr. Teal is living with her son, Dr. J. M. Teal, at Kendallville. Of eleven children born to them, nine are yet living, eight in this county. Their last born died in infancy in 1849, and Elizabeth, their sixth child, who married Lott G. Carr, died in November, 1856, leaving an infant daughter, who was reared by Grandmother Teal, and is now Mrs. Shobe, of Ligonier. Dewitt C., the eldest, and G. A. are blacksmiths in Ligonier. Dr. Norman Teal was in the medical department of the army, and is now practicing medicine and surgery in Kendallville. Theron is a farmer near Ligonier. Rebecca, the fifth child, but a first daughter, is now Mrs. A. P. Frink, of Kendallville. George B. is a hardware merchant of Kendallville. Albert, who was the first born Hoosier, has been for the past twelve years postal clerk on the U. P. Railway. He was a soldier in Company B of the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in the right elbow at Resaca, Ga., in May, 1864. Harriet, now Mrs. Moffit, resides with her mother in Kendallville. Dr. J. M. Teal, dentist, the youngest of the surviving children, is living in Kendallville. In politics, the family were Whigs until the organization of the Republican party, with which they have since been identified.

ISAAC WEIMER was one of five children, and was born in Pennsylvania September 2, 1809. His parents—John and Elizabeth Weimer—were natives of the State of Pennsylvania, where they lived and where they died. Here Isaac Weimer lived until about twenty-two years of age. In 1837, he came to Indiana and settled in Goshen, where he remained and in the vicinity until 1856, when he came to this county, his present home. While in Goshen, he was married to Elizabeth Stawder July 26, 1849. She died January 9, 1851. August 11, 1853, he married a second time, to Lydia Bronson, a native of New York. Mr. Weimer has a family of five children—Catharine E., Mary L., Loretha C., Loretta E. and Abraham W. He owns eighty acres of good, well-improved farming land, and is a worthy citizen.

DR. CHARLES WOODRUFF is a native of New York State, where he was born March 17, 1817. His parents—Andrew and Rebecca Woodruff—were natives of Connecticut. When Charles was about seven years old, they moved from New York State to Ohio, where they died, he in 1849 and she in 1876. They were the parents of eleven children. Charles Woodruff, in his younger days, followed tailoring. In the year 1838, November 4, in Ohio, he was married to Jane Landon. She was born September 5, 1816, in the State where they were married. They came to Albion, this county, in 1853, where he entered upon the practice of his profession as a physician. In the spring of 1869, he moved to Ligonier, where he was connected with the drug business, also doing office practice, until 1879, when he sold out to his son, Dr. G. S., and retired from active business. Dr. Woodruff and wife belong to the Wesleyan M. Church. He has for some time preached for the denomination. They have four children—Orson L., Allen, George S. and Rollin C. The Doctor is the owner of thirty-two acres of land where he lives, and the possessor of town property, to the extent of three acres, with two houses on it. He has filled the office of Justice of the Peace and is a gentleman of pleasant and genial bearing. His son, George S., studied medicine with his father, and attended lectures at Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1866 and 1867, subsequently attended the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati. He was associated with his father in the drug business in Ligonier, and whose interest he purchased in



1879. He also does an office practice. Was married, in 1870, to Miss Elinor Smith. They have two children—Ernest and Charles A.

A. YORKEY was born in Germany December 14, 1841. His parents emigrated to this country in 1852, our subject coming over with them. After remaining in New York City a short time, they came west to Buffalo, and in about a year came to Noble County, where the mother died August 1, 1866. She was born in 1824. The elder Yorkey was born in 1814. For a second wife, he married a Miss Cree. He is the father of five children, two by his first wife and three by the second. A. Yorkey was the eldest of the children. He was married to Sarah Flannagan November 15, 1868. They have a family of three children—Ambrose H., John A., Bertha S. He served in the army against the rebellion, entering in 1863 and remaining until the close of the war. His wife was born October 15, 1851. They belong to the Catholic Church. He owns seventy-two acres of land; is frugal and industrious.

### TOWN OF ALBION.

ADAMS, PALMER & CO., general merchandise, is a firm of recent organization. They have rented for a term of years the Clapp Block, consisting of two fine and commodious storerooms, which they have stocked with an extensive and complete line of dry goods, groceries, notions, etc., and are prepared to do an extensive trade. Their stock is new, having been purchased expressly for their new store by J. H. Palmer, who, although a young man, is old in business experience. Mr. T. E. Adams is a native of Whitley County, Ind., and son to Andrew and Eliza (Elliott) Adams. His father is a farmer and extensive stock-dealer, to which he has given his especial attention. T. E. was associated with his father in stock dealing until the formation of the business partnership with J. H. Palmer in April, 1881. Mr. J. H. Palmer is also a native of Whitley County, Ind., and for several years connected with the business interests of Columbia City, subsequently becoming a commercial traveler for a Chicago house. He brings to the firm good executive and business attributes.

E. M. ALSBAUGH, tinware, stoves, etc., is one of the young and enterprising business men of Albion. He is a native of Michigan, and at the age of seventeen a student of his trade at Kendallville, Ind., where he remained for over three years. He next was employed at Wolcottville for one and one-half years, going from thence to Albion, and entering the employ of Markey & Walter, with whom he remained for two and one-half years. In April, 1880, encouraged by the leading business men, he began his business career at Albion, and is at present establishing a fine, lucrative and honorable trade. He manufactures all kinds of tinware, making a specialty of tin roofing and spouting, and carries a large line of stoves.

ALEX AUMOND, Deputy County Auditor, is a native of Canada. In 1866 he came to the United States, where he has since been identified. He came to Noble County in 1875, and in 1878 became an assistant of the County offices, first entering the Recorder's office, subsequently the office of County Clerk, and since 1879 has been connected with the Auditor's office. He is a valuable officer, being thoroughly posted in the routine and execution of County affairs.

SAMUEL E. ALVORD is a native of Bradford County, Penn., where he was born in 1824. His father, Nathan Alvord, was an eminent physician, having a large and varied practice, and resided in Pennsylvania until his death. Samuel E. received an academic education, and remained in his native county until the age of twenty-two years. In 1847, he began reading law at Troy, Penn., continuing until 1849, when he came to Noble County, and employed the first winter after his arrival in teaching school at Rome City. In the spring of 1850, he came to Albion and commenced the publication of a Democratic newspaper called the *Albion Observer*, continuing the same with varying success until 1853, at which time it was discontinued, and Mr. Alvord was admitted to the bar. He studied and practiced this profession until 1855, when he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, serving in that capacity four years, during which period he was connected for two years with the *Noble County Democrat*. At the expiration of his clerkship he resumed the practice of law, continuing thus until 1872, when he began publishing the *New Era*, conducting the same until January, 1876, when he again returned to the law. During the autumn of 1876, he was again elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, and is still the incumbent of that office. Mr. Alvord has acquired a broad scholarship in all the avenues of literature, and has trained himself to the severest logic and discipline. His genius is decidedly literary, and is eminently recognized throughout Northern Indiana. Prior to the war, though a Democrat, he was a "Free-Soiler;" and later, was an earnest War Democrat, warmly espousing the enlistment of men, and the vigorous prosecution of the war. His literary productions are characterized by great beauty of expression, broad and thoughtful analysis of human motives, and a sternly realistic view of life that penetrates all shams and pours the focal light of hard, common sense upon all problems involved in darkness. His marriage with Miss Julia Sweet was solemnized in November, 1851. Four children have blessed this union—Lillie Engle, Edsall, Nathan and Edith.

ABEL BARNUM, a wealthy farmer of Albion, was born June 30, 1821, in Fairfield County, Conn., and was the fourth of seven children of Platt and Alethea (Barnum) Barnum, who were natives of the same State, and farmers by occupation. Abel was removed in infancy, with his parents, from Connecticut to New York, locating in Sullivan County. His educational advantages were limited. His father died when Abel was but ten years of age. In 1844, he emigrated to and located in this county, where he purchased 160 acres of timber land, which he worked at clearing in summer and taught school in winter. His school-teaching experience closed in 1848, after which he devoted his time to farming exclusively, subsequently adding to his land, increasing it to 240 acres. Mr. Barnum is a thorough and systematic farmer; was an adherent of the Whig party till 1854, when he allied himself to the Republicans. In 1852, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and served satisfactorily for five years, and is respected by all. On April 30, 1848, he was married to Miss Jane Sweet, of Jefferson Township, Noble County, a daughter of Hon. Jerome Sweet, one of the early settlers, who came to Jefferson Township in 1842, where he resided until his death, in 1869. Mrs. Barnum is a lady of culture and many amiable traits of character. They have two children—one son, Orlo P., born January 22, 1851, and one daughter, Alethea, born December 5, 1852.

JOHN H. BAUGHMAN, abstract office, is a son of Samuel and Christina (Young) Baughman, who were residents of Ashland County, Ohio, over

thirty years prior to coming to Noble County. In 1852, they located in Allen Township, where the father followed blacksmithing and farming. Of a family of ten children, eight are living—Henry, Cornelia Garver, Francis, Hannah Cribbs, Newton, John H., Mary J. Southworth and Amy I. Ihrrie. The father and mother are now living in retirement at Lisbon. John H., at the age of seventeen, left the farm home of his father, and entered his brother's store at Lisbon, as clerk, where he remained until the winter of 1864, when he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, remaining in the service nine months, when he was injured and was compelled to return home, resigning a Second Lieutenant's commission. Soon after his return, he was appointed Postmaster at Lisbon, and for one year ran a grocery store in connection. For a period of several years Mr. Baughman was engaged in various occupations, and for two years was unable to attend to business on account of ill-health. He finally went to Monticello, Ind., and learned telegraphy, and in September, 1871, entered upon the duties of operator on the G. R. & I. R. R., at Kendallville. In 1872, he was elected Recorder of the county by a majority of ninety votes, and re-elected for a second term by a majority of nearly 500, serving the two terms with popular favor. Mr. Baughman was married in March, 1871, to Miss Hannah Tyler. They have one child—Trevor Day. The abstract office of Mr. Baughman is in Stone's new block. The experience gained in the Recorder's office eminently fits him for his present business. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

OWEN BLACK, retired, is a native of Lancaster County, Penn., where he was born in 1815. His parents were Peter and Martha (Amos) Black, natives of Maryland, and settlers in Ohio in 1833, where they resided for twenty years, removing to Indiana in 1853, locating in Noble County, where they remained the remainder of their lives, his father's death occurring October 23, 1862, his mother's June 28, 1872. Owen was the second of ten children; his early duties were connected with farm life, until he attained his majority, when he learned the carpenter's trade; following that in connection with farming, until he came to Indiana. For two years, he was engaged in farming, at the expiration of which period he came to Albion, and began a successful business career. He was connected with the dry goods trade for fifteen years; built the first grist-mill in Albion; also erected two saw-mills and numerous dwelling houses and business blocks. He has 380 acres of fine farming land in Noble County, and 800 acres in Kansas. After an active business life, he has retired to the enjoyment of well-earned prosperity. He devoted considerable of his time to traveling in 1878, taking a trip across the ocean and visiting several countries upon the continent. Mr. Black was married, in 1838, to Miss Elizabeth Goss, a native of Richland County, Ohio, where her people settled in 1815. Two sons are descendants of this marriage—Jackson D. and Owen J., both young and promising business men of Albion.

JACKSON D. BLACK, merchant, is the senior partner of Black & Bros., an enterprising firm of Albion. Mr. Black is a native of Richland County, Ohio, and son of Owen Black, one of the old settlers and prominent merchants of Noble County. Jackson became associated with his father as an assistant about 1860, continuing until 1867, when he became a partner, under firm name of Owen Black & Son, which connection remained until 1870, when his father's interest was taken by D. S. Love, and the business continued until 1872, when Mr. Love retired, and he continued in business alone until 1880, when his brother, Owen J. Black, became a partner. Mr. Black suffered the

entire loss of his stock, valued at \$11,000, by fire, in 1879, but nothing daunted, however, he resumed business immediately, and is at present doing an immense trade, which he richly deserves. He was married, in 1870, to Miss Minerva Young, a native of Pennsylvania, and resident of Noble County. They have three children—Albert, Bessie and an infant.

**CHARLES BOETCHER**, miller. Among the industries of Noble County, there is none more complete in mechanical structure than the new and extensive flouring-mills of Hyter & Boetcher. Mr. Boetcher, the resident manager and miller, is a native of Wheeling, W. Va. His parents subsequently became residents of Cambridge, Guernsey County, Ohio, where our subject has resided the greater portion of his life, transacting business connected with milling interests the most of his time. About 1872, he removed to Illinois, where he remained for eight years, being connected with a saw-mill while there. In August, 1880, he came to Albion, and purchased the milling interest of Mr. Ludlow, who, with Mr. Hyter, had started the "Paragon" Mills of Albion, in January, 1880. Since that time, Mr. Boetcher has had the exclusive management of the mills. The "Paragon" Mills are furnished with new and improved machinery from the Bass Foundry Machine Works of Fort Wayne, Ind., and presents a model appearance. They have four runs of stone driven by steam power, and operated and managed by an intelligent and enterprising gentleman; is an institution of which the people of Albion are justly proud. Mr. Boetcher was married, in 1879, to Miss Elmina Moore, of Ohio, she is a native of Washington County, Penn. They have three children—Laura P., George M. and Charles W. Mr. Boetcher is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Albion.

**PHILIP BOWMAN**, retired farmer, is one of the representative pioneers of Noble County. He is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, and was a resident of the "Buckeye" State until twenty-eight years of age, when, in 1844, he emigrated to Indiana, and settled in the woods of York Township, Noble County. Here he commenced the task of clearing and developing his land, remaining a resident of that township and identified with the growth, improvements and advancements until 1878, when he retired from active life, yielding the management of his farm to his son Jay, and became a resident of Albion. Mr. Bowman served York Township as Justice of the Peace for eight years, and was one of its most respected citizens. He formed a matrimonial alliance, in 1842, with Miss Lydia Harlan, also a native of Columbiana County, Ohio. She departed this life in 1857, leaving three children—Mary C. McEwen, of Brimfield, Noble County; Jay, married to Miss Lucinda Mack, and residing on the homestead farm; and Serenes, a business man of Albion. In 1866, Mr. Bowman was united to a second wife, Widow Mary M. Bowman. They have one child—Elmer.

**SARAH A. BRADLEY**, hotel, has been associated in the hotel and boarding-house business since 1860, when she bought the house now known as the Bradley Hotel, which she conducted until 1879, when she leased it for a term of years, and engaged in keeping a first-class boarding-house. It is her intention to refit and improve the Bradley House, and conduct it as a first-class hotel. The traveling public generally who place themselves under the care of Mrs. Bradley, will find a plentiful table and a homelike house.

**JUDGE WILLIAM M. CLAPP**, deceased, whose portrait appears in this work, was for many years a prominent citizen of Noble County. He was born December 18, 1817, in Tolland County, Conn., and was the eighth child of Stephen and Mary (Loomis) Clapp, who were farmers, and natives of the



same State. The Clapp family is of Danish descent, and their lineage is recorded back to 1025. Descendants of this family emigrated to America in 1630. William M. Clapp is a descendant of Thomas, one of three brothers who settled in Massachusetts in 1633, and is of the seventh generation in the United States. In his youth, he assisted upon the farm for nine months of each year, and attended school irregularly the remaining three months. At the age of six, his parents removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio. Here he pursued his studies upon every occasion offered, committing to memory the coarse print of Murray's Grammar while employed in his father's sugar bush. At the age of seventeen, he thought himself fitted to teach, and accordingly secured a school. He soon found that he could not manage the large and disorderly scholars to his satisfaction and resigned. He then, in the following spring, went to Burton, Ohio, where for eighteen months he clerked in a dry goods store, subsequently in the same capacity at Mantua, Franklin and Chester, Ohio. He was next in association with a man named Johnson, in the commercial trade. Johnson, however, proved insolvent, and this enterprise terminated in disaster. After vainly seeking employment, he finally fell in with a gentleman and his wife who were on their way to Kentucky as school teachers, and who persuaded him to join them. He landed at Marysville, Ky., with a \$1 bill on an Ohio bank, which proved to be of no value, as the bank failed. After a time he secured a school, and followed teaching successfully for over two years, saving about \$400; he then returned to Ohio. His early ambition having been for the profession of law, he determined to direct his attention to that profession. He purchased a horse, and, with some provisions and clothing in a pair of saddle bags, started for Indiana. Upon reaching Peru, he entered the law office of E. P. Loveland, and remained for one and one-half years in diligent study. He was then granted a license to practice in the State, his parchment bearing date of March, 1843. The following April, he located at Augusta, then the county seat of Noble County. Here he entered upon his practice, following the migration of the county seat to Port Mitchell in 1844, and finally to Albion in 1847. To Mr. Clapp is due, probably more than any other one man, that Albion became the county seat. In 1848, he formed a co-partnership with H. H. Hitchcock in the mercantile trade. In 1849, Mr. Hitchcock retired, and Mr. Clapp conducted this business alone until 1868, when he associated with him C. B. Phillips, and in 1873, W. W. White became a member of the firm. In 1875, Mr. Clapp disposed of his interest, but it again fell into his hands in 1876. He was also interested in a woolen-mill at Rome City for several years. His banking business began as a company affair, but in 1875 he secured the entire interest, which he conducted, in connection with his sons, until his death. His professional and business ventures were, upon the whole, successful, and secured for him a large fortune. He was reared a Whig, and upon the formation of the Republican party, became and remained a strict adherent to its men and measures. In 1845, he was elected Auditor of the county, and served five years. In 1856, he was chosen to represent his district in the State Legislature for two years. He was elected Judge of the Nineteenth Common Pleas Court in 1860, and held the office by re-elections until it was abolished in 1873. From this period until his death January 5, 1881, he employed his time in looking to his various interests in and around Albion. Judge Clapp was a Royal Arch Mason, and a citizen whose virtues were so well known that they do not need to be eulogized. He was united in marriage in 1847 to Miss Mary A. Skinner. She died November, 1875, leaving three children—William Frank

and Charles M., of Albion; and Adella Starr, of Ohio. Judge Clapp was united to a second wife, Miss Angie Skinner, December 25, 1877. She was a cousin of his former wife, and is an estimable lady and valued member of society.

**WILLIAM FRANK CLAPP**, capitalist and merchant, a son of William M. and Mary A. (Skinner) Clapp. He was born in Albion in 1853, and had good educational advantages, finishing at Ann Arbor, Mich. At the time of his father's death, and for awhile previous, he was associated as cashier in his father's bank. He is now established in merchandising and is building up a large trade. He also represents several first-class fire and life insurance companies, and, in connection with his brother, Charles M., he is the owner of valuable real estate in Albion. To the material growth of the town, he is doing his share by the erection of substantial business blocks. In all of this, Frank shows an enterprising business spirit. He is genial and liberal and takes an active interest in the public advancement. Although young in years, he makes his presence felt, and strikes out like one with an older head. He is a member of the Masonic order—Chapter and Commandery; was married, in July, 1881, to Miss A. Smith, of Columbia City.

**CHARLES M. CLAPP**, banker and capitalist, son of William M. and Mary A. (Skinner) Clapp, was born in Albion, December, 1855, where he has since lived and been identified. He was engaged in the hardware trade one year, and then in association with his father until his death. He was appointed to administer his father's estate, and in the fall of 1881 resumed the banking business, starting the Bank of Albion upon his own responsibility. Mr. Clapp, although yet young in years, is a careful and able financier, and has embarked upon a successful business career. He is largely interested in real estate and is assisting in building up Albion. He was married, in November, 1878, to Miss Flora B. Woodruff. They have one child—Fred R.

**A. J. DENLAR** is a native of Germany. He came with his parents to America in 1851. His father, who was a sailor, was soon after drowned, and his mother emigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio, where she had relatives. She subsequently remarried and came to Whitley County, Ind., where our subject passed his earlier years—since thirteen years of age upon his own resources. He learned the baker's trade at Columbia City, and followed that calling in various localities until 1873, when he came to Albion and became an assistant upon the construction of the B. & O. R. R., subsequently engaging at his trade there. His next move was to Columbia City, where for eighteen months he engaged at working at his trade. Returning to Albion, he soon after, under firm name of Denlar & Frazure, embarked in the restaurant business, which was successfully prosecuted until fire destroyed his property. He then engaged in business for himself, which he carried on successfully until the fall of 1881, when he sold out and embarked in his present enterprise. He has now a business room which he erected himself, and is conducting a quiet and first-class business. He has served upon the Town Board and is a member of the Masonic order. He married, in 1873, Miss Alice F. Frazure, of Albion. They have three children—Melvin F., Catherine E. and Leona.

**JAMES M. DENNY**, lawyer, was born October 29, 1827, in Eaton, Preble Co., Ohio. His parents, John and Mary (McConnell) Denny, were natives, respectively, of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Walter Denny, grandfather of James, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. James' father was elected Associate Judge of the Circuit Court in Preble County, serving for several years.

When James M. was five years of age, the family removed from Ohio to Indiana, locating in Perry Township, Noble County; when a boy, he assisted his father on the farm, and received a good academic education. He taught school four terms, pursuing his studies at leisure hours. His industry and manifest interest in the advancement of his pupils secured for him confidence and esteem. In 1849, he entered, as a student at law, the office of William M. Clapp, of Albion, under whose instruction he read for about two years, when he entered the legal department of a school at Ballston Springs, N. Y., from which he graduated in March, 1853. He returned to Albion and began the practice of his profession, but close application produced failing health, which eventually compelled him to abandon active labor, yet he still transacted the amount of business that well-directed prudence would justify. He has also spent much time in the preparation and delivery of lectures, orations and essays on many subjects of interest. His productions are clear, forcible and convincing. Mr. Denny is a man of extensive reading and thoughtful reflection. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and his pen is ready and fearless in the defense and support of the principles of the order so dear to him. His lecture entitled, "Charles Sumner as an Example to Young Men," and one on the "Sabbath School," delivered at Kendallville, are especially worthy of notice, and many other efforts are full of merit. He is an adherent of the Democratic party, and has held positions of honor and trust. In 1859, he was elected Treasurer of Noble County, and re-elected in 1861. Mr. Denny is orthodox in his views, and an attendant of the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member. He was married, January 1, 1856, to Miss Frances J. Plumstead, of Portage City, Wis., who died September 9, 1866, leaving two sons. The eldest, Watts P., is filling the position as Principal of Rome City School, and James O. also a teacher. Mr. Denny was married again September 10, 1868, to Miss Julia A. Kiblinger, of Albion. He is a courteous and genial gentleman, and commands the respect and esteem of all who know him. While not in the enjoyment of robust health, his correct and temperate habits seem to assure him a long life.

T. M. EELLS, lawyer, is a native of Ohio, born in Columbiana County, in 1843, where he passed his early life upon a farm. At the breaking-out of the rebellion, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Fifteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and remained in service nearly three years. Upon his return to Ohio, he decided upon the study of law, and soon after entered the Ohio Union Law College, of Cleveland, from which institution he graduated in 1866, when he came to Albion and commenced the practice of his profession, at which he is engaged. He has served the county as Superintendent of Schools and as Examiner. He was married, in 1871, to Miss Sarah A. Phenicie, also a native of Ohio. They have two children—Mabel and Charles.

FRED GAPPINGER, tanner, has been for over twenty years a prominent and successful business man of Albion. He is a native of Germany, and an emigrant to America in 1849, and soon after located in Carroll County, Ohio, where he carried on a tannery for a number of years. He came to Albion in 1861, since which time he has been at the head of the tanning and leather interests there. His business has been successful, and conducted in strict honor and integrity. He was married in Carroll County, Ohio, in 1855, to Miss Margaret Miller. They have eight children—Elizabeth, John, Frank, Amelia, Fred, Edward, Irving and Albert.

D. K. HAMILTON, marble dealer, represents an artistic branch of the business interests of Albion. Although he has been a resident of Noble County

but a few years, his business has increased until it is worthy of a place among the successful industries of the county. Mr. Hamilton began life in Pennsylvania, and until eighteen years of age was developing his muscle upon a farm. He then entered the army, and for two years was employed as a driver until he became of sufficient age to enlist, when he became a member of Company F, One Hundred and First Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and remained in service until discharged at the close of the war, in 1865. Returning to his native State, he learned his trade at Mechanicstown, Cumberland County, remaining there about four years, when he went to Kansas and remained for three years, subsequently returning to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in business for four years, going thence to Shelby, Ohio, where he was employed for six months, after which he came to Albion, in 1877, where he located, and is extending the sale of his work each year. Mr. Hamilton is an efficient, skilled workman, and one of the progressive business men of Albion. He was married, in 1873, to Miss Lucinda Palm, of Cumberland County, Penn. They have three children—Rollie P., Carrie E. and Merle.

JAMES A. HAMLIN, of Hamlin & Skinner, drugs, etc., is a native of Crawford County, Ohio, born in October, 1846. His father being a farmer, James was engaged in tilling the soil during his minority. In 1864, he enlisted in the navy, upon U. S. Steamer Choctaw, of the Lower Mississippi Squadron, and was in service two years, taking part in several severe engagements, prominent among them the battle of Fort De Russy, La. He returned from the service, receiving his discharge at Cairo, Ill., to Ohio, soon after engaging in the grocery trade, at Melmore, Seneca County, where he remained for several years. In December, 1875, he came to Albion, and embarked in the grocery business, continuing until 1878, when he changed his line of business to the drug trade, and to that branch has devoted his attention since; now in partnership with M. C. Skinner. Messrs. Hamlin & Skinner are doing the leading business in their line. They are courteous and progressive business men, and worthy of the extensive trade they are accorded. Mr. Hamlin was elected Justice of the Peace in 1879, and is still a worthy incumbent of that position. He was connected with the same office in Ohio; elected there when only a few days over twenty-one years of age, the youngest ever elected in that State, serving there six years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and A., F. & A. M., of Albion. Mr. Hamlin married, in 1867, Miss Hattie A. Murray, a resident of Oberlin, Ohio. They have two children—Nellie C. and Arvin M.

J. R. HART, liveryman, was born September 7, 1828, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. He is one of a family of eight children born to John and Lodema (Dorwin) Hart. The father was a shoemaker, and followed his trade until the latter part of his life, when he engaged in mercantile pursuits at Monmouth, Adams Co., Ind., where he was also Postmaster. Mr. Hart brought his family to Adams County in 1843, where he resided until his death, at the close of the war of rebellion. John R. Hart assisted his parents until the age of nineteen, when he left home and went to Muskingum County, Ohio, where for two years he was engaged in various pursuits. In 1849, he returned to Indiana, and November 25, 1851, married Hannah L. Gorsline. For a number of years, he was engaged in the hotel and livery business in Monmouth, and for four years was a resident of Cincinnati. In 1878, he purchased 102 acres of land in Green Township, Noble County, and was engaged in farming until the spring of 1881, when he rented his farm, moved to Albion and formed a partnership with Samuel Stoops in the livery business. This enterprise has



been successful—constantly growing in favor with the public—which is chiefly due to their fair and honorable dealing with customers. Mr. Hart is a Universalist, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This couple have had three children—Mary J. (deceased), Helen A. and Ida M. Helen is the wife of Clark E. Slocum, of Fort Wayne, Ind. Mr. Hart is a first-class business man, and a highly esteemed resident of Albion.

A. D. C. HARVEY, contractor and planing-mill, is a native of Scotland, and came to America with his parents in 1836. They located in Ashland County, Ohio, where they remained until 1852, when they removed to Noble County, locating in Jefferson Township, where they were engaged in farming for several years; they are now living in retirement in Albion. The subject of this biography commenced to learn the carpenter's trade when eighteen years of age, and in that calling has devoted the attention of many years, doing extensive contracting, and also owning a complete planing-mill, which, in connection with lumber interests also, divides his attention. For fourteen years he also owned and operated a farm in Jefferson Township, in connection with his other interests. He has contracted for and built all of the county buildings—notably the infirmary and jail—most of the churches in the region around the county seat, and many of the business blocks and private residences of Albion. He conducts a business room in town for the sale of sash, doors and blinds, and other builders' material. He was married, in 1860, to Miss Anna Buchan. They have three children—Mary E., William P. and Alex L.

J. W. HAYS, physician and surgeon, is a native of Greene County, Ohio. When ten years of age, his parents removed to Miami County, Ohio, where he was associated, working upon his father's farm and teaching school until 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and in three years' active service, participated in about thirty heavy engagements, among which we mention Winchester, Manassas Gap, Mine Run, Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Spottsylvania Court House, Monocacy Junction, Md., Charlestown, Va., Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, siege and capture of Richmond, Sailor's Run, and at the surrender of Lee. His regiment was a member of the Sixth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. He entered the service as a private, and, upon the assault and capture of Richmond, commanded a company, continuing in that position until he was mustered out, at which time he was recommended for promotion, and had the war continued would have received a commission. His father, Jacob H. Hays, had in the meantime become a resident of Sparta Township, Noble County, and, in 1865, our subject came to this county, but soon after went to Piqua, Ohio, and commenced reading medicine with G. Volney Dorsey, remaining under his tutelage for four years, attending two courses of the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati, where he graduated in 1872. He was also a teacher at intervals during this period. In April, 1872, he commenced his practice in Albion, where he has since remained, achieving a lucrative business. He has served the county as Infirmary Physician for four years, and is a member of the County and Northeastern Medical Associations. Dr. Hays was married in June, 1870, to Laura E. Munger, of Dayton, Ohio. They have three children living—Edna, Olive and Woodward.

JAMES T. JOHNSTON, County Surveyor, is a native of Scotland. His parents emigrated to America in 1854, and settled in Richland County, Ohio, where his father died in May, 1881; his mother still survives. James is the eldest of four children, and was reared upon a farm. He received a good edu-  
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cation, being a graduate of Washington and Jefferson Colleges, of Pennsylvania. He was a teacher for a number of years, for three years in Noble and De Kalb Counties. His connection with Noble County began in 1871; he first engaged at railroad contracting, subsequently engaging in the dry goods and hardware trades at Kendallville. Previous to coming to Indiana, he taught in the schools of Wooster, Ohio, and the Academy of Savannah, desisting on account of the failure of his health. He was elected Surveyor of Noble County in 1876, and is now serving his third term. He married, in 1871, Miss Eliza P. Vermilya, a native of Ohio; four children are born to them—Harry V., Elizabeth Winifred, John H. and James.

A. J. KIMMELL, grocer, is a native of Canton, Ohio, and a son of Adam Kimmell, who was an early settler of Stark County, and a business man there for many years. His wife, Elizabeth Bowers, and mother of A. J., died in Stark County in 1849. Subsequently—in 1852—Adam Kimmel came to Noble County, where he remained until his death. He was an intelligent and valued citizen, serving for fifteen years as Justice of the Peace in Ohio. A. J. Kimmell is by trade a tailor, which he followed upon first coming to Indiana, subsequently engaging in the grocery, dry goods, hardware and merchant tailoring and ready made clothing trade. In 1870, he was appointed Postmaster of Albion and served nine years, during which period he was also engaged in the grocery business. This branch he still continues, in addition to which he operates a valuable farm of seventy acres in Jefferson Township. He has served as Township Trustee two years; is a member of the Masonic order, and an energetic business man; Mr. Kimmell was married in June, 1853, to Miss Ann Edwards, a daughter of Alexis Edwards, who came from Morrow County, Ohio, in 1848. They have two children, Frank and Emma. The former is connected with his father in the store; he is married to Miss Ella Ulmer, of Washington Township, her father, George Ulmer, being one of the first white settlers of Allen Township. Emma is now the wife of John W. Smith.

WILLIAM S. KISER, County Auditor, is a son of Jacob and Jane (Smith) Kiser; the former being a native of Wayne County, Ohio, the latter of Chester County, Penn. They were married in Ohio, and came to Indiana, making their location in Sparta Township, where they at present reside. Of a family of twelve children, only three now survive: Moses, ex-Sheriff of Noble County, now a farmer of Sparta Township; Isabella Hursey, also a resident of Sparta Township, and William S., who was born in Sparta Township in 1849. Until twenty years of age, he remained upon the home farm. He then came to Albion to attend school, during which period he entered the office of the County Auditor, and for nine years was an assistant in the court house in the different offices. In 1878, he was elected Auditor of the County, and is at present serving his first term. Mr. Kiser is eminently fitted for the important duties of his position, and possesses the confidence of all parties. He is a member of Albion Blue Lodge, No. 97, of Kendallville, Chapter, Commandery and Council A., F. & A. M., of I. O. O. F., and K. of H., of Kendallville. Mr. Kiser was united in marriage in November, 1871, to Miss Ella J. Haney, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of Pierce Haney. They have one child living, Georgie; one deceased, Raymond.

S. K. KONKLE, painter, is a native of the Buckeye State, where, in Wayne County, he was born in 1836. Since 1848, he has been a resident of Albion. Mr. Konkle has followed the occupation of a painter all of his life—in former years a house-painter; since 1879, he has done the painting for the

carriage manufactory of H. R. Shirk, of Albion; also does fine graining and sign painting. In 1860, he was married to Miss Cornelia G. Andrews, a native of Ohio. They have two children—Burton A. and Edwin L.

JAMES J. LASH, County Recorder, is a native of Wayne County, Ohio, and son to William and Mary G. (Carson) Lash, who were natives of Pennsylvania. They removed from Ohio in 1848, and settled near Kendallville. His father was a farmer, and continued a resident there until his death in 1855. His mother is still living there. Four children of a family of eight now survive—Mary E. Lester; Joanna C. Jewell, Chicago; Eliza P., Kendallville; and James J. The latter, at nineteen years of age, went to Michigan, where, in 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, and was in service during the war. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville and Savannah, Averysboro and Bentonville, N. C.; was wounded in his left arm, which had to be amputated. He received his discharge in New York in June, 1865. Returning to Kendallville, he was soon after appointed Postmaster there, serving for two and a half years. He next engaged in the insurance business for two years, during which period he was elected County Treasurer and removed to Albion. He served two terms, his office expiring in 1875. He then engaged in farming, at which he occupied himself until, having been elected County Recorder in 1880, he began the duties of that office, in August, 1881. He is a member of Kendallville I. O. O. F. Mr. Lash was married, in 1860, to Miss Rosa A. Hyde, a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio. Her father, Cullen Hyde, moved to Allen Township in 1852, where he resided until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Lash have four children—Emma Grace, Lizzie A., Maud L. and Ruby A. M.

WELLINGTON Y. LEONARD, M. D., was born in Miami County, Ohio, October 5, 1834. His parents, Joseph and Julia (Renshaw) Leonard, were natives respectively of Vermont and Pennsylvania. Gilbert Leonard, the father of Joseph, was a soldier in Washington's army, and served with fidelity until the close of the struggle. At one time during this service, his wife, with her infant child, was compelled to seek safety from the enemy by fleeing to the depths of the forest, where she was secreted for three days and nights, without food or drink, suffering intensely. The school days of Wellington were not marked by anything conspicuous. His opportunities were the subscription schools of the times, a greater portion of the year being spent in hardy toil on the home farm. In 1850, his father removed to Wolf Lake, where he bought a farm, on which he located. In 1852, Wellington went to Xenia, Ohio, to become an architect. This he studied and attended night school. Under the double strain his health failed, and he abandoned drafting. In the fall of 1855, we find him entering a select school at Wolf Lake, attending one year, and soon after commencing the study of medicine with Dr. D. W. C. Denney, with whom he remained two years, excepting an absence to teach one term of school. In 1859, he attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. In 1860, he returned to Wolf Lake, and, in connection with Dr. William C. Williams, began the practice of medicine. The partnership continued until 1861, when the latter entered the army. In 1863, he again attended lectures, this time at Cincinnati Medical College, from which he graduated in 1864, receiving his diploma March 4. Returning to Wolf Lake, he resumed his practice, continuing until the winter of 1865 and 1866, when he went to Chicago and attended lectures at the Rush Medical College for one term, receiving the *ad eundem* degree January 26, 1866, after which he returned to

his old field of labor, and remained until April, 1866, when he removed to Albion and, in company with Dr. Dunshee, resumed the practice of his profession. After two years, the partnership was dissolved. His practice was steadily increased, until it is now large and lucrative. The following extract concerning Dr. Leonard is taken from Butler's "Medical Register and Directory:" "Wellington Y. Leonard, M. D., Albion; graduated Cincinnati College Medicine and Surgery March, 1864; *ad eundem*, Rush Medical College, Chicago, 1866; member of Medical Society, Noble County, Ind.; member of Northeastern Indiana Medical Society; and member of American Medical Association. He was County Physician from 1867 to 1875; is surgeon of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Albion." In politics, he is a Republican and firm in his convictions. He was a member of the Albion School Board for three years, and was instrumental in perfecting the Albion School Building, which is a pride to the town. The Doctor has also served as a member of the Town Board of Trustees, and is an honored member of the Masonic fraternity. He was married, November 19, 1857, to Miss Amanda Place, of Phoenixville, Penn. They have four children, three sons and one daughter.

S. W. LEMMON, M. D., is the oldest medical practitioner in Albion, having been identified here for over twenty-five years. Dr. Lemmon is a native of the State of New York, and came when a youth with his parents to Seneca County, Ohio, locating near Attica, upon a farm. Having decided upon the profession of medicine, he entered the office of Dr. Freeman, of Attica, and commenced his studies, subsequently attending the Western Reserve College of Cleveland, and graduating in the Medical Department. He commenced his practice in Attica, Ohio, where he remained for five years, removing from there to Toledo, Ohio, and thence to Albion in 1856, where we still find him administering to a well-established practice. Dr. Lemmon is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the County Medical Society, and of the Northeastern Medical Association. In 1853, he married, in Attica, Ohio, Miss Harriet Chandler, who died in 1858. He was united to a second wife, Miss Harriet Wheeler, of Allen Township, in 1859. They have three children—Hattie, Antony and Lillie.

ISAAC MENDENHALL, Postmaster, was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1837. His father, John Mendenhall, was a native of Virginia; his mother's maiden name was Fiania Shoaff, a native of Ohio. They were married in Ohio, where they resided until 1842, when they emigrated to Indiana and located in Swan Township, Noble County. His father was a farmer, and conducted a saw-mill, residing there until 1870, when he was drowned. His mother is still living. Isaac is the second of seven children, six of whom are now living. He passed his early days occupied with duties connected with the farm and saw-mill. In 1861, October 8, he enlisted in the Fifth Indiana Battery, one year from which time he was wounded at the battle of Perryville, Ky., and was compelled to return home. In January, 1863, he engaged in the mercantile business in Swan Township. During the period of his residence there, he served as Township Clerk, and was Township Trustee three years. In 1866, he was elected County Treasurer, serving two terms. After his terms expired, he engaged in the drug trade in Albion, at which he continued until 1879, when he was appointed Postmaster of Albion, in which position we find him at present writing (1881). He was married October 8, 1863, to Miss Farlay Carver, of Allen Township. They have four children living—Fiania, Charlotte, Cecelia and Farlay; a son, Wade, a bright youth of seven years, died October, 1880.



**JAMES PEPPL**E is a native of Bedford County, Penn., born in 1812. His father was a farmer, and upon the farm he passed his early days until the age of nineteen, when he learned the carpenter's trade, and in 1832 moved to Richland County, Ohio, where he remained for fifteen years, following his trade, and also running a blacksmith-shop four years. In 1847, he came to Albion, embarking in blacksmithing and wagon making, which he carried on for some years. In 1857, he commenced farming in Albion Township, and has given his attention to that calling since. He owns seventy-five acres of improved land adjoining the limits of Albion. He has served as Justice of the Peace and as Township Trustee each one term. In 1831, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Border, who died in 1872. Six children now survive her—John, Riley, Rebecca Coon, of York Township; Mary E. Stoops, a resident of Marshall County, Ind.; Delilia Cockley and Clara A. Ramsey, of Warsaw, Ind. Mr. Pepple was married, September 12, 1878, to Maggie Holland, a native of Pennsylvania, and at the time of her marriage a resident of Fort Wayne, Ind.

**C. B. PHILLIPS**, grain and insurance, is a native of New York, and lived upon a farm until seven years of age. He then went to New York City, where for three years he was employed in a wholesale dry goods house. He came to Albion in September, 1856, and clerked for William M. Clapp for over six years, at the expiration of which time he embarked in business in connection with Walters, which association lasted for two and one-half years, when he retired, and was connected with Judge Clapp in business until 1876, when he began a business venture alone, which proved extensive and successful, and lasted until October, 1880, when he was burned out, losing about \$5,000. He is at present dealing in grain, and doing a general fire and life insurance business. Mr. Phillips has been associated with the business interests of Albion for many years, and has always ranked as a citizen of honest integrity and sterling worth. He is the present (1881) Treasurer of Albion, and is Secretary of the Masonic Order, of which he is a member. He married, in November, 1861, Miss Catherine Pepple, daughter of James Pepple, of Albion Township. She died in 1877, leaving three children—Thurlow, Grace and Ettie. In December, 1878, he married a second wife, Mary Kuhn, of York Township.

**DR. C. M. PICKETT** is a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y. His parents were of Scotch descent, and natives and residents of that county for a number of years. Our subject, for a period of about thirteen years, was engaged in manufacturing enterprises in different localities and States. He commenced the study of medicine in 1868, in Illinois, and for a number of years was a resident and practitioner of Clay County, Ind. He came to Albion in June, 1878, where he has been in constant and successful practice since. Dr. Pickett's practice is of the Homeopathic school. He is a graduate of the Pulte Medical College of Cincinnati, class of 1878, and is a member of the Institute of Homeopathy. He is a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders of Albion. Dr. Pickett was united in marriage, in 1860, to Miss Margaret M. Jordan, a native of New York. They have three children—Emma L. Stowbridge (residing in Jefferson Township), Fred L. and Grace L.

**NELSON PRENTISS** was born in Genesee County, N. Y., August 16, 1813, and resided there until 1835, when he removed to Noble County. His father, Nathaniel Prentiss, was born in Preston, Conn., March 11, 1764, and at the age of fifteen entered the Continental army, where he served his term of enlistment, when he shipped on a privateer. He was shortly after captured

by a British man-of-war, and taken to New York, where he was confined during one winter on the old prison-ship "Jersey," and the following spring was taken to Jamaica, in the West Indies, where he was kept until the close of the war. At the time of his death, which occurred in Noble County, February, 1839, he was a Revolutionary pensioner. He left a widow, whose maiden name was Margaret Heddon, who lived until 1861. She was a descendant of the Van Rensselaers, of Albany, N. Y. Nelson was the sixth child, and his early life was passed in the western frontier of the State, where he had only such chances for education as were afforded in that new country. These, with three terms at Wyoming Seminary, completed his opportunities for learning. At the age of sixteen, he commenced teaching, which he followed eight years. One of his special gifts was his retentive memory, and what he read, that was worth recollecting, was never forgotten. In 1837, he began the study of law, and in 1842 was admitted to practice in the courts of Indiana. In 1836, when Noble County was organized, he was appointed one of the School Examiners of that county, holding either that or the position of Superintendent until 1868, when he resigned. In 1879, he was again chosen Superintendent, in which office he is now actively engaged. In 1849, he was elected Clerk of the Noble County Circuit Court, and served one term. From the time of his admission to the bar, he followed the practice of his profession until 1868, when his office and law library were destroyed by fire. In 1846, he joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is now a member of North Star Lodge, No. 380. In 1852, he united with the Masonic order, and was the first Master of Albion Lodge, No. 97, holding that position for twenty consecutive years. As an extemporaneous speaker, he has few superiors. It is due to his efforts that the Old Settlers' Organization of Noble County has been made a success. For the first six years, he was President and Biographer of the society, and at the present time holds the latter position. He delivered the centennial address at Albion July 4, 1876, which is claimed to be the most complete on that subject of any delivered in the State. Following the teachings of his father, he identified himself with the Democratic party until 1854, when he espoused the principles advocated by the Republicans. For many years, he has been a leading Elder in the Presbyterian Church. He is an active worker in the Sabbath schools as well as in the cause of temperance. He is simple in his habits, kind to his family, though strict in discipline. He is ever ready to espouse the cause of the weak as against wrong, and battles against vice in the palace of the rich as well as the hovel of the poor.

WILLIAM W. RIDDLE, County Sheriff, is a native of Richland County, Ohio, born in 1842. His father, J. B. Riddle, a native of Ohio, came to Noble County at an early day, settling in Jefferson Township, where he still resides. William remained an assistant upon the home farm until nearly eighteen years of age. Enlisting in 1861, in the Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was subsequently, in 1863, transferred to the First Heavy Artillery, he remained in service until 1866, participating in several heavy engagements, and was mustered out at Baton Rouge. Upon his return to his home, he engaged in farming. In 1869, he was united in marriage, to Miss Ellen E. Koontz, a native of Allen Township, Noble County, and soon after began farming operations upon land of his own, in Jefferson Township, at which he continued until January, 1881, when he assumed the office of Sheriff, to which he had been elected in 1880. He owns a farm of eighty acres of improved and valuable land in Jefferson Township. Mr. and Mrs. Riddle have three children—Addie L., Wallace Guy and an infant.

HENRY R. SHIRK, carriage manufactory, represents one of the leading industries of Albion. He was born in Pennsylvania, and early in life learned his trade of carriage-maker, commencing at the age of sixteen, in Lancaster County, Penn., where he served two years, and subsequently two years in Philadelphia. He then for four years was a traveling mechanic, and in 1865 came to Ohio and located in Osborn, Greene County, where he carried on a shop until 1872, when he removed to Clark County and was engaged in carriage-making until 1876, when he became a resident and business man of Albion, first running a saw-mill for one year, and subsequently upon a farm for a year. In 1878, he commenced his present business enterprise of carriage-making, establishing already a successful and honorable trade. He manufactures all kinds of wagons, carriages, buggies, and does general repairing. His goods, of the finer kind are well finished, and are meeting with an extensive sale. Mr. Shirk was married in 1867 to Anna C. Schaffer, of Ohio. She died in 1879. One child, now living—Annie E. Mr. Shirk married a second wife, January 1, 1881, Miss Fannie Zimmerman, of Fulton County, Ohio.

M. C. SKINNER, of Hamlin & Skinner, drugs, is a native of Huron County, Ohio. His father, Alfred Skinner, was a native of New York; his mother's maiden name was Mary Ross; she was a native of Connecticut. They were married in Ohio, and removed from thence to Jefferson Township, Noble County, in 1838, where they resided for two years, when they returned to Ohio. His father was killed by the Indians in 1850, while on his way to California; his mother died in Huron County in 1854. Three children of a family of ten now survive. Susan Elliott, resident of Michigan; Angelina Clapp, widow of Judge William M. Clapp, residing in Albion, and our subject. Mr. Skinner was associated with agricultural life during his boyhood. In 1861, he enlisted in Noble County, whither he had come with a brother in 1854. At the breaking-out of the war, he was attending college in Michigan. He became a member of Company A, Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in service for four and a half years, entering as private and commissioned as First Lieutenant when mustered out. The principal engagements in which he participated are Baton Rouge, all of the Red River campaign, Franklin, Sabine Cross Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River and the siege of Port Hudson, with numerous others, being slightly wounded in the hand at Baton Rouge. Upon his return to Noble County, he engaged in teaching in the public schools of Albion until 1869, when he engaged in the drug business, continuing until 1877, when he sold out. In 1879, he became a partner of James A. Hamlin, in the same business, to which he now devotes his attention. Mr. Skinner served as County Superintendant of Schools one term, and for a number of years was Town Clerk. Is a member of I. O. O. F. He was married, in 1866, to Miss Mary Palmer, of Michigan, who died in 1876, leaving three children—Edith, Zoe and Ross. In 1878, he was united to Susanna Parker, of Albion; they have one child—Orr.

JOHN W. SMITH, JR., Deputy County Treasurer, is a native of Marion, Grant County, Ind., and son of John W. and Cassandra (McKahan) Smith. His father is a member of the Methodist ministry. He came to Albion in 1868, and for three years was pastor of the Methodist Church there, and in 1880 returned where he now labors. John W. is the sixth child of a family of eight children. At the age of fourteen, the time of removal of his parents to Albion, he became an assistant in the post office under William W. Snyder, P. M., with whom he remained one year. He then entered the County Clerk's

office, where he was engaged one year, subsequently entering the Auditor's office, under Stewart, where he was associated five years. In 1878, he was a prominent candidate for the auditorship. He next became Deputy Treasurer until 1879, when he entered the grocery store of his father-in-law, A. J. Kimmell, Esq., and was associated in that business until August, 1881, when he became the Deputy of Treasurer Lang. Mr. Smith was married in March, 1876, to Miss Emma E. Kimmell; they have one child, William Frank.

JUDGE HIRAM S. TOUSLEY, an eminent jurist of Northern Indiana, whose portrait appears in this work, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., November 20, 1821. His parents, David and Nancy (Noyes) Tousley, were natives, respectively, of Vermont and New York. They were united in marriage in Jefferson County, N. Y., where, for many years they remained residents, his father following his trade of blacksmith, together with farming interests. In 1836, they emigrated to Shelby County, Ohio, where they remained until 1843, when they became residents of Whitley County, Ind. Here the father was engaged in agricultural life until 1855, when he started upon an expedition to Missouri, and upon his journey became a victim of the dread scourge of cholera and died. The mother survived until 1873, when she died, being at that time a resident of Noble County. The subject of this sketch was, during his earlier years, an assistant of his father in farming, and is familiar with the sturdy duties of pioneer life. He received a common school education, and, in subsequent years, was an attendant of the State University at Bloomington, Ind. In 1845, he became a student of the law, entering the office of Jacoby and Conger, of Fort Wayne, Ind., with whom he remained three years, at the expiration of which period he was admitted to the bar, and immediately thereafter located in Albion, and commenced the practice of his chosen profession, where he has been actively associated up to the present writing. In 1863, he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, and served until February, 1867, when he was appointed by Gov. Baker Judge of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, and at the subsequent election was elected by the people, and administered the duties of that office for six years. In 1875, Judge Tousley was re-elected, the district having, in the meantime, been divided and become the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit, and is still the incumbent of that office. In 1862, he assisted in recruiting Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was appointed by Gov. Morton Lieutenant Colonel of that regiment. Col. Tousley was in service only four months, when he was prostrated by severe sickness, and, consequently, resigned. Judge Tousley is a profound student of the law, is admirably read in every department of literature, has a remarkably retentive memory, and as a scholar of history has few equals. In 1880, Judge Tousley was attacked by paralysis, which still renders his health feeble and prevents assiduous attention to his legal duties. He was united in marriage, January, 1851, to Miss Harriet Lisle, a native of Sandusky, Ohio. They have two children—Ella (wife of Rev. B. A. Woods, of New London, Conn.), and Frances (wife of Thomas E. Matson, Chief Engineer and Superintendent of the E. T. & W. N. C. R. R.)

WILLIAM TRUMP, Deputy Sheriff, is a native of Richland County, Ohio and was raised upon a farm, casting his first vote in that county in 1860. In 1861, he came to Noble County, locating at Albion. Here he remained until 1864, employed in different vocations during summer seasons, and in the winter engaged in teaching. He then became a member of Battery A, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, remaining in the service until August, 1865. Return-



ing to Albion, he embarked in the dry goods trade, at which he continued, associated with different partners, until May, 1877. In January, 1881, he became Deputy Sheriff under W. W. Riddle, and is at present associated with the duties of that office. He has served as Assessor for three terms, as Clerk of Board of Town Trustees and as Marshal. He was married, in March, 1866, to Miss Eliza A., daughter of John McMeans, one of the early settlers of Noble County.

L. W. WELKER, lawyer, is a son of Joseph and Lucinda (Huffer) Welker. His father is a native of Ohio, his mother of New York. They were married in Stark County, Ohio, and emigrated to Indiana, settling about 1838 in Noble County in that portion which has since been transferred to Etna Township, Whitley County, and where they have since resided. His father is a prominent farmer and citizen, having served the township for twelve years as Justice of the Peace, and also as Township Trustee. He owns a farm of 160 acres, and considerable property in Columbia City. The subject of this sketch received a good education, attending schools at Columbia City, Racine, Wis., and also Cincinnati, Ohio. He commenced the study of law in 1873 with A. W. Hooper, of Columbia City, with whom he remained until he was admitted to the bar, in 1877, and immediately commenced the practice in Albion, where he is still engaged at his chosen profession, and at present serving as Attorney for that town.

COL. WILLIAM C. WILLIAMS was born September 9, 1830, near the city of Philadelphia, Penn. He comes of Quaker stock on his mother's side, her ancestors having come over with William Penn. Thomas J. Williams, Col. Williams' grandfather, was born in London in 1754. While he was still a boy his father purchased for him a midshipman's commission in the Royal Navy, and in 1774 he was stationed in American waters. The young midshipman sympathized with the colonies, and resolved not to take any part against them. He tendered his resignation, which was refused, and the young officer put under arrest. He escaped, and reached Philadelphia soon after the battle of Bunker Hill. The father became enraged at his son's flight, and at his death disinherited him. Thomas J. Williams participated in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, and spent the winter of 1777 and 1778 with Washington's army, at Valley Forge. After the close of the war, he settled near Philadelphia, and in order to marry a young Quakeress, he joined the Society of Friends. Here he lived until his death, which occurred in 1841. Enos Rogers Williams, son of Thomas J. and father of Col. Williams, was a talented clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died in Philadelphia in 1856. Col. Williams is the third son. He entered the Academical Institute of Dover, Del., and remained three years. He then taught school until 1849, when he began the study of medicine with Dr. James Munholland, of Waynesburgh, Penn. In 1851, he placed himself under the instruction of an eminent physician and surgeon in Philadelphia, and in 1853 graduated with honors. In 1854, Dr. Williams was elected School Director, and one of the City Physicians for the poor. These positions he held until November, 1856, when he sailed for London. Most of the winter he spent in the hospitals of that city. In the meantime he visited Paris, and returned to Philadelphia in June, 1857; remained but a short time, then went to New York, accepting the position as Surgeon on an ocean steamer, plying between New York and Liverpool, visiting Ireland, Wales, Scotland, France and other countries. In 1859, he settled at Wolf Lake, where he practiced his profession with Dr. D. W. C. Denny until

1861. At the breaking-out of the war of the rebellion, Dr. Williams, although a Democrat, closed up his business, and in the summer of 1861, recruited a company of which he was elected Captain, and joined the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, then at Fort Wayne. In the fall they took the field, and subsequently participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, siege of Corinth, and during the summer of 1862, they were on long and tedious marches through Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky. During the movement of the Army of the Cumberland in Murfreesboro, Col. Reed, of the Forty-fourth, resigned, and by request of the officers of the regiment, Capt. Williams was commissioned as its Colonel, dating November 27, 1862. In the battle of Murfreesboro, Col. Williams and his regiment took a conspicuous part; two days before its termination, the brigade commander having been disabled, Col. Williams succeeded to its command, and while conducting his men to the rear, after a charge by the enemy on his lines, January 2, 1863, he was wounded in the leg and made prisoner, and taken to Atlanta, Ga. Here he was kept in close confinement until March, when he was transferred to Libby Prison, Richmond, where he was subjected to great indignities and cruelties. The Colonel was exchanged the following May, and was ordered to report for duty with his command. On his way to the front, he was placed in command of the Union forces, at Jeffersonville, Ind., to defend against Gen. John Morgan, who had just crossed the Ohio River on his famous raid. As soon as the danger was over, Col. Williams rejoined his regiment and brigade; but soon tendered his resignation and returned to his home, carrying with him a flattering testimonial from the officers and men of his command. He then resumed the practice of medicine in Noble County. In 1867, he was elected to the Clerkship of the Circuit Court of this county, and re-elected for a second term, which position he held for eight years. In 1878, he was nominated for Member of Congress by the National Greenback party, and made a thorough canvass of the district. In 1864, he married Miss Nellie Bliss, daughter of John H. Bliss, Esq., of Albion. Col. Williams, since his retirement from office, has given most of his attention to literary pursuits. He possesses a carefully selected library, covering the ground of his favorite studies; as a public speaker, he is polished, animated and eloquent; his lectures are models of research and logical power, and his acquaintance with history is especially broad and accurate. He is one of the prominent citizens of Northern Indiana. One feature of his character stands out in bold relief, and is an invariable indication of the true American, namely, the early determination to push out into the world and fight the battle of life on his own resources, a determination that rarely fails of success.

RICHARD WILLIAMS was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1829. His father being a farmer, he passed his youth upon the farm, subsequently learning the blacksmith trade, which he followed in Ohio, and for a short period in New York State until 1852, when he came to Allen County, Ind., where he followed his trade, for nearly five years, and from there coming to Noble County for two years. Returning to Allen County, he remained two years, enlisting there in the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteers, Company E, in July, 1862, but, after six months' service, was compelled to resign on account of ill health. He held in the service a First Lieutenant's commission. He returned from the army and located in Green Township, where he resided upon a small piece of land until the decease of his wife, when, for two years, he worked around in different localities. Returning to Green Township, he resumed his trade and

farming, finally embarking in the latter calling entirely and continuing there for twelve years. In 1878, he was elected Sheriff of the county and served one term. He is now residing in Albion, where he has erected a commodious brick hotel, and intends to supply a long-felt want of Albion in this enterprise. He is a member of Albion Lodge, F. & A. M. Mr. Williams' first wife died in October, 1863; her maiden name was Martha Dolan. She bore him four children—B. Franklin, John, James E. and Jennie. In 1865, he was married to Mary Ann Shambaugh, a widow. By this marriage there is one child—Olive.

### JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

GEORGE BAKER, JR., deceased, was a native of the Keystone State, born March 13, 1829. His parents were George and Mary (Stevenson) Baker, and, being in very ordinary circumstances, could give our subject but little or no advantages. He was one of the eldest of six children, and was kept at home to assist in farm duties. He married Mary Dreibelbis October 11, 1849, who, after bearing him the three following-named children, died: Hiram P., Luman L. and Marion (dead). His second wife and widow was Sarah Dreibelbis, a sister of his former wife. They had five children—Geo. B. Mc., Nelson B., Wm. H., Laura E., and Becca L., deceased. Of Mr. Baker's first wife's children, Luman married, Emma A. Stair. Of his second wife's, Laura E. is the wife of Samuel H. Dreibelbis. Mr. Baker came to Jefferson Township at an early day almost destitute, but became one of the wealthiest men in the township. He at one time had upward of 600 acres of land, owned two saw-mills and one grist-mill. He died an honored and esteemed citizen March 18, 1872. He was a strong Democrat, and at one time a candidate for Sheriff, but was defeated by a small majority. The family still reside on the old place, in Section 34, which consists of 230 acres of as fine farming and grazing land as there is in Jefferson Township. They are well known and respected.

CHRISTIAN BARHAN was born in Baltimore County, Md., August 5, 1816. When but three months old, his father, John Barhan, died, and when nine months old his mother and the family moved to Richland County, Ohio, where they resided a number of years. Christian Barhan received but a limited education. In the fall of 1837, he came to Noble County, locating in Jefferson Township, there only being three or four families in the township at that time. The first two years succeeding his arrival, he worked for Jehu Foster, and with his accumulated earnings, he purchased 240 acres—his present farm, investing all his means as part payment. Mr. Barhan commenced clearing and improving his farm, and erected a cabin thereon for a home. He married Miss Mary Curry April 2, 1850, and soon after moved on the place which has since been their home. Mr. and Mrs. Barhan are hard-working and industrious, and now have one of the finest farms in Jefferson Township. They have had five children, as follows: Frances, wife of L. McFarland; Eleanor, wife of Frank Pepple; Jane, wife of John Koons; William and Alvin, the last two being single. Mrs. Barhan is a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Barhan is a Democrat, and a quiet, unassuming citizen.

THOMAS BEYMER was born in Huron County, Ohio, August 9, 1823. He is a son of George and Belinda (Ford) Beymer, the former being a native of Wheeling, Va., and the latter of Holland Dutch descent. The subject of this

memoir is the eldest in a family of sixteen children, ten at the present writing being alive. His early years were passed on his father's farm, and he received but an ordinary education, while the younger members of the family have received college and academical education. When twenty-two years of age, Thomas left home and began working on a farm at \$10 per month. He was married, April 17, 1851, to Jane Harvey, daughter of George and Mary (Bremner) Harvey, and six months afterward moved to Noble County, where he had eighty acres of land in the southern part of Jefferson Township. They began in life with very little, but now own 100 acres of nicely improved land where they reside and forty acres in another farm. Mrs. Beymer was born in the Lowlands of Scotland March 10, 1831. Mr. and Mrs. Beymer had five children—Mary B., Margaret A. E., George (deceased), Janette V. and Lillian J. Margaret married Frank P. Hill and moved to Ashland County, Ohio, where she now resides. Mary is the wife of Samuel Bricker; Janette is the wife of John T. Graves; and both reside in Jefferson Township. Mr. and Mrs. Beymer are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Mr. Beymer is a Republican and a progressive citizen.

**BLACK FAMILY.**—Peter Black, deceased, was born December 11, 1789, in Maryland. His early life was spent in his native State, where he learned the manufacture of brick and the trade of masonry. He was married in Baltimore, Md., August 16, 1812, to Martha Amos, who was born in Maryland July 30, 1793. A few years succeeding his marriage, Mr. Black and family removed to Lancaster County, Penn., where in connection with his trade he carried on teaming quite extensively. In 1833, he discontinued his trade, and with his family removed to Richland County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming. In 1853, he moved to Jefferson Township, where his oldest son had preceded him, and began, with the help of his sons, to clear and improve a farm. He was an industrious and honest man, a Democrat and a soldier of the war of 1812. His death occurred in Noble County, October 23, 1863. His wife was a member of the Old School Baptist Church, and her death occurred in Noble County January 28, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Black were parents of the following family: F. A., born July 31, 1813; Owen, September 24, 1815; Elizabeth, September 7, 1817, died December 1, 1862; Oliver P., born October 17, 1819; Cyrus, May 28, 1822; Davis, August 7, 1825; Benjamin, March 4, 1828; Naomi, January 28, 1831, wife of J. J. Knox, of Elkhart Township; Peter M., born June 1, 1836, died January 13, 1863; and James M., January 16, 1840.

**OLIVER P. BLACK**, a native of Lancaster County, Penn., came with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, in 1833, and from there to Noble County in 1853, where he has since resided. He received a good common school education, and was married in Richland County, Ohio, in 1855, to Mary Ann Streby. They had three children—Martha, wife of Ed. P. Ray, of Albion; George C., who married Mary O. Hines; and Naomi E. Oliver P. Black is a Democrat, as was also his father and all of his brothers. He first came to the county in 1845, remained a few months with his brother, and then returned to Ohio. By trade he is a carpenter and joiner, but at present confines his attention to farming. He first owned but 80 acres of land, but has increased it to 100 acres, which has been improved principally by his own labor.

**CYRUS BLACK** received the advantages of the common schools where he resided in his earlier years. He came to Noble County in 1853. Mr. Black has never married, but resides with his brother, James M. He owns 80 acres of land in Jefferson Township and 40 acres in Allen Township.



**BENJAMIN BLACK** is a native of Pennsylvania. When four years old, he came to Ohio with his parents. He was married September 15, 1859, to Miss Ruth Foster, daughter of Christian Foster, and soon after moved to his present place in Jefferson Township. They had two daughters—Naomi J. and Eva E. Mr. Black owns 160 acres of fine land, which is well improved.

**JAMES M. BLACK** was reared a farmer. He came with his parents to Indiana, where he was married, February 21, 1872, to Mary J. Halferty, who was born February 7, 1847. They have two children—John O. and Lula N. Mr. Black owns 120 acres of good land, and is a prosperous farmer. The Black family are widely known in Noble County. They are prosperous and leading citizens of their respective neighborhoods, and are honest and enterprising citizens.

**WILLIAM BONHAM** (deceased husband of Elizabeth J. Bonham), was born in Buckinghamshire, England, October 11, 1825. There were nine children in his father's family, only four now living. His parents, John and Elizabeth Bonham, are now dead. Having received an ordinary education, he left his native country when a young man and came to Richland County, Ohio, and began going to school and working by the month to defray expenses. September 2, 1852, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth J. Hadley, and shortly after removed to Sauk County, Wis., purchasing 120 acres, where they resided until their removal to Noble County the spring of 1863. Here they located on the farm now owned by the family. Mr. Bonham began improving the farm till it is now considered among the best in the township. Mr. Bonham died suddenly of lung trouble, June 22, 1878. He was reared in the independent religious faith, but became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church after coming to America. In his political views, he was a firm adherent to the Republican party, and an honest, conscientious God-fearing man. Mr. and Mrs. Bonham had six children—Sarah M., John M., Justina L., Homer H., Arabell and Mary M. The three oldest are married. Sarah is the wife of James Trumbo; John married Alice Stanley; Justina is the wife of Milton Stanley; and all are residents of Noble County. Mrs. Bonham was born in Richland County, Ohio, April 10, 1831. The home farm, upon which the widow and a portion of the family reside, consists of 120 acres of excellent farming and grazing land. This family is among the first in Jefferson Township.

**J. M. BRACKNEY** is a native of Butler County, Penn., his birth occurring June 3, 1817. His parents, John and Margaret (Edwards) Brackney, had twelve children, three only of whom are living. The father was a farmer, a native of Pennsylvania, and of Dutch ancestry. His mother is a descendant of the Edwards family of Wales. The parents of J. M. Brackney were old-fashioned steady-going people, and devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He received a common-school education, and our subject, at the age of seventeen, commenced serving an apprenticeship at the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he thoroughly completed. He was married, in July, 1844, to Miss Martha McCormic, and to them were born Margaret A., Elizabeth, Mahala, Adda, Jane, Lytle, Mosheim, Lillian, Curtis and one that died in infancy. Margaret A., Lillian, Elizabeth and Curtis are dead. In 1856, Mr. Brackney came to Noble County, and purchased his present farm, where he has since resided, farming and working at his trade. He is now the happy possessor of a fine farm and a comfortable home. He is a Democrat; he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and intelligent, deserving citizens.

JOHN A. BRUCE, son of Elijah and Melinda W. (Browning) Bruce, was born in Culpeper County, Va., April 12, 1823. He is one of nine children, the ancestors of whom were subjects of Great Britain. Elijah Bruce was a soldier of the war of 1812, and his general occupation farming. The fall of 1827, he and family moved from Virginia to Licking County, Ohio, and from there to Miller Township, Knox County, Ohio, where he remained farming until his death by lightning, June 1, 1828. Soon after the death of Mr. Bruce, the widow and family moved to Franklin Township, Morrow County, and from there to Chester Township, same county, where Mrs. Bruce purchased a farm, and where she resided until her death in February, 1854. John A. Bruce was reared on a farm, and is a man of good education. When sixteen years old, he commenced serving an apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade, which he made his business until about 1862. He was married in what is now Morrow County, Ohio, April 24, 1845, to Miss Abaline Smith, daughter of Jeremiah and Polly (Marcy) Smith, and the fall of 1853 moved to Hardin County, Ohio, residing there three years; then removed to Noble County, purchasing eighty acres in Jefferson Township, giving all they had, \$500, in part payment for the same. By hard labor and economy, they have increased it to 137 acres of excellent land. They had eleven children—Silas S., George E., Louisa M., Lorinda L. and Lucinda L. (twins), Charles S., William B., Lucy M., John S., James J. and Lovina A. Of these, Silas, George and Lucinda, are dead. George left a widow, Emma E. (Lash) Bruce, and one child, Bessie D. The widow has, since the death of her husband, remarried. Lucy M. is the wife of Ira Dillon, and resides in Jefferson Township. Mrs. Bruce was born in Luzerne County, Penn., July 24, 1824, and is of English descent. The Bruce family are intelligent and enterprising people. Mr. Bruce is a Democrat.

ABRAM CARY was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., November 30, 1805. He is a son of Jesse and grandson of Joseph Cary, who was a Rhode Island nurseryman, and who came to that country previous to the French war. Our subject's mother was Philaner (Van Tassel) Cary, who was of Holland Dutch descent, and the mother of thirteen children, six only of whom are now living. Mr. Cary, Abram's father, was by trade a carpenter, and that occupation he followed while a resident of York State. Abram Cary was raised on a farm, and assisted his father at his trade. His educational advantages were very meager. On the 10th of September, 1831, he was united in marriage with Patience Forker, and the spring of 1834 emigrated to Huron County, Ohio, where he resided seven years. In May, 1841, he came to Noble County, locating in Jefferson Township, where he has since resided. To the efforts of such energetic pioneers as Mr. Cary is mainly due the blessings enjoyed by the present generation. Mrs. Cary died October 10, 1855. They had eight children—Sorada, Sophronia, Samantha, John W., Elmira C., Emily O., William W. and Alvin D. Of these, John W., Elmira, Emily and Alvin are dead. Mr. Cary's second and present wife was Ann (Corbin) Potts, widow of Alfred D. Potts, who died from disease while serving in the late war. There were born to Mr. Potts and the present Mrs. Cary five children—Leonard J., Lillie V., Ida L., John N. and Owen S. Leonard and Lillie are dead. Mrs. Cary was born February 9, 1836, and was one of eight born to Stanfield and Margaret (Lee) Corbin. She was married to Mr. Potts November 15, 1855, who died in Louisville, Ky., June 23, 1865. To her marriage with Mr. Cary which occurred August 8, 1872, there was born one son—Wreath D. Mr. and Mrs.

Cary are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and are well-known and highly esteemed citizens.

AARON CHAMBLIN was born May 7, 1824, in Maryland County, Va. He is one of three children now living of a family of seven born to Nelson and Sarah (Koonce) Chamblin, who were of English-German descent. Nelson Chamblin was a farmer of Virginia, where he plied his vocation until about 1833, when he and family moved to Knox County, Ohio, and from there to Richland County, same State, where they lived a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Chamblin died in Wood County, Ohio, the former in October, 1878, and the latter in 1880. Mr. Chamblin was a soldier of the war 1812, and his father served in the Revolutionary war. Aaron Chamblin was married January 1, 1850, to Mary Imes, sister of William Imes, and his home, from his birth to two years after his marriage, was with his parents. In 1855, he came to Noble County, and purchased a portion of his present place in Jefferson Township, paying for the same \$4.75 per acre. It at that time was all woods and such improvements as now exist on the place were made by Mr. Chamblin. He now owns 170 acres in Jefferson Township, and eighty-two acres in Orange Township. Mr. Chamblin is a Democrat, and he and wife are members of the U. B. Church. To them were born nine children—William, Richard, Thomas, Theodore and Elmore (twins), Elbiney, George, Mary and Charley. Elbiney, George and the twins are dead. William, or J. W. H., as he writes his name, married Frances I. Keller, and is engaged in mercantile business in Brimfield. He has been twice burned out, but is a young man of pluck and enterprise, and is destined to make his mark in the world.

JOHN EARL was born in the County Tyrone, Ireland, April 22, 1815. John and Ann (Gray) Earl, his parents, were both natives of "Erin's Isle," but of Scottish descent, and farmers in Ireland. John Earl was reared to manhood in his native country, obtaining but a limited education. He was married, March 29, 1837, to Miss Ann Trott. In 1840, they took passage, from Londonderry, on a sailing vessel bound for Philadelphia, and after an eight weeks and three days' journey arrived at their destination. For seven years succeeding his arrival, Mr. Earl was employed on a farm near the city. In 1847, he emigrated to Huron County, Ohio, where he farmed for three years, and in 1850 moved to Noble County, which has since been his home. He first purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which he has since increased to 160 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Earl have had five children—William, Annie, John, Mary and Robert. The two youngest are dead. John married Sarah Schauwker; William married Josephine Bliss; and both are living in Noble County. Mr. Earl was formerly a Whig, but is now identified with the Republicans. Although a member of no church, he is liberal in their support. His parents were of the Presbyterian faith, and such is our subject in belief. He is considered one of the best-informed men in Jefferson Township. Through his long life of labor, he has been ably assisted by his brave wife, who has been kind and affectionate to her family.

JACOB EASLEY was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, July 23, 1820, a son of Jacob and Catharine (Burke) Easley, the mother being a native of England. Jacob Easley was the father of sixteen children, six by his first wife, Catharine Burke, and ten by his last wife. Our subject was a resident of his native country until 1834, when he came with his parents to the United States, locating near Buffalo, N. Y., where they remained farming two years. In 1836, the family removed to Crawford County, Ohio, where they partici-

pated in the early history of that county. The father died here in 1847 and his last wife in 1868; his first wife in 1830. Mr. Easley was a hard-working man and well respected. Jacob assisted his parents until twenty-one, when he began life without a penny, but has acquired a position of wealth and honor by his industry and self-denial. Up to 1834, he remained in Ohio, farming and saw-milling. In that year, he passed through Noble County and purchased his present farm in Jefferson Township. He did not locate here, however, until 1850, in the meantime making his home in La Grange and neighboring counties, working at saw-milling. May 26, 1850, he married Mary Ann Oster, and soon after began clearing and improving his farm, upon which they are now living at their ease. To their union were born eight children, viz.: Mary M., George E., Maggie S., Mattie L., Benjamin F., Laura A., Ellen E. and Katie E. Mary is the wife of Thomas Hudson. Mr. Easley is one of the well-established farmers of the township; is enterprising, a Democrat and he and wife members of the Lutheran Church. His farm consists of eighty acres of finely improved land.

WASHINGTON EASTER was born in Huron County, Ohio, November 7, 1836. He is a son of James and Catharine (Wilson) Easter, who were parents of seven children, six of whom are yet living. The father and mother were natives of "the land of Erin," but the former was of Scottish descent. They were married in their native country and came to Ohio when it was yet a young State. Mr. Easter was a tiller of the soil, received a limited education, and when thirteen years old his father died; two years later, his mother passed away. For four years, Washington Easter worked in saw-mills and at the lumber trade. He went West on a prospecting tour, and came to Noble County, Ind., in 1856, where he purchased 80 acres of woodland, which he traded for 120 acres in Green Township. Being a carpenter, he rented his land and followed his trade. In 1858, he sold his property in Green Township, and in 1861 purchased 160 acres of his present farm, which he has since increased to 200 acres. His occupation since that time has been farming and stock-raising. He was married, March 17, 1861, to Miss Rebecca Foster, daughter of Christian Foster. They had two sons—Franklin D., who died in infancy, and Justin H. Mr. Easter is a Republican, and an enterprising resident of Jefferson Township. Although a member of no church he was raised a Presbyterian, to which church his parents belonged.

MARION EDWARDS, son of Alexis and Elizabeth (Foster) Edwards, and brother of Samuel M. Edwards, was born in Morrow County, Ohio, September 18, 1842. He came with his parents to Noble County, in 1848, and has since made his home here. His education consists of the common school order. When the call for troops was made by President Lincoln in 1862, he enlisted, August 12, in the Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Company B, and was discharged at Indianapolis in June, 1865. He was mustered into service at the capital of Indiana, and from this point was sent South to Lexington, Ky., with his company, where, after a short stay, they were sent to Richmond, Ky., and during the engagement at that place was taken prisoner. He was paroled, came home and went to Indianapolis, where he remained during the summer of 1863, when he was exchanged. In the fall of 1863, Mr. Edwards was at the siege of Vicksburg with his company and afterward driving the rebel Gen. Johnston through Mississippi. He participated in the engagements at Memphis, Chattanooga and at Mission Ridge, where his company went into action, and only sixty-two men came out alive. During the win-



ter of 1863, he remained at Scottsboro, Ala., and the next year was in the battles at Kingston and Resaca. At the latter place, he was twice wounded—once in the leg, severely, and his right thumb shot off. After lying in several different hospitals, he was sent home on a furlough, and while there voted for Abraham Lincoln for President. After sixty days, he reported for duty at Chattanooga, but his regiment being gone, he remained there on detailed duty until January, 1865, when he rejoined his command at Goldsboro, and from that time until the close of the war, was constantly on the move. July 2, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Lane, of York Township. They have one son—Lew L. Mr. Edwards is a Democrat and an enterprising and industrious citizen.

SAMUEL M. EDWARDS was born in Morrow County, Ohio, June 4, 1827. He is the eldest in a family of ten born to Alexis and Elizabeth (Foster) Edwards, who came from Maryland to Ohio at an early day and went to farming. It was there that Samuel M. was principally raised. He came with his parents to Noble County the fall of 1848—his father had 160 acres of timbered land in Jefferson Township—but stopped with Mr. Jehu Foster until the removal of his father to Jefferson Township. Mr. Edwards is a hard-working man and a good citizen. He is yet living and resides in Albion, but his wife departed this life on the 23d of September, 1877. Samuel Edwards assisted his parents in clearing the old home farm, and when he married his father made him a present of eighty acres of the old place, upon which he has since resided. His marriage with Miss Lovina Thompson, daughter of one of the first settlers of Jefferson Township, was solemnized September 24, 1857. They have reared an adopted child named Jennie Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have been hard-working and industrious people. They own eighty acres of good land and are among the leading citizens of their township.

JOHN H. ELEY was born in Richland County, Ohio, June 28, 1833. He is one of nine children, seven of whom are yet living, the parents being Michael and Catharine (Haldeman) Eley, who were of German descent. The father was a farmer, and with his family emigrated from Ohio to Noble County in 1853, where he purchased his present farm in Jefferson Township, where he is yet living. His wife died in April, 1880. John H. Eley was reared a farmer and received a good education. After arriving to manhood, he taught school winters and worked on the farm summers. April 1, 1859, he married Miss Sarah M. Foster, daughter of the old pioneer, Jehu Foster. Mr. Eley continued farming until August 12, 1862, when he promptly responded to the call for troops, and was assigned to Company E, One Hundredth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was an active participant in the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Black River, Jackson, Mission Ridge, from the latter place going to Gen. Burnside's relief at Knoxville. He commenced the spring campaign of 1864 with Gen. Grant, and was in the battles of Resaca and Dallas, at the latter place being severely wounded in the thigh. From the hospital he was sent to Rock Island to guard prisoners, where he was finally discharged, July 27, 1865. Mr. Eley arose to the rank of Sergeant. After the war was over, he returned home and engaged in farming. He is considered among the best farmers of the township. He owns 220 acres of well-improved land, is a Democrat and a member of the Knights of Honor.

THE ENGLE FAMILY—Although not the first settlers of Noble County, were among the early ones, and becoming prominent men by their long life of usefulness, they deserve appropriate mention in the history of Noble County.

Peter Engle (deceased) was born September 26, 1790, in York County, Penn., and when three years of age moved with his father, Justus Engle, to Frederick County, Md., where he was reared and educated. His early manhood was passed in farming and teaming. During the war of 1812, he was drafted, and served a few months in the year 1814, as Orderly Sergeant. He married Barbara Mentzer February 26, 1824, and in 1833 came to that part of Richland (now included in Morrow) County, Ohio, and engaged in farming. In 1852, Mr. Engle emigrated to Noble County, where two of his sons, Samuel and Washington, had preceded him. He located in Jefferson Township, Section 36, where he took up 120 acres of land, but in 1858 sold forty acres. He was an energetic man, honest, conscientious, and one who commanded the respect and esteem of all. He died September 29, 1868. Mrs. Engle, his wife, was born July 1, 1798, in Frederick County, Md., and she died in Noble County, October 3, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Engle had eight children—Washington, born November 27, 1824; Samuel, July 9, 1826; Drucilla E., August 18, 1828; Ezra, October 6, 1830; Jesse, July 21, 1833; Adam, December 27, 1836; Catharine, August 15, 1838, and John, March 3, 1840. The latter's death occurred near Vicksburg, in August, 1863, while in the service of his country. He enlisted in the fall of 1862, in the One Hundredth Regiment, Company E, and served faithfully until his death.

"Soldier rest! thy warfare o'er,  
Sleep the sleep that knows no breaking;  
Dream of battle-fields no more,  
Days of danger, nights of waking."

Drucilla Engle married John C. Morgan, and they now reside in Morrow County, Ohio. Ezra married Hannah Favinger, moved to Michigan, and there lives in Eaton County. The subjoined sketches are of those that yet reside in Noble County.

WASHINGTON ENGLE's birth occurred in Frederick County, Md., where he resided until nine years of age, when he came with his parents to Ohio. October 1, 1854, he married Miss Sarah Sigler, and came to Noble County; where he had previously purchased a farm. He now owns 108 acres of fine farming and grazing land on Section 36, in Jefferson Township, where he resides. They have one son—Amos, who married Mary A. Keller, and lives with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Washington Engle are members of the Lutheran Church.

SAMUEL ENGLE was married, September 6, 1852, in Morrow County, Ohio, to Susann Sigler, sister of his brother Washington's wife. They have had two sons—John W. and George W. Samuel and Washington Engle emigrated to Noble County together, in 1847, and for a year worked for Christian Foster, clearing land. They then went back to Morrow County, Ohio, and married. Samuel Engle and wife moved again to Noble County in 1852, where they have since resided. They own 108 acres adjoining Washington Engle on the north. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JESSE ENGLE married Sarah Prouty, in 1860, and their children number seven—Franklin, Adell, Jason, Wilbert and Albert (twins), Arthur and Edward. Albert and Arthur are dead. The mother died August 5, 1879, and July 19, 1880, Mr. Engle married his present wife, Lucina McClurg. Jesse Engle turned his attention to saw-milling in his earlier years, and was a first-class sawyer. He now owns 146 acres of good land in the northeastern part of Green Township, and has held the Township office of Trustee.

ADAM ENGLE learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, and worked at that with success a number of years. He has since turned his attention to farming. He owns eighty acres of land near Jesse Engle's farm, and 160 acres in Kansas. He was married, November 2, 1862, to Miss Mahala Prouty, and they have two children—Ina and Marshall. The sons of Peter Engle all began life at the age of twenty-one, with little or no means at their command. Imbibing considerable of the energy and determination of their father, they went to work, and to-day are wealthy and influential citizens, and stanch Democrats. They have displayed considerable enterprise in the support of all laudable public enterprises, and are progressive citizens.

JEHU FOSTER is one among the few who are left of the early pioneers who came to Noble County when its surface was covered with a dense forest and but few settlers had made a clearing in its wilds. When yet but nineteen years old, he was brought face to face with the stern realities of frontier life in Ohio, where he was called upon to endure the privations and perform the laborious duties that devolve upon those in a new country in clearing land and establishing a home. This was re-enacted in coming to Indiana, and continued through his most active and vigorous years. Mr. Foster was born in Baltimore County, Md., August 23, 1798. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812, a farmer by occupation. He was married to Miss Annie Singrey, and emigrated with his family to what is now Troy Township, Morrow County, Ohio, in 1817, being one of the pioneers of that locality. In March, 1824, Jehu was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Levering, and continued to live in Ohio until 1837, when he emigrated to this county and located in Jefferson Township, settling upon land as the hand of nature had made it, out of which to construct a home. Though the task before them was one almost appalling to the strongest hearts, yet, with the heroic fortitude, known only to the early settlers, and nobly aided by his wife the labor was undertaken, and the results have had their beneficial influence not only with themselves, but the generations now and to come will reap the benefits. They had born to them children as follows: Mary A. (the wife of John B. Steel, now living in Nebraska), John L. (whose biography appears in this work), Samuel M. (who married Rebecca Edwards, now a resident of Albion), Margaret L. (who lives in Kendallville, and is the wife of Jacob H. Shauck), Elizabeth C. (deceased), Sarah M. (the wife of John Eley, whose biography also appears), Jennie A. (wife of John K. Riddle, whose biography appears), and Alvin D. (who married Emily J. Pepple, and resides in Michigan). Mr. Foster has been a leading man of Jefferson Township for the past forty years, taking an active part in public interests. He feels a just pride in looking back and noting the change in this locality from an almost unbroken forest filled with Indians and wild animals to one of the finest agricultural spots in the world, and can truly say for himself "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Mrs. Foster, his companion, departed this life February 25, 1880, ripe in experiences of material life and full of hope for the unknown hereafter. Mr. Foster is living upon the old farm, now that of his son-in-law, John H. Eley, and is vigorous for one of his years.

J. L. FOSTER was born in what is now North Bloomfield Township, Morrow Co., Ohio, October 6, 1826; the son of Jehu and Margaret (Levering) Foster, who were pioneers to this township in 1837, where the father is still living, the mother having died in February, 1880. J. L. Foster lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-one years old, doing his part of the labor on the farm. He then began working at the carpenter's and joiner's trade.

This, however, not agreeing with him, he engaged in farming, making that his occupation since. In February, 1863, he purchased his present place, which consists of 100 acres, and soon thereafter moved on to it, where he yet resides. Mr. Foster was married January 17, 1856, to Rose A. Eley, and to this union were born three sons—Eugene W. (who married Emma Miller, and is carrying on the home farm), Delmer (who is a clerk in Huntertown) and Perry L. (who is yet at home). Mr. Foster is a Democrat in party affiliations, and takes an interest in the advancement of public affairs. He lives independently in his comfortable home, and is in the enjoyment of the fruits of his honest accumulations.

SMITH HADLEY is a native of Richland County, Ohio, his birth occurring January 8, 1828. He was one of twelve children of whom Savannah and Martha (Riddle) Hadley were the parents. The Hadley family originally came from the British Isle to America, and were farmers by occupation. The father of the subject of this sketch was also a farmer and an honest, deserving man. Smith Hadley was reared to manhood in the Buckeye State, receiving only such an education as the common schools afforded. He was married March 15, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Woodruffs, and the fall of the succeeding year came to Noble County, investing all he had, \$300, in part payment for sixty acres of land in Jefferson Township. After clearing it, he sold it, and, in 1861, moved to his present place, and superintended the Poor Farm. After being in the employ of the county in this capacity six years, he resigned, moved to Albion and purchased a saw and flouring mill, which he operated six years. He then discontinued the business, purchased the old county farm, on which he resided one year. He then went back to Albion, erected a saw-mill, which he operated about a year, then again removed to the farm where he has since resided, confining his attention strictly to farming. He now owns 128 acres of good land, which he has acquired by industry and economy. He is a Republican, and is a member of the I. O. O. F., and the Masonic fraternity. They had seven children—Mary A. (wife of Andrew Parks), Shannon C., Helen M., Horace H., Ida A., Morton and Frank V. Mr. Hadley's parents came to Noble County in about 1863, where his father is yet living. His mother died in the spring of 1880.

JAMES N. HARVEY was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 8, 1841. He is a son of George and Mary (Bremner) Harvey, who were parents of eight children, five of whom are yet living. George and Mary Harvey were natives of Scotland, and were poor people on coming to this country. They settled in Ohio, but in the fall of 1852 Mr. Harvey came to Indiana, and purchased a farm of 160 acres in Jefferson Township. In the spring of the succeeding year, the family settled upon the place known now as the Spencer farm. In 1872, after enduring the hardships incident to pioneer life, he removed to Albion, where he has since lived. By trade, he was a stonemason, and has executed some fine work on many of the county buildings. He was always an enterprising citizen, ever lending a helping hand to the needy. James N. Harvey was raised on a farm, and has always followed that occupation. He received an excellent practical and business education, and was married, February 2, 1870, to Miss Isabel Johnston, and they have one son—John Wesley. Mr. Harvey purchased his present farm in 1867, and he now owns 120 acres of good land. He is a Republican, a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and a member of the M. E. Church, while Mrs. Harvey is an adherent of the principles of Presbyterianism. Their son, John W.,



was born March 4, 1871, and in the spring of 1881 wrote Gen. Garfield that he would be ten years old on his inauguration, and that he was a Republican. In reply, President Garfield sent a cabinet-sized photograph of himself, which the boy now cherishes as a valuable keepsake.

HENRY HILL, born in Niagara County, N. Y., April 22, 1819, is a son of Henry and Mary (Avery) Hill, who were natives of Connecticut and Vermont respectively. Mr. Hill was a farmer in New York, and in 1851 emigrated westward, locating in Jefferson Township, on the farm now owned by his son Henry. He here purchased 160 acres of land, where he lived until November 11, 1869, when he died. His widow is yet living, and resides with her son, at the advanced age of ninety-one. Our subject passed his youth on his father's farm, obtaining a common-school education. May 25, 1845, he was united in marriage with Eunice Eaton, of Niagara County, N. Y., and to this union were born Delos (deceased), Sarah and Lewis. Sarah is the wife of William H. Whitford, and Lewis married Katie Yeiser, who died, leaving him two children. His second and present wife was Martha Hupp. Since Mr. Hill's residence in Noble County, he has been known widely as an honest and upright man and a desirable neighbor. He is a Democrat and owns 120 acres of well-improved land.

JOHN HOFFMAN is a native of Pennsylvania, and when eight years of age moved with his parents to Morrow County, Ohio, where they died. The subject was raised on his father's farm, and also learned blacksmithing and wagon making. He came, in 1853, to Jefferson Township, where he has since been a resident, engaged in cultivating and otherwise improving his farm, that now consists of 240 acres of splendid land, furnished with large and commodious buildings. He was married, in 1850, to Miss Elvira Walker, of Morrow County, Ohio. They have eight children living—Emeline, James (in Green Township), John, George, Allen, Jennie, William and Lucy. Mr. Hoffman, in addition to his farming, is engaged in stock-raising to a considerable extent, and has some of the best blooded stock in the country. He is a practical and able farmer and one of the county's most valued citizens.

JOHN F. HUNT was born in Wayne County, Ind., in 1829, January 13. His grandfather, Charles Hunt, was a native of Chestershire, England. Previous to the Revolutionary war he was commissioned an officer in the English army, and sent to do duty in the Colonies of America. When Great Britain declared war against the Colonies, he resigned, entered the United States Army as a private and served through the war with distinction. John Hunt, the father of John F. Hunt, was born near Guilford Court House in North Carolina. From the history of Wayne County, Ind., we find that this gentleman and a brother, in 1803, emigrated to what is now Wayne County, then a part of what was known as the Northwest Territory. They erected a grist-mill on the Elkhorn, said to have been the first in the State. In 1804, John married Mary Whitehead—this being the first marriage solemnized in the State. He was a blacksmith and gunsmith by trade, and his shop was often made a camping-place for the Indians during the Indian war. He was never molested by them, however, as his services were too valuable for them to lose. During the war of 1812, he served under the command of his brother-in-law, Col. William Whitehead. After the war, he returned to where he first settled, and there lived, working at his trade and farming, until he was eighty-six years old. He died in 1849. Their family numbered twelve children, only three of whom are now living. The oldest daughter, Caroline, was the first

white female child born in Indiana. John F. Hunt, the youngest of this family, is the only one living, bearing his father's name. When yet a boy, he enlisted for the Mexican war, but after going as far as Covington, Ky., peace was declared, and he returned home. July 30, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Seventy-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and about the time his enlistment expired, he took sick at Vicksburg, and from there was taken home. After three months' sickness, he was reported dead, and not until July 30, 1880, was he regularly discharged from this regiment. However, after his recovery in 1863, he re-enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirtieth Regiment, Company F, and served the remainder of the war. He was at the siege of Vicksburg, bombardment of Prentice, Uniontown, Yazoo Pass and others. Mr. Hunt was married, in 1859, to Isabel C. Owen, of La Porte County, Ind. They have had six children—Wilson W., Cyrus F., Mary C., Maria L., and two that died in childhood. Mr. Hunt learned blacksmithing under his father, but carpentering has been his principal occupation. He came to Noble County in 1868, and now owns 80 acres of land, on which he resides. He is a staunch Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Hunt is a member of the M. E. Church.

WILLIAM HUSTON is the third child of Joseph and Rachel (Williams) Huston, of Knox County, Ohio. He was born September 22, 1827; at two years of age his father died. When he was five years old, his mother married John Blair, after which he lived with his guardian, Judge J. McGibney, with whom he remained until 1842; when imagining himself abused, ran away, but soon came back and apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, the first two years receiving \$3 per month and the last year \$4 per month. Completing his trade, he engaged at \$1.25 per day to a company erecting ware and boarding-houses along the Newark & Columbus Railroad. In 1849, with a party of seven, he went to California, first to St. Louis, from there overland with ox teams. The trip consumed one hundred days. They first stopped on Bear River, then moved to the North Fork of the American River. His success was varied. Having accumulated about \$3,000, he, in connection with others, at great expense, diverted the course of a river. They were successful in draining, but found no gold in the river bed, and therefore lost all. He then borrowed \$900, and went to mining. After four years' stay, Mr. Huston returned, several thousand dollars ahead. In the spring of 1853, he came to Indiana to visit friends, and purchased a farm in Jefferson Township. He is the owner of 480 acres of land, and devotes considerable attention to raising fine stock. November 8, 1853, he married Miss Nancy Knox. Ten children have been born to them—Elbert E., William W., George F., Mary I, Eva M., Frank C., Ella M. and Unity E. are living; John K. and Elmer E., deceased.

WILLIAM INSCHO, deceased, was born December 28, 1802, in Sussex County, N. J. His father was a carpet weaver, but farmed in connection with his trade. The grandfather of William Inscho was a native of Denmark, and the progenitor of that name in America. Our subject, at about the age of nineteen, learned the blacksmith trade and continued that business until about twenty years before his death. When three years of age, his parents moved to near Wheeling, Va., and from there to Huron County, Ohio, in 1815. Here he married Eliza Campbell, who died in Noble County in September, 1839. They had three children—George W., Hugh A. C. and Elizabeth, deceased. Mr. Inscho, in the fall of 1837, emigrated to Noble County, purchasing eighty

acres on Section 17, where he resided until his death, February 22, 1881. He was twice married; his last wife was Rebecca Skeels. They had one child—Ann (present wife of John Guthrie). George Inscho was raised a farmer. He was married, February 18, 1858, to Ruth Edwards, and they have two children—Frank and Ida. Since his marriage, he has made Jefferson Township his home. From 1864 to 1867, he was in Montana Territory searching for gold. He now owns ninety acres of land near the geographical center of Jefferson Township. Hugh Inscho was born April 30, 1836. October 18, 1863, he was united in marriage with Miss Elsie Edwards, daughter of Alexis and Elizabeth (Foster) Edwards, and soon after moved on the old Inscho homestead, where he has since resided. They have had three children—Lavinia, born October 24, 1864; Anna E., August 22, 1869, died July 23, 1877; and Olive R., born August 27, 1874, died July 27, 1877. The two latter died of diphtheria. The mother was born November 13, 1839. He owns eighty acres of land. The Inscho family, from William, the old settler, have been noted for their honesty and sobriety, and have figured quite prominently from the early history of Jefferson Township.

**KIMMELL FAMILY.**—In the year 1627, when the State of Delaware was first settled, two brothers of this name, natives of Sweden and very wealthy, emigrated to the new country and settled on the Delaware River, near Wilmington, where, in after years, a town sprang up and received the name of Swedesboro. The great-grandfather of the present generation, who was a wealthy resident of Philadelphia, was, during the Revolutionary war, Commissary of Subsistence under Gen. Washington. While at Valley Forge, during the memorable winter of 1777 and 1778, when the British were in possession of Philadelphia he succeeded in entering the city and secured \$25,000 in gold and silver, which was secreted in the cellar of his house, barely escaping capture in returning. This money he turned over to Congress, subsequently receiving in return continental paper money, which so depreciated in value as to leave him comparatively a poor man. A grandson, Adam Kimmell, was the father of six children, five of whom are living, Joseph C. and Manias H. being among the number; Adam was born March 22, 1791, and served as a soldier of the war of 1812. He was one of the early pioneers of Stark County, Ohio, and followed his trade, that of a gunsmith, until 1850, when he retired from active life. He married Miss Elizabeth Bowers in Canton. She was a native of Maryland, born June 26, 1800, and died April 29, 1849. Mr. Kimmell came to Albion in 1852, and died October 16, 1872. He was a man of sterling integrity. In politics, a Whig and then a Republican. While living in Stark County, which was strongly Democratic, he was elected and re-elected many times to the office of Justice of the Peace over his Democratic opponents.

**JOSEPH C. KIMMELL**, the eldest of the children, was born in Canton, Ohio, November 5, 1824, and received an education common to those of a new country; being a man of good mind, and observing he has acquired extended information. He came to Albion, and was the first manufacturer of tinware in Noble County. This industry he prosecuted for ten years, and then moved to his present farm in Jefferson Township, which was at that time without improvement. It consists of 110 acres, and is now a well-improved and productive farm. He was married, September 9, 1847, to Miss Jane Spangler, of Stark County, Ohio. They have had six children—Eliza E., Elizabeth E. (deceased), Charles S. (deceased), Norman E., Warren (deceased) and Albert A.

MANIAS H. KIMMELL is a native of Canton, Ohio, where he was born March 26, 1835. He came with his parents to Albion in 1852, and, in 1853, went to Auburn, where he learned the tinner's trade. In 1856, he opened a hardware store in Ligonier, which he conducted until 1858. In the spring of that year he went to Oregon, where, for one year, he was superintendent of farming in the Indian Department. In the winter of 1859, he returned to Albion, and in the spring of 1860, opened a hardware store. In 1862, he moved to his present farm, comprising 206 acres well adapted to general farming and stock-raising. In the latter branch, Mr. Kimmell deals to considerable extent. He was married, April 1, 1860, to Emeline Bucher. Their children are Cora, Irene and Grant. Mr. Kimmell and his brother Joseph are Republicans, and during the years 1856, 1857 and 1858, the period of horse-thieving and general lawlessness in this section of country, they were active members of the "Regulators," whose decisive measures carried terror to the hearts of the desperadoes and rid the country of their presence.

M. KISER was born in Northampton County, Penn., November 16, 1826; is a son of John and Mary (Myers) Kiser, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and the parents of seven children, five of whom are yet living. Mr. Kiser, their father, worked at the carpenter's trade shortly after his marriage, but soon turned his attention to farming, which vocation he followed through life. He was a Democrat, and a zealous member of the Methodist Church. He died in 1876, but his widow yet survives him and resides in Huron County, where she came with Mr. Kiser in 1832. Their son, M. Kiser, received a good common-school education in youth, and was married in 1848, to Miss Elizabeth Stotts, of Huron County, Ohio. They have four children—George, Mary, Martha and Emma. George married Mary Phillips, and resides at home; Mary is the wife of Benjamin Smith, and resides in Jefferson Township. After his marriage, Mr. Kiser farmed twelve years on shares for his father, and one year operated a grist-mill in Ohio. In the latter business he was unsuccessful, and lost considerable. He then followed Horace Greeley's advice to young men and came to Jefferson Township, purchasing his present farm, which consists of 103 acres. It was at that time a dense forest, but is now a finely-improved place. Mr. Kiser is a Democrat, and he and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. From a poor man he has risen to prosperity, achieved by hard labor and self-denial.

B. V. MELVIN was born in Madison County, Ohio, February 21, 1821, son of John and Sarah (Insor) Melvin, who were parents of seven children; five are yet living. John Melvin was a farmer and a native of Tennessee. From that State he came to Madison County, Ohio, in 1812. During the war commencing that year, he took an active part. His father, Joseph Melvin, was an old Revolutionary soldier, and our subject, serving in the late rebellion, makes the Melvin family one of patriotism. Joseph Melvin was a native of Scotland, and his wife, Phœbe, of Ireland. John Melvin was an old Jackson Democrat; was a man of good practical education and an exemplary citizen. He died the fall of 1858. Benjamin V. Melvin, next to the youngest child, began for himself at the age of nineteen, and from that time until his marriage worked at farming in his native county and Indiana. He emigrated to Noble County in February, 1843, and purchased his present farm in Jefferson Township; October 21, 1847, he married Jennie H. Palmer, of Whitley County, Ind., and in 1848 commenced life on his farm. In 1853, he returned to his old home in Ohio, remaining until the fall of 1858, when he returned to Noble



County, where he has since resided. By industry and economy, he has acquired 320 acres of land, half of which has been distributed among his children. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin are as follows: Mary M., Sarah, Jane, John, Azora, Theodore and Theodocia (twins) and Vanvactor B. Mary M., Theodore, Theodocia and Azora are dead. The others are married, and living in Noble County, except Vanvactor, who is at home, single.

JOHN MOORHOUSE, born September 8, 1805, was a son of Samuel and Martha (Morrell) Moorhouse, who had nine children, John being the youngest. In his seventeenth year, he was left an orphan, his mother having died in 1807 and his father in 1821. He received a common education, and was reared a farmer, as was his father before him, in his native country, Yorkshire, England. In the spring of 1832, he set sail for the United States; arrived in New York City, he took passage for Delaware County, N. Y., where he engaged in farming. From here he removed to Lockport, engaging in various pursuits for seven years. In 1840, he traded town property for fifty acres of land in Noble County, and upon which, in the spring of 1841, he made a clearing and erected a cabin, returning to New York the same year. In 1842, with his family, he returned and located here. Upon his arrival, he had only about \$70, but by dint of hard labor, has acquired a fine farm of 160 acres. He was married, in 1829, to Miss Eliza Boddy, and they had seven children—Samuel, Eliza A., Henry, James, Joseph, Mary and John. Of these, Mary, Eliza and John, are dead. The mother died in 1860. Mr. Moorhouse is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and is an enterprising citizen.

WILLIAM MYERS was born in Berkeley County, Va., September 26, 1826. He is a son of Isaac and Catharine (Hudson) Myers, and is of Dutch descent on his father's and English-Irish descent on his mother's side. They were parents of eight children, five of whom are yet living. The fall of 1827, they moved to Greene County, Ohio, and after four years moved to Seneca County. They were good, honest people, and members of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Myers died in about 1845, and Mr. Myers in 1846. William Myers was reared in Ohio, from the age of eleven years to that of twenty-four. He received but a meager education, sacrificing his schooling to assist on the farm. He was married, September 5, 1850, to Ann Rumbaugh, daughter of William and Mary Rumbaugh; five days after their marriage, they started for Iowa, to build a home on the Western prairies. Not liking the appearance of that country, he returned to Indiana and purchased eighty acres of his present farm. The story of the hardships of early pioneer life is needless of a repetition here. Mr. and Mrs. Myers were industrious and economical, and have arisen to plenty through the medium of hard labor. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have an only child—Lucina, who is the wife of John Newton, and resides in Jefferson Township. They have reared a son by adoption, whom they have treated as their own. His name is Orlando Myers, and he is a steady and honest young man. Mr. Myers has been reasonably successful in life, and shows his gratitude by assisting all laudable enterprises. Mrs. Myers was born in Virginia May 29, 1824, and she and Mr. Myers are among the leading citizens of the township.

JOSEPH OGLE was born in Morris Township, Adams County, Ohio, August 4, 1806, to which locality his parents, Enoch and Catharine (McCartney) Ogle, came, previous to Ohio's admission into the Union. Here they were married, and had ten children. The parents have long since passed away, followed by seven of their children. The paternal great-grandfather of the subject

of this sketch came from Ireland. The McCartneys originally came from Scotland. Joseph Ogle received his education from the schools of his native county, and worked at the tanner's trade until his majority, but from that time until he was twenty-six, he followed teaming. June 13, 1833, he was married to Miss Ruthannah Wright, and remained in Ohio farming until October, 1845, when he came to Jefferson Township, where he made a clearing sufficiently large to erect his cabin. Mr. Ogle's wealth at this time amounted to \$1; this he paid for flour that he might have bread to give the raisers of his cabin. Mr. Ogle has figured conspicuously in the history of Jefferson Township. He and wife are the happy possessors of a comfortable home and 120 acres of good land. They have had eight children—Mary, Charles H., George, Sarah L., William E., Lucina J., Albert H. and Lewellyn. The two oldest sons are dead. Charles was a volunteer in the war of the rebellion, and contracted a disease that rendered him unfit for service. He came home, and in 1864 died. Mary is the wife of Andrew Gunnett, and resides in Kendallville. Sarah is the wife of George I. Walters, and lives with her parents. William married Virginia Sallady, and lives in Kendallville, and Albert married Ella Ackerman and resides in Iowa.

ORANGE PROUTY (deceased) was a native of Morrow County, Ohio, where he was born April 22, 1830. His parents were Roderick and Mary Prouty, the former a native of New York State, and his mother, who was a farmer's daughter, of Ohio. His grandparents, Stephen and Elizabeth Prouty, were natives of Vermont and of English descent. These ancestors were all "tillers of the soil," and Orange Prouty followed in their footsteps. October 10, 1847, he married Miss Susan Haney, of the same nativity as himself, born September 10, 1830, and daughter of Jacob and Phebe Haney, who were farmers, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. They commenced housekeeping in Ohio, but only continued there a few months. They came to Indiana in April, 1849, and settled in Jefferson Township, on what is now designated as the "old Prouty" farm. Here he worked at clearing land for his father for three years, receiving as a recompense eighty acres of land in its natural condition, situated in Jefferson Township. Upon this, he built a log house in 1852, occupying it, and at the same time began clearing and improving his farm. He subsequently made some additions to his land, increasing it by a purchase of forty acres; in 1863, located in Green Township, and two years later forty acres that adjoined his farm on the east. Orange Prouty died October 14, 1867. The descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Prouty were eight—Alma, Willard and John, now living. Those deceased were Phebe Kinsey, Edward, Homer and two infants.

JOHN K. RIDDLE, son of Joseph B. Riddle, was born in Morrow County, Ohio, April 20, 1845. He came with his parents to Noble County when about three years old, and has since made his home here. He was reared on the old homestead, where he assisted his father in the development of the farm. He received but a common education, and when twenty-one years of age began for himself, although still living with his parents. January 29, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Jane A. Foster, daughter of the old pioneer, Jehu Foster. This lady was born in 1844, in Jefferson Township. They had two children—Ava U., who died when seven months old, and Ottho F. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Riddle moved on his present farm. When he first came into possession of the original farm—eighty acres—it was all woodland. This he has cleared and increased until he now owns 120 acres of good land. He is a Republican and a hard-working citizen.

JOSEPH B. RIDDLE was born in Richland County, Ohio, January 5, 1816, one of fifteen children, whose parents were William and Sarah (Forsythe) Riddle, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Ireland. They were both early in Ohio, and on the Clear Fork, in Richland County, during the war of 1812, they were married and established a home in the wilds of Richland County. At one time, the mother had to be carried, with a three days' old infant, to a neighboring fort for safety from the Indians. He, though a farmer, was quite widely known as a surveyor. He was a prominent Whig, and held the positions of Associate Judge, County Land Appraiser and Justice of the Peace. Joseph B. was an assistant on his father's farm, and only received a limited education. In 1840, he married Miss Traney M. Knox. They had nine children—Elizabeth J., William, John K., Sarah L. (deceased), Homer F., Mary M. (deceased), Comfort E., Isoline D. (deceased) and Edith M. In 1848, Mr. Riddle moved to this county, and purchased a quarter section of land in this township, and began clearing. Through sickness and trouble, he has, by patience and perseverance, prospered, and now is surrounded with many comforts and a pleasant home. He is a Republican in politics, though not an active politician.

GEORGE RUMBAUGH was born in Berkeley County, Va., August 14, 1829. He is a son of William and Mary (Mussetter) Rumbaugh, who were natives of Virginia, but of Irish-German descent. From Virginia the parents came to Seneca County, Ohio, and there died, the mother in 1848 and the father in 1871. The latter was a farmer. His family numbered nine children, two of them now dead. George Rumbaugh remained with his parents in Ohio, assisting them until he reached his majority. He received but a common school education, and came to Indiana in 1850 and purchased a piece of land. He was married, in September, 1854, to Martha Pike of Jefferson Township, and shortly after moved on his place, which he sold after clearing twelve acres, and returned to Ohio, where he remained one winter, when he came back to Noble County and purchased sixty acres of the farm now owned by John Eley. In the spring of 1864, he purchased his present farm, and has since made it his home. He owns sixty-four and a half acres of good land, is a staunch Republican and a genial, intelligent gentleman. The fall of 1864, he entered the United States Army, in Company D, Thirteenth Regiment, and was discharged from Newbern Hospital, N. C., in June, 1865. He was in one severe engagement—Fort Fisher. He contracted disease while in the service, from which he is yet a sufferer. Mr. and Mrs. Rumbaugh have four children—Daniel, Willard, Laura A. and Nettie J.

LEWIS SEELY was born in Elkhart County, Ind., June 8, 1830, son of Ephraim and Abigail (Runnels) Seely, and one of nine children, six of whom are yet living. Mr. and Mrs. Seely were natives of the State of New York, and at an early day came to Ohio, where they resided until about 1829, when they emigrated to Elkhart County, Ind., entered a piece of land and engaged in agricultural pursuits. This family were among the very first settlers of the whole country. From Elkhart County they moved to Milford Township, La Grange County, and after a number of years to Orange Township, Noble County, where Mr. Seely died in August, 1865, and Mrs. Seely in September, 1877. They were honest, industrious people, and an honor to the community. Lewis Seely resided with his parents, assisting them, until his marriage with Fidelia Collins, daughter of Barten Collins, which occurred in 1856. Mr. Seely received a common-school education, and after his marriage, resided in



Milford Township, La Grange County, until 1865, when he came to his present place. He owns 160 acres of well-improved land. They have had three children—Thirza, Charles and Meta. Mr. Seely is a Republican, and a wide-awake, enterprising citizen.

JACOB SINGREY was born September 5, 1826, in Troy Township, Richland County, Ohio, the native place of all his brothers and sisters. He is a son of Thomas and Catherine (Ackerman) Singrey, who were early settlers in Morrow County, Ohio, and who came from Pennsylvania in about 1816. They are now residents of this county. Jacob Singrey began life a poor boy, with a limited education. When sixteen years of age, he apprenticed himself for the term of two years to the carpenter's trade, after which he began work on his own responsibility. March 18, 1844, he was married to Sarah Ann Cockley, of Ohio, and to them were born five children—Elvirda J., William H., John P., Sarah P. and Thomas A. Elvirda is the wife of William Axtell, of Jefferson Township. After completing his apprenticeship, Mr. Singrey built a large barn for his father, for which he received eighty acres of his present farm, upon which he moved his family in April, 1854, and entered upon the task of clearing and improving. To the original eighty he has added, until he now possesses 160 acres. As the result of enterprise, Mr. Singrey has been prosperous. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Patrons of Husbandry.

JOHN A. SINGREY, one of the influential citizens of Jefferson Township, was born in Richland County, Ohio, February 29, 1828. His father, Thomas Singrey, was a native of Baltimore County, Md., born March 12, 1801, and grandson of a Mr. — Singrey, who came from Switzerland to America, and who was the founder of that name in the United States. Thomas Singrey came with his father, in 1816, to Richland County, Ohio, and assisted in clearing a home there. In Knox County, Ohio, he married Catharine Ackerman, and to them were born four sons and two daughters. The parents are now residents of Jefferson Township, where they are well and favorably known. John A. Singrey was reared to manhood in Ohio, receiving a common-school education. At the age of twenty-four, he located in Noble County, where he and his father had purchased land in 1849. Soon after, he sold it and purchased a portion of his present farm. August 14, 1853, he was united in marriage with Ruth Ann Walters, daughter of Jacob Walters, of Morrow County, Ohio, and to them were born—Jacob (deceased), Rebecca, Thomas and Anna. When Mr. and Mrs. Singrey located on their present place, they began to improve and enlarge it, until they now have 150 acres of nicely improved property. Mr. Singrey is an active citizen, and a member of both the Odd Fellows and Masonic orders. He is a strong Democrat, and at present is serving a term as County Commissioner.

WILLIAM SMITH was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 7, 1816. His parents, George and Elizabeth (Brady) Smith, were of German descent, and early settlers in Ohio; they came to Columbiana County when it was a wilderness, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Smith, is now dead, but Mrs. Smith is yet living and resides in Ohio. William Smith is one of eleven children, and the only one residing in Indiana. He received a good education, and was married in 1838 to Amelia Ferrell, and soon after removed to Williams County, Ohio, where he resided until his wife's death, which occurred September 20, 1840. They had one child—Virginia, now deceased. Mr. Smith returned to his native county, where he married Mary A. Sanders in 1850. Their children were John G. (deceased), Matilda and Ella. Matilda



and Ella are married, the former being the wife of Dr. Scott, of Avilla, and the latter of T. P. Kessler, who resides in Orange Township. Mr. Smith farmed in Ohio until 1861, when he came to Noble County, and purchased his present farm—160 acres—and has resided here ever since. Mr. Smith started out in the world dependent on his own resources, and is to-day a wealthy and esteemed citizen. He is a Democrat, and one of the well-to-do farmers of Jefferson Township, ever ready and willing to assist in the welfare of the county.

WILLIAM STOREY is a son of George and Elizabeth (Sedgwick) Storey, and a native of Yorkshire, England, his birth occurring April 8, 1824. He was one of eight children, and during his boyhood attended the common schools. When old enough, he hired out by the year on a farm, and in this capacity labored for some time. Having two brothers in America, he determined to cross the Atlantic, and shipped at Sunderland, on board the sailing brig, "England's Queen," bound for Quebec. After a stormy voyage of five five weeks, they neared their destination; one foggy night, when but a short distance from mainland, the vessel struck the rocks of St. Paul's Island, and the crew had to be conveyed in boats to the island. From here they hired a fishing smack to convey them to Nova Scotia, where they reshipped and were landed in Boston. From here, Mr. Storey went to Lockport, N. Y., where he farmed for two years. In 1849, with his hard-earned savings, he emigrated to Noble County, where his brothers were, and purchased 160 acres of land in Sparta Township. After eight months, he disposed of this property, and purchased eighty acres in Jefferson Township. After clearing twenty-eight acres of this he sold it, and purchased 160 acres further south in the same township. He cleared twenty acres of this and then sold it. In about 1858, he purchased 100 acres—his present farm. In 1857, he was united in marriage with Sarah Ann (Skeels) Storey, daughter of William Skeels and widow of his brother, Matthew Storey, who had by her first husband three children—George, Mary and Elizabeth (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Storey had two children—Thomas and William, the latter being dead. Mr. Storey is a Democrat, and has twice been elected to the office of Township Assessor. Mr. and Mrs. Storey are adherents of the Roman Catholic Church, and highly esteemed people.

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### ORANGE TOWNSHIP.

JOSEPH BAILEY was born in Ashland County, Ohio, April 1, 1834. He is one of eight living children born to Susan and John Bailey. Joseph's parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio in an early day, and thence to Jefferson Township, Noble County, in 1836; then came with the Skinner family to this township and purchased 160 acres of land on Section 4, and returned to Ohio. In the fall of 1838, they moved out and permanently settled on the place. Mr. Bailey was a hard-working man, a member of the Protestant Methodist Church, and a Whig in politics, afterward a Republican. His wife died in 1865, and he in 1872. Joseph Bailey was raised on the farm clearing land and chopping cordwood. April 30, 1865, he married Mrs. Rebecca (Gibson) Collett, widow of Abraham Collett, and daughter of John Gibson, an early settler of Noble County. Mrs. Bailey bore her first husband one daughter, Sarah; and her present husband two children—William and Eulilia, both of whom died in 1869. Mr. Bailey's chief employment has been farming

but some years back followed threshing to a considerable extent. He came to Orange Township in 1865, where he has since farmed. The home farm consists of 350 acres of good farming and grazing land. Mrs. Bailey was born in Pocahontas County, Va., April 15, 1826. Mr. Bailey is a Democrat, and he and wife are members of the M. E. Church.

CHARLES BEIDELMAN was born in York County, Penn., February 1, 1821. He is a son of Samuel and Eve (Miller) Beidelman, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and the parents of three children, two of whom are now alive. Mr. Beidelman was a distiller by occupation. He died when the subject was but a boy, and the mother with her family emigrated to what is now Morrow County, Ohio, in about 1835, where they resided until their removal to Indiana. Subject received but a limited education. His parents being poor, he had to work very hard in youth. At the age of twenty, he served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade, which was his principal employment previous to coming West. He was married, February 1, 1846, to Julia Ann Russell, and, in 1851, emigrated to Noble County, and settled on his present farm in Orange Township. He and wife moved to Brimfield the spring of 1875, but still he works his farm. He owns ninety acres of land on Section 28. Has taken an active part in many public enterprises. Mr. Beidelman is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the M. E. Church. Mr. Beidelman's mother is yet living; resides with her daughter, Susanna Lucas, at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

WILLIAM BLISS. This gentleman was born in Brimfield, Mass., October 27, 1816. Timothy and Margaret (McDonald) Bliss, his parents, were of English and Scotch descent, and natives of Massachusetts and New York. Timothy Bliss was a farmer and quite an extensive stock-dealer. William Bliss was reared on his father's farm, receiving a good common school and academical education. At the age of twenty-one, he left home, went to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and there commenced business for himself. He was employed by a woolen factory as wool-buyer, and in this capacity served ten or twelve years. He was married at this place to Miss Fanny M. Vincent, daughter of Dr. J. H. Vincent, September 8, 1841. In 1857, he located in Wolcottville, but carried on the manufacture of woolen goods at Rome City, under the firm name of William Bliss & Co. After serving as Superintendent about two years, he removed to his present home, where he had purchased 210 acres of land. He has given his children good school advantages. He now owns about one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the village of Brimfield. A short time after the location of the railroad, Mr. Bliss laid out the village of Brimfield and named it after his native town in Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Bliss are parents of four children, viz., Frank T., Charles W., Emily M. and Mary L. The eldest son is single, and a resident of Chicago, and a member of the Board of Trade of that city. Charles married Nellie Clock, and resides in Orange Township. Both sons are graduates of a commercial college. The two daughters are single, the youngest being a graduate of music and a fine musician. Mr. Bliss is a Republican, and he and wife are Congregationalists in faith. They are old and esteemed residents of the place.

E. M. COLDREN, merchant, was born in Eden Township, La Grange County, February 28, 1846. Jacob Coldren, his grandfather, was a native of Germany, and came to the United States about the year 1795, shortly afterward locating in Delaware County, Ohio, where they were among the first settlers. Harvey Coldren, son of Jacob and the father of our subject, was raised and married there. In 1837, he settled in Eden Township, La Grange

County. The whole country then was an almost unbroken forest, with only Indian trails for roads. Mr. Coldren entered land, erected a rude log house, into which he moved his family. On his arrival he was a poor man, and was unable to hire work done. He was an unassuming man, and honorable in his dealings. He was the father of twenty children by two wives, ten by each. He died in March, 1879; was a member of the Baptist Church. E. M. Coldren lived on a farm from the age of eight to manhood. He received a good collegiate education, and was married February 24, 1869, to Miss Adda Pierson, of White Pigeon, Mich. This lady died November 26, 1871, leaving one child that followed her four months later. Mr. Coldren's second wife is Mary A. Andrews, to whom he was married September 24, 1872. This lady has borne him two children—Minnie and Ned. Mr. Coldren started farming in Kansas. Owing to ill health, he returned to Indiana, and started a grocery at Brimfield. In 1878, he formed a partnership with George Gaby, in a general store at the same place, which he has since continued. They are doing an average annual business of \$25,000. Mr. and Mrs. Coldren are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Coldren is a Greenbacker. While in Kansas, he received the nomination for the State Legislature by this party, but was defeated by two votes.

**STANFILL CORBIN.** The spring of 1840, Stanfill Corbin, now a resident of Section 7, Orange Township, Noble County, Ind., was living in Richland County, Ohio. His family consisted of a wife and three children, and he was living some sixty miles from his parents. John and Mary (Crane) Corbin, who then lived in Licking County, were natives of Virginia, and from there came to Licking County in 1824. The country there at that time was very new, and Mr. Corbin, being a great hunter, used to supply the family with meat while his sons would do the farm work. The spring of 1841, our subject and a son-in-law came to Noble County, Ind., and after clearing a place large enough on which to erect a cabin, went back for their families. Here the father, John Corbin, found a splendid place to satisfy his desire for hunting. In 1853, Mr. Corbin moved to York Township, where he died in May, 1864. His wife died on the old homestead, in Orange Township, in about 1850. Stanfill Corbin was born in Culpeper County, Va., April 17, 1814. The fall of 1834, while in Ohio, he married Margaret Lee, who bore him this family—Keziah A., Nathan H., Mary E., Philena E., Jane, Margaret, Franklin M., and three that died without names. Only the first six are now living. The mother died in September, 1858. Mr. Corbin is now living with his second wife, Mrs. Harriet Wyrick, to whom he was married in February, 1859. They have one daughter—Hattie V. Mrs. Corbin had by her first husband one son, Henry H., who served faithfully in the late war, and is now living in Orange Township. Mr. Corbin owns over ninety acres of land; is a Greenbacker in politics, and a first-class citizen.

**CAPT. EDEN H. FISHER,** son of Henry C. and Mary Ann (Eckert) Fisher, was born April 20, 1840, in Portage County, Ohio. His parents were residents of the village of Navarre, in Stark County, but at the time of the birth of our subject, the mother was with her parents in Portage County. The father was merchant of Navarre. Came to Ligonier, Ind., in October, 1848, where he again embarked in mercantile pursuits. This he continued until about 1860, when he retired from business, and has since been engaged in farming. In 1869, he removed to Douglas County, Kan., where he is yet living. He is a prominent citizen there, and has been elected a Representative to the Legis-

lature of that State by the Republican party. Eden H. Fisher, subject of this sketch, is the eldest of a family of fourteen children. When eight years old, he came with his parents to Indiana, and from that time until about the breaking-out of the war, attended the schools of Ligonier and Hillsdale College at Hillsdale, Mich. June 6, 1861, he enlisted as private in Company A, Twenty-first Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service at Indianapolis, July 24, 1861. This was one of the first regiments out under President Lincoln's three years' call, and they were assigned to the army of the Potomac. In November, 1861, they started with Gen. Lockwood on the Eastern shore campaign, which penetrated into Virginia for the purpose of dispersing some rebel camps of instruction. After thoroughly scouring the peninsula, they returned to the old camp at Baltimore. In February, 1862, they were ordered to the front, and they then engaged in the celebrated Butler expedition around the coast. For a time they rendezvoused on Ship Island, then removed in time to be present but not participants in the bombardment of Forts St. Phillip and Jackson. From here Mr. Fisher, with his regiment, went to New Orleans, and after that they participated in the battle of Baton Rouge. Previous to this time, Mr. Fisher had been appointed Orderly Sergeant, but owing to the resignation of the Second Lieutenant, and the First Lieutenant acting Captain, who was then ill, Mr. Fisher was acting First Lieutenant, but only holding a Second Lieutenant's commission. At the first fire of the enemy, acting Capt. Seely was killed, and the command of the company then devolved upon Lieut. Fisher, who continued commander until he was wounded on Atchafalaya River. After the battle, Capt. Fisher was ordered out under a hospital flag, by his Colonel, to take charge of the field, and look after the dead and wounded. In October, 1862, they moved for Berwick's Bay. They remained here for several months, and in February, 1863, embarked on gunboats and began clearing the channel of the Atchafalaya River. On their way up the bayou, they were met by a rebel gunboat, and in preparing for the attack, a shell, from the cannon on the hurricane deck of the boat on which Mr. Fisher was stationed, prematurely exploded, killing Lieut. Wolfe; Capt. Fisher lost both legs. Speaking of this event, Indiana's Roll of Honor says: "The loss of two such gallant officers by accident was a terrible calamity." After lying in the hospital several months, he was sent home for recruiting service under orders of Gen. Banks. When on his way home from the hospital, he stopped in New York City, and while there attended the theater at which Miss Caroline Richings was to sing. As he was carried into the densely-filled hall by officers, Miss R. was standing under the old stars and stripes singing, "We are coming, Father Abraham," and the sight of a crippled officer just from the front, enthused the audience to such a pitch, that they arose in a body cheering loudly and waving their hats and handkerchiefs. In November, 1863, he was elected Auditor of Noble County and re-elected, serving in all eight years. He received the nomination for County Treasurer, but was defeated. Capt. Fisher, at one time, was a prominent candidate for State Auditor, but he was defeated in the nomination by a small majority. In January, 1873, he removed to Rome City, where he had charge of the woolen-mills until 1878, when they were burned. Since that time, he has been living a retired life in Rome City. He was married to Jennie M. Skillen, daughter of Judge Skillen, September 11, 1864. They have had five children—Milan W., Mortimer H., Clarence B., Mabel and Beulah. Mortimer and Clarence died of diphtheria in October, 1874.



**TIMOTHY GABY.** The birthplace of Timothy Gaby was in Brown County, N. Y. His parents, George and Roxy (Caswell) Gaby, poor but honest farmers of Brown County, were natives of Vermont and New York, respectively. George Gaby, grandfather of Timothy Gaby, was a native of England, coming to America at the age of seven years. When grown to manhood, he served in the Revolutionary war, as one of the defenders of Liberty, and during the latter part of his service was a commissioned officer. His son, George Gaby, father of our subject, was a farmer by occupation, but a hatter by trade. From Vermont, he moved to Herkimer County, N. Y., and there married a Miss Caswell. He worked at his trade for a time, afterward at farming. In Brown County, he and his father-in-law worked at saw-milling. Owing to his wife's ill health, Mr. Gaby moved back to Vermont, but her health not improving, he again returned to New York, where Mrs. Gaby died. Mr. Gaby served in the war of 1812, and died in Indiana a few years after the close of the rebellion. Timothy Gaby was born April 3, 1820. He came to Ohio with his father and started out for himself in Lorain County, with only an ax. Previous to coming to Indiana, his occupation was chopping cord-wood and clearing land. His marriage with Miss Mary Edmonds was solemnized April 12, 1841, and in 1844 he purchased 80 acres of land in Orange Township, Noble County, Ind., paying for the same a team, wagon and \$40, that he had earned by chopping wood at *thirty-one cents per cord*, and \$5 per acre for clearing land. Mr. Gaby was a man of energy. From poverty he has arisen to a position of wealth. He is a self-made man and owns over 400 acres of excellent land, which has been acquired by long years of labor and self-denial. He is a Democrat, and has held township offices. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church. There have been born seven children to them, viz.: Joanna, now Mrs. Schull; James, married Alice Barber; Etha L., wife of L. Emahiser; Emily, wife of W. Knox; George, married Geneva Pancake; Charles and Esther A.

**JEREMIAH GAULT**, the subject of this sketch, is a son of William and Lydia (Fleck) Gault, who were both natives of Pennsylvania, and the parents of seven children, only five of whom are now living. The father was a farmer, and from Pennsylvania came to Seneca County, Ohio, the birthplace of our subject, where he resided until May, 1849, and then, to better his circumstances, came to Indiana, locating in Noble County, where he purchased 80 acres of land. There being a small log-cabin on the place, he moved his family into it and began to clear and improve the place. In 1869, he sold this property, and removed to Kosciusko County, where he afterward died. He was a member of the Christian Church, and a Republican. Jeremiah Gault was born October 15, 1832. He was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. At the age of nineteen, he commenced life for himself, and from that time to his marriage was employed by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company, as foreman in the construction of a portion of that road. He was married January 1, 1856, to Mary Myers, daughter of John Myers, deceased; and they have had one son, John E., who is at present attending college at Fort Wayne, Ind. After his marriage, for one and a half years, he was employed as clerk at Rome City, after which he purchased his present farm, where he has since resided and farmed. He owns 167 acres of good land.

**WILLIAM HALL** is a native of Vermont, and was reared on a farm in the States of New York and Ohio. His father died in Sandusky, Ohio, and

his mother came to La Grange County, Ind., about 1846, where she died. William Hall came to La Grange County with his mother, and subsequently went West, where he remained but a short time, when he returned and located in Orange Township, this county, where he has been engaged in farming most of his time since, and where he now resides. Mr. Hall is the owner of 100 acres of improved land, and owns a grocery in Milburn, Ohio. He is also at this time associated with J. M. Kinney, of Kendallville, in the livery business.

C. B. HART, station agent, was born in Richland County, Ohio, January 15, 1853. He is a son of J. B. and Rebecca (Smith) Hart, who were natives respectively of Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Rev. J. B. Hart, father of our subject, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in that capacity has traveled over a good part of Ohio. He was a man who commanded the esteem of his fellow-people in whatever section he was located. He died in the fall of 1868, but his widow is yet living, and resides in Brimfield. C. B. Hart is one in a family of eleven children, six of whom are yet living. He received a good education, and at the age of fifteen began railroading, which has been his principal employment since. He was employed at Stryker, Edgerton, and other places, and July 1, 1877, he was sent to Brimfield by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company to take charge of the station at that place, and has made that his home ever since. The fall of 1879, he formed a partnership with J. W. Albright in the grocery business at Brimfield, and subsequently purchased the entire stock. February 1, 1881, he and brother, C. T. Hart, formed a partnership under the firm name of Hart Bros., dealers in dry goods, provisions, groceries, etc., etc. They do an excellent business, and have an average annual trade of \$11,000. C. T. Hart has charge of the store, while C. B. Hart still continues his services with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company as station agent, and express agent for the United States Express Company. Mr. Hart was married, September 9, 1874, to Miss Eliza Buckler, of Wauseon, Ohio, and to this union have been born four children—Bertha C., Ray E., Katie May, and one as yet unnamed. Mr. Hart is a thorough business man, a staunch Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F. of Brimfield.

HENRY HITCHCOCK was born May 4, 1849, in Orange Township, and is one of the following family born to William H. and Roxanna (Hodges) Hitchcock: Francis, Jeanette, two that died in infancy, Mary and Henry. The father of these, William Hitchcock, is a native of the "Bay State," and his father's name was Pliny Hitchcock. William moved from Massachusetts to New York, where his parents died, and where he married. In 1841, he and family moved to Orange Township, Noble County, and located on Section 8. Mr. Hitchcock is a hard-working, sober and industrious man, very decided in his views on politics, and religion, but reticent on such subjects. He is yet living, and owns 120 acres of land where he first settled. Henry Hitchcock received but a common-school education, and at the age of 20 began life on his own resources. September 12, 1871, he married Miss Minerva Dixon, and to them have been born five children—William H., May, Harry M., Pliny and Fred. Mrs. Hitchcock is the adopted daughter of William Dixon, her name originally being Miller, her mother dying when she was two years old. Henry Hitchcock is a successful farmer and enterprising citizen; he owns eighty acres of well-improved land on Section 17.

SAMUEL R. HOSLER was born November 10, 1820, in York County, Penn., and is one of six children born to George and Catharine (Rourbaugh) Hosler, who were both natives of Pennsylvania. George Hosler, father of our subject, was a carpenter, but during the latter part of his life engaged in farming. In 1831, he and family moved to Morrow County, Ohio, where Mr. Hosler died. The subject of this sketch, to his twentieth year, worked at farming. He then served three years at the carpenter's trade, after which he worked by the month two years; he then formed a partnership with a brother-in-law, which continued six years. In 1850, he emigrated to Albion, Noble Co., where for one year he worked at his trade. He then moved to Northport, Orange Township, where he again took up his trade. He erected, in Noble and La Grange Counties, the Bliss Woolen Mill and grist-mill, store buildings, etc., at Rome City, and a saw-mill, etc., at Wolcottville. After residing in Northport a number of years, he moved to his present farm. The first real estate he possessed in the county was the place now owned by Henry Hitchcock. He never lived there, however, but soon traded it for a part of his present farm. Mr. Hosler at one time owned 465 acres of land, but at present only owns 205 acres, having given the rest to his children. He was married to Barbara Keifer in 1843, and they are the parents of five children, as follows: John H., William W., Mary C., Minerva (deceased) and Ella B. The first named, John H., was born in Morrow County, Ohio, December 21, 1844. His early life was passed in Rome City and near Brimfield. He attended Hillsdale College the winter of 1865-66, and Eastman's Commercial College at Chicago the winter of 1866-67, and there graduated. He taught school in Noble County the two following winters, and after that was employed as clerk and book-keeper at Brimfield, Spring Green, Wis., Kendallville and Chicago. In January, 1875, he commenced keeping books for Kellogg & Harris, of Reedsburg, Wis., in which capacity he continued five years. In February, 1880, Mr. Kellogg retiring from the firm, Mr. Hosler succeeded him, and the firm name now is Harris & Hosler, dealers in general merchandise, grain, farm produce, hops, etc. The firm is one of the most prosperous in a thriving town of 1,500 inhabitants, situated in the heart of the hop-growing district of the Northwest. They are agents for the American Express Company, and Mr. Harris is Postmaster of the town, Mr. Hosler being Deputy. John H. Hosler and Anna B. Gibson were united in wedlock November 23, 1872. This lady died at her parents' residence near Wawaka, June 12, 1877, leaving one daughter, Grace, born February 16, 1876. Mr. Hosler's second marriage, with Miss Grace M. Bell, of Tomah, Wis., was solemnized September 14, 1880. Mr. Hosler is at present a member of the Masonic Order and Chapter in Wisconsin. William W. Hosler, the second son, was born in Morrow County, Ohio, April 22, 1846. At the age of four years, he came with his parents to Indiana, and here received the benefits of the common schools. He attended Eastman's Business College with his brother, and ever since then, with the exception of clerking six months in Brimfield, has been farming. He was married, December 10, 1874, to Miss Mary E. Imes, daughter of William Imes, Esq., whose biography is found elsewhere. To them has been born one daughter—Maud M. Mrs. Hosler was born in Noble County, Ind., March 14, 1856. Soon after his marriage, he moved to his present place, where he has since resided. He owns 160 acres of excellent land and is one of the prosperous farmers of Orange Township. The two living daughters of Samuel R. Hosler are Mary C., wife of T. L. Imes, and Ella B., who is yet single and resides with her

parents. The Hosler family are among the oldest and most respected in the township. They are enterprising citizens, liberal in their views on all subjects. The father is a life-long Democrat in politics, while his sons are both Republicans.

**WILLIAM IMES.** This gentleman is a native of Ohio; was born in Belmont County July 19, 1829. His parents, Richard and Frances (Meeks) Imes, were parents of nine children, three of whom are now living. The father was a native of Virginia, and came to Belmont County, Ohio, in an early day, and from there to Richland County, Ohio, in 1829. Mr. Imes died here in 1844. He was a farmer and miller. He was a member of the M. E. Church, and a Democrat. William Imes was reared in Ohio, obtaining an education from the district schools. At the age of sixteen, he commenced learning the blacksmith's trade; but, since moving from his native State, has been farming. In 1850, he came to this township, where land was cheap, and purchased eighty acres on Section 34. He located on this, and began clearing and improving it. He was in ordinary circumstances on his arrival; but, by judicious management, has added to his first purchase, until at present, now owning 333 acres of finely improved land. March 1, 1849, he was united in marriage with Jane Halferty, and to them have been born seven children—Thomas L., John H., James P. (deceased), William A., Mary E., Milton E. and Isabell I. He is a Democrat; has held the office of County Commissioner two terms, and the office of Township Assessor a number of years. Thomas L. Imes, his eldest son, was born in Ohio December 3, 1849. He came with his parents to Noble County, and lived with them until twenty-one, when he began for himself. He assisted his parents on the farm, and went to school. He taught school a number of terms, but has made farming his occupation. He was married to Miss Mary C. Hosler March 13, 1873, and they are the parents of one daughter—Mabel. Mrs. Imes was born January 21, 1848. T. L. Imes is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F. of Brimfield.

**C. W. McMEANS,** hardware. Among the old settlers of Noble County is the father of the subject of this sketch, John McMeans, who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, November 23, 1807. He was married January 1, 1829, to Eliza Becher, who was born September 30, 1809, in Bedford County, Penn. Mr. McMeans learned the potter's trade, and, during the spring of 1838, came to Port Mitchell, then county seat of Noble County, and established a pottery. In September of the same year, his family joined him; he afterward removed to Green Township. Mr. McMeans was elected County Treasurer in 1843 by the Whig party, and returned to Port Mitchell. While serving his second term, beginning in 1847, the county seat was changed to Albion, and with it removed to that place, where he has since resided. Mr. McMeans is yet living in Albion, but his wife died at that place April 12, 1877. They had ten children, five of whom are living. C. W. McMeans was born in Port Mitchell March 21, 1842. In youth, he learned the tinner's trade, and since the age of seventeen, has been doing for himself. July 10, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Nineteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and joined the Army of the Potomac. While in Washington, he, in some way through his food, was poisoned, supposed by Southern sympathizers. He was sent home, and for months was unable to do anything. At times, he is yet a sufferer from its effects. The fall of 1867, he came to Brimfield, and, October 15, married Ann E. Seely, daughter of one of the old pioneers of La Grange County, and in 1868 purchased a hardware stock, in partnership, at that place. Mr.



McMeans, since 1871, has carried on the business alone. He and wife are parents of one son—John E. Mr. McMeans is a member of the Masonic Order and a staunch Republican.

JAMES A. McQUEEN, one of the oldest living settlers of Orange Township, was born July 25, 1804, in Mayfield, Montgomery Co., N. Y. His father, James McQueen, was a native of Scotland, and came to the United States, when he was five years old, with his parents. He married Grissel Waterman, in Montgomery County, and they were the parents of nine children, four only of whom are yet living. The parents died in New York. Our subject was raised a farmer. In 1831, he married Statira Phelps, in Lewis County, and shortly after this he purchased a small farm in Oswego County, where he farmed five years. In 1836, he came to Indiana, and entered three eighty-acre lots, and then returned to New York. The spring of 1837, he came overland with ox teams to his place in Orange Township, Noble County, and from Michigan he had to cut a road through the woods for the wagon to pass over. On his arrival, he cleared a place in which he erected a rude log cabin, which for fifteen years served as a shelter to the family. Mr. McQueen and family arrived in their new home the 1st of June, and by the middle of the following August the whole family were down with the ague, a disease very prevalent in an early day. For two years, they were unable to earn the bare necessities of life, and during this time death robbed the household of two of the brightest children. Mr. McQueen and wife were sufferers also. Indians were their nearest neighbors, and to make everything the more gloomy, the wolves and other wild animals would howl around their door, until the parents were almost crazy. They could not return to their old home, because they had no means. In speaking of this trying time, Mr. McQueen said, "God only knows how we suffered and got along in those days." Since then, civilization has changed the then unbroken forest to a prosperous and peaceful country. Mr. McQueen now owns 100 acres of good land, and a fine home. He and wife were parents of seven children—John D. (deceased), George, Bushrod (deceased), Clarrissa, C. E., Miranda and John L. Mr. McQueen was a Democrat in politics previous to 1840, after which he became an Abolitionist, and then a Republican. For upward of fifty years he and wife have lived together, and there is a no more highly respected family in the township.

EDWARD P. MOORE is a son of Benjamin Moore, who was a native of Albany, N. Y., and a posthumous child, his father dying before Benjamin's birth. The latter was bound out to a farmer with whom he lived until thirteen years of age, when, owing to ill treatment, he ran away. When a young man, he went to Delaware County, N. Y., where he engaged in farming. He here met, and, in October, 1833, married Charlotte Goodenough, and succeeding that event resided in his native State, farming until the spring of 1837, when he came to Elkhart Township, Noble County, Ind., entered eighty acres of land and commenced the erection of a log cabin, but taking sick had to forego its completion until the next year. He worked at several trades after coming to Indiana, one of them being shoe-making. The family continued to reside in Elkhart Township, and near Lima, La Grange County, until 1864, when they removed to Rome City, where Mr. Moore died the following year. He was a member of the M. E. Church, and a leading Republican. His widow was born in Delaware County, N. Y., in 1814, and is yet living in Rome City. This couple were parents of two daughters and two sons, only the two latter being alive. Their names are Edward P. and William H. The latter married Jean-

nette Hitchcock, and resides in Orange Township. Edward P. was reared in Noble County, and it has since been his home. He was married, November 7, 1861, to Amanda Gibson, daughter of William Gibson, of Kosciusko County. They have had seven children—William, Jesse, Samantha, Charley, Nellie, Kitty, and one that died in infancy. Only Jesse, Samantha and Kitty are living. Mrs. Moore was born August 25, 1843. Mr. Moore is a Republican. Owns sixty acres of good land.

A. J. NISWANDER, one of the early settlers of Orange Township, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 14, 1814. She who became his wife was Mrs. Eve (Moutz) Engle, a widow lady with four children. Mr. Niswander removed to Indiana, and, in 1849, purchased eighty acres of woodland on Section 31 of Orange Township. He was a poor man, and, after paying for his land, Mr. Niswander only had \$1.50 with which to start housekeeping. The spring of 1850, he erected a hewn log-house on his property, which at the time was considered the best house in the neighborhood. After living here long years, clearing and improving the place, undergoing the hardships incident to a pioneer's life, Mr. and Mrs. Niswander sold the old place, and moved to the village of Brimfield, where they are yet living a retired life, members of the German Baptist Church. Isaac, their son, came with them to Indiana in 1849. He had but little advantages for an education. He began for himself at the age of twenty-two, and March 26, 1865, married Mary McEwen, daughter of William and Hannah (Dixon) McEwen. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two sons—Frank J. and James E. From the time of his marriage until he came to Brimfield, Mr. Niswander engaged steadily in farming with the exception of a few months in Kendallville, where he was in the dry goods trade. The spring of 1874, he formed a partnership with Dr. Endly in the drug business in Brimfield, but since 1876 he has carried on the trade alone. He is a successful business man; is a Greenbacker, and a member of the I. O. O. F., and a first-class citizen.

M. F. OWEN, station agent, was born in Norfolk County, Upper Canada, in 1851. He is a son of J. W. and Mary Owen, who were natives of New York. In 1857, our subject moved with his parents to the United States, and here was educated in the common schools. At the age of twenty-one, he commenced railroading, and for a time was in the employ of the M. C. & L. M. R. R., but in December, 1874, his services were secured as station agent at Rome City by the G. R. & I. R. R., where he has remained to the present. While yet in the employ of the railroad company, he formed a partnership with Charles Swinehart in the boating business on Sylvan Lake. A further notice of this will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Owen is also President and local manager of the steamer interests on the lake. He was married in June, 1876, to Miss Mary Hutton, who has borne him two daughters—Lura De and Jessie. Mr. Owen is a Democrat, and a member of the Chosen Friends of Rome City. He is the agent at Rome City for the United States Express Company.

MRS. JANE PORTNER, widow of Daniel Portner (deceased), is the daughter of Daniel and Jane Dye, and is next to the youngest of eleven children. She is a native of Pennsylvania, where she was born April 24, 1820, and two years later accompanied her parents to Richland County, Ohio, where her father died in March, 1854, and her mother in August, 1857. The former was born in Virginia, 1776, and the latter in Maryland in 1779; they were married in 1797. They were members of the Baptist Church, and were

respected by all. Mr. Dye held several offices of trust, and was a large land owner. Jane Dye and Daniel Portner were united in marriage February 5, 1843. They remained in Ohio until in 1854, when they came to this county, and settled on the farm where Mrs. Portner is now living, and where Mr. Portner died July 13, 1858. He was born in Germany September 10, 1813, and was the second of eight children; came to America with his parents, Daniel and Christina Portner, in 1824. He remained in New York until 1840, when he came to Richland County, Ohio, where his parents died about one year later. Mr. and Mrs. Portner were parents of eight children, viz., Louisa J., born March 28, 1844, married Dr. M. C. Bonar, and is residing in Knox, Ind.; Mary A., born June 30, 1845, now Mrs. William Gouser, farming in La Grange County; Henry D., born March 22, 1847, married Alma Snyder, and is farming in La Grange County; Susan L., born June 30, 1848, now Mrs. Anthony Deffenbaugh, resident of Nebraska; William A., born June 30, 1850, married Ruth Schooner, and is a marble dealer of Sturgis, Mich.; Samuel M., born January 10, 1852, married Isabelle Stewart, farming in this county; Daniel D., born December 21, 1854, single, and farming old homestead; and Albert F., born January 18, 1858.

J. S. RINEHART, merchant, was born in Knox County, Ohio, May 9, 1851. He is a son of Joel and Ebeline (Starmer) Rinehart, natives of Pennsylvania, and who moved to Ohio when they were but children. Being a farmer, Joel Rinehart went to Michigan with a view of settling there, but returned to Ohio, and in 1855 came to Jefferson Township, Noble Co., Ind. Joshua S. Rinehart, in the spring of 1874, graduated at the Commercial College in Kalamazoo, Mich. He then engaged in clerking at Kendallville, after which he carried on a clothing establishment in Garrett for his former employers. In April, 1876, he opened a general store in Rome City, which he has since continued with increased success. His marriage with Miss Lucy Brothwell was solemnized April 4, 1876. This lady was born in Elkhart Township, Noble Co., Ind., October 29, 1847, and is the daughter of John F. (deceased), and Merilda (White) Brothwell. Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart have one daughter—Beda B. John F. Brothwell was one of the earliest settlers of Noble County, and among the old pioneers none were more honored than he. He died December 18, 1874, aged sixty-seven years. We quote the following from an obituary of him, published in one of the county papers: "Mr. Brothwell was a native of Bridgeport, Conn., and came to this county in 1836. Being gifted by nature with a well-balanced mind, which had been developed by education, he became the leader in all that had a tendency to elevate his race, and in all matters appertaining to educational advancement. For many years, he was one of the County Commissioners, and in the discharge of his public duties he ever acted upon the same principles of honesty and fidelity that were leading traits in his character. He was twice elected to represent the county in the State Legislature, in which capacity he gave abundant satisfaction to his constituents. In his home, he was noted for domestic virtues, and his hospitality and his memory is embalmed in the hearts of those who knew him best." In conclusion, we can say that, in every sense of the word, Mr. Brothwell was one of nature's true noblemen. He suffered much in sickness, but welcomed death in the belief of the salvation of the whole human family.

ROBERT D. RHEA. The father of the subject of this sketch, David D. Rhea, was among the earliest settlers of La Grange County. He was a native of Virginia, and the son of Robert Rhea, who came to America from Scotland,

with a brother, previous to the Revolutionary war, and located in Pocahontas County, Va. David D. Rhea was a farmer, and married Ruth Kennison; between 1830 and 1835, he emigrated to Indiana, and in about 1839 located in Clearspring Township. Mr. Rhea was a hunter, and has killed many deer. From Clearspring Township he moved to Clinton County, Iowa, in 1852, and he and wife lived there until their deaths. She died in 1856, and Mr. Rhea about ten years later. Robert D. Rhea was born in Benton Township, Elkhart County, Ind., July 15, 1835. He received but a very limited education, and, with his parents, moved to Iowa in 1852, where he remained five years. He then came back to his native county, and one year afterward moved to La Grange County. The spring of 1861, he moved to his present place; he has since made it his home. September 1, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in the arm at the battle of Shiloh April 6, 1862. The wound was a severe one, and resulted in his being discharged July 31, 1862. He was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Newhouse in September, 1860, and this lady bore him the following six children—Ruth A., Walter, John, Jesse, and two that died in infancy. Mr. Rhea is a Republican, and the owner of 160 acres of well-improved land.

**JOHN M. SCHERMERHORN.** This gentleman's parents, Ernestus and Ann (Johnson) Schermerhorn, were old settlers of La Grange County, Ind., and natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts. The family genealogy is traced back to three brothers who left Germany and came to the United States previous to the Revolution. Becoming naturalized, they made America their home, and fought in the Revolutionary war. Ernestus Schermerhorn was a farmer; he emigrated to La Grange County in the spring of 1836, locating on the prairie near Lima. Living there two years, he removed to Clearspring Township, purchased a farm and resided there until his death, which occurred in February, 1876. Subject, July 25, 1862, enlisted in Company G, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was finally discharged June 20, 1865. He was an active participant in the battle of Perryville, was in the Atlanta campaign and with Sherman on his march to the sea. At the close of the war, Mr. Schermerhorn returned home, and for one year attended the academy at Wolcottville. On the 20th of March, 1868, he was married to Miss Jennie Atwood, and the same year removed to Orange Township, where he has since been farming. He owns 210 acres of land, and is a Republican. Mrs. S. is a member of the M. E. Church. Mr. and Mrs. Schermerhorn have had two children—Blanche, deceased, and Ernest. His mother died in July, 1863. His father took a decided stand in opposition to slavery a short time previous to the war.

**JOHN TANNAR** was born in Rochester, N. Y.—as were also his parents, William and Olive (Clow) Tannar—June 24, 1830. The family emigrated to Huron County, Ohio, in 1832, and from there to Allen Township, Noble County, Ind., in the fall of 1846. William Tannar, our subject's father, was a mechanic, but worked at farming principally in Noble County. John Tannar is one of fourteen children, one of whom, a daughter, is dead. He assisted his parents on the farm in youth, and received a common school education. In 1858, he married Betsey Richardson, and to them were born two children—Rosetta Ann and Sarah Jane. The former is the wife of Albert Arehart; the latter is deceased. With the exception of ten years in Steuben County, Mr. Tannar has resided in Noble County, engaged in farming. He at present owns 60 acres of very good land. He started for himself at the age of twenty-one,



a poor man. Since that time, he has acquired his present property. He is a Republican, and a man of progressive ideas. His father was one of the early settlers of Rochester, and in that city erected many of the public buildings. The first jail of that city was built by him. After his arrival in Ohio, he worked at his trade until coming to Indiana. He purchased 160 acres of land in Allen Township. He was one of the pioneers of Noble County. John Tannar's grandfather, John Clow, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. From a severe wound received at Bunker Hill, he received a pension of \$96 per month. Mr. and Mrs. Tannar had each three brothers, who were in the late civil war.

HON V. R. TAYLOR. (See biography of Philo Taylor, deceased, Johnson Township.)

JOHN W. TEAL was born in Shelby County, Ind., December 23, 1831. He is a son of Nathaniel and Ann (Walker) Teal, who were parents of seven children, five of whom are now living. The father was a native of Ohio. After graduating at one of the principal medical colleges with honor, he came to Shelby County, Ind., where he began practicing his profession. On his arrival, his possessions consisted of a horse, pill bags and 75 cents in money. After practicing a number of years, he quit, and engaged in mercantile pursuits in Shelbyville. In 1847, he sold out and moved to Indianapolis, where he began office practice. He died there in about 1876. The subject of this biography obtained a common-school education at Shelbyville. At the age of sixteen, he moved with his parents to Indianapolis, where for four years he went to school and clerked in stores of that city. In 1855, he married Christina Geisendorff, and after that event engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods at Indianapolis. In 1863, he came to Rome City, where he has since resided, and has been engaged in different kinds of business, among them being woolen manufacturing, mercantile and farming. He now owns 110 acres of good land near Rome City, a livery stable in that town, besides other town property. Mr. Teal is a Republican; his wife is a member of the M. E. Church, and they are parents of Emma (deceased), William, Frederick, Edmund (deceased), Nathaniel (deceased) and John.

JAMES L. TRADER, physician and surgeon, was born in Uniontown, Penn., June 9, 1846. He is a son of Tegle and Mahala (Hatfield) Trader, and grandson of Staten Trader, a native of England, who came with his parents to America and settled in Maryland, near Snow Hill. Staten Trader here married a Miss Long, who bore him a large family of children, one of them being Tegle, the father of Dr. Trader. Tegle Trader and family went to Western Pennsylvania, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits. He resided on the farm until recently, when he removed to Uniontown, where he and wife are yet living, retired from active life. The subject of this biography is one of eight children. His early years were passed in going to the common and graded schools of his native town, and later in years attending college, for the purpose of fitting himself to enter the medical college. For two years, he read under Dr. Fuller, an eminent physician of Western Pennsylvania. He attended the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia the season of 1869-70, and graduated from that institution the season of 1870-71. Soon after his graduation, Dr. Trader located in Uniontown, and for six years successfully carried on the practice of his profession. From there he removed to Perryopolis, practicing at that place one year. While here, and on the 12th of July, 1877, he married Carrie May Porter, and soon after this event he

removed to Brimfield, Ind., where he has since remained. Dr. Trader has been very successful in his practice at this place, and by his pleasing address and energy he devotes to his business has won many warm and true friends. To his marriage with Miss Porter there has been born one son—John Porter, born January 7, 1879.

**WILLIAM H. TROWBRIDGE** was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., March 4, 1828. He is a son of Samuel and Bethiah (Winslow) Trowbridge, who were both natives of New York and the parents of eight children, six sons of whom are yet living. Mr. Trowbridge, the father, was a carpenter and joiner by trade, also worked at cabinet making while in York State. In about 1834, he, with his family, moved to Ohio; but after a residence in Cuyahoga County for a short time, he became dissatisfied with the country and moved back to his native State, but again returned to Ohio, locating in Geauga County, thence to Indiana. They came overland through the Black Swamp in Ohio to Noble County, locating on Section 35, in Orange Township. After living there about five years, he moved near Kendallville, and from there to Section 36, in Orange Township, in 1853. In 1867, he sold out, moved to Iona County, Mich., where he died a month or so after his arrival. He was one of Orange Township's earliest settlers, and deserves due mention in the history of that township. His wife died the spring of 1872. W. H. Trowbridge was reared a farmer. At the age of twenty-four, he started overland for California, but instead of going to the expected destination he went to Oregon, where he engaged in lumbering. The spring of 1855 he returned to Indiana, and purchased his present place. He was married, November 22, 1862, to Ann Eliza Wilson, who bore him one son—Herbert H., who has since died. The mother died April 10, 1865, and August 10, 1867, Mr. Trowbridge married his present wife, Berthana Woodruffe. This lady has borne him seven children—George F., Joseph P., Walter, Harry, Emma and two that died in infancy. Mr. Trowbridge is a Republican and owns eighty acres of good land.

**JACOB A. WALDRON.** Lewis Waldron, father of our subject, was born November 30, 1814, in Rockland County, N. Y., and is one of seven children, three yet living, born to Jacob and Furtama (Phillips) Waldron, who were of English descent. Lewis Waldron has made farming and clearing his chief employment through life. In 1817, he came with his parents to Delaware County, Ohio, and from there to Indiana in June, 1836, locating in Elkhart Township, Noble County, where his parents died. In 1846, Lewis Waldron and family moved to the place now owned by John Schermerhorn in Orange Township; then to Brimfield during the war. His wife, Sabina Holden, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., January 30, 1807, and they were married April 4, 1832. To them has been born seven children, all of whom are yet living. Jacob A. Waldron, the oldest, was born in Delaware County, Ohio, in 1833, and has always farmed. In 1855, he married Mary L. Lake, who died in 1864, leaving four children—Viola C., Lillie L., Sherman T. and Sheridan. February 15, 1866, Mr. Waldron married his present wife, Miss Achsah Reed. He is a Democrat, and is a Trustee of Orange Township at the present. He owns sixty-four and one-half acres of good land, and is a member of the Masonic Order of Rome City. Mrs. Waldron is a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church.

**H. H. WARNER** was born in Cortland County, N. Y., April 25, 1822, and is one of eleven children born to Ira and Acenith (Hitchcock) Warner. The parents were natives of Massachusetts and farmers. The subject came West to Indiana in 1849. Having relatives in Orange Township, Noble County,

he located on his present place, where he has ever since resided. Mr. Warner came in time to see much new country, and to clear his farm principally of all its timber. In 1847, he married Ursula J. Hitchcock, and they have had one child—Maggie W., the wife of G. T. Brothwell. Mr. Warner owns 500 acres of land, which he and Mr. Brothwell farm, and also carry on stock-raising. Mr. Warner is a Republican. His wife was born in Orleans County, N. Y., September 15, 1822, and is a member of the M. E. Church. G. T. Brothwell was born January 25, 1841, in Bridgeport, Conn. Emery Brothwell and Polina Treadwell, his parents, are both dead. G. T. Brothwell came to Noble County in May, 1858, and lived with his uncle, John F., until the breaking-out of the war. August 12, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Fifteenth Army Corps, and was discharged June 20, 1865. Richmond, Ky., was the first battle he engaged in, and was there taken prisoner. He was paroled, came home on a furlough, after which he was exchanged, and then rejoined his regiment. He was an active participant in the battles of Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw and Lookout Mountain, Vicksburg, all through the Atlanta Campaign, with Sherman on his memorable march to the sea, and with Sherman went to Washington. After the war, Mr. Brothwell returned to his native town, and took a thorough course in Bryant & Stratton's Business College. Afterward, he came to South Bend, Ind., where for two years he was engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods. January 21, 1849, he married, and since that event has been chiefly engaged in farming in Orange Township. He and wife are members of the M. E. Church, and Mr. Brothwell is a Republican in politics.

C. C. WATKINS. The father of the subject, Orlin Watkins, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., December 24, 1798. He was a son of Nathan and Sarah (Clark) Watkins, and grandson of Capt. William Watkins (Captain in the Revolution). His great-grandfather Watkins was a native of Wales, and during the religious disturbances there, in 1688, he and a brother fled to America. Orlin Watkins was raised a farmer. He was married March 13, 1822, to Electa S. Ketchum. After his marriage, he engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods in Naples, N. Y. The spring of 1836 he sold out, came to Noble County, and entered 400 acres on Sections 21 and 27 in Orange Township; returned to New York. The fall of 1836, he brought his family, but did not locate until the next year. The winter of 1836-37, he was in Michigan, and the fall of 1837 came to Noble County, leaving his family in Wayne Township, until he could erect a cabin. He resided in Orange Township until his death, June 13, 1860. His wife died on the 17th of August, 1854. They were the parents of five children, four living. Mr. Watkins was a Whig, but, beginning with John C. Fremont's candidacy, became a permanent Republican. He was a worker in the Congregational faith. Calvin C. Watkins was born October 26, 1826. He came with his parents to Indiana. He was married September 24, 1858, to Nancy J. Piatt, a native of Knox County, Ohio. Their union has been blessed with six children—Warren C., Fanny F., Timothy C., Lizzie A., Nathan A. and Willie H. Lizzie is dead. Mr. Watkins has made Orange Township his home since coming to Noble County. He owns 200 acres of good land, is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the Protestant Methodist Church. Mr. Watkins is a member of the Masons, the Knights of Honor and the Odd Fellows.

CHRISTIAN WEAVER, farmer, came to Indiana September 30, 1849. He was born in Ohio, and lived there with his parents until twenty-three years



of age. He spent some time at clearing land, and bought 108 acres of wooded land in Orange Township, then went back to Ohio. He made the journey on foot, a distance of 300 miles, with the exception of sixteen miles that he traveled by rail, from Fort Finley to Cary, on the first cars he had ever seen. He returned in 1850, and September 20, 1851, was married to Susanna Towns, native of Ohio, and daughter of John and Mary Towns, who located on a farm, in 1850, in Steuben County, Ind., where they died. Mr. Weaver's farm now numbers 267 acres of land of the best soil to be found in the county, and in place of the old log cabin stands a commodious frame residence, and the farm is well superintended by the owner, who is a thorough farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver are members of the German Baptist Church, and have had five children—John (deceased), William, who is one of the most active and prosperous farmers of Elkhart Township; Sylvanus and Wesley, living at home, and Cornelius (deceased.)

**JACOB WEAVER.** January 30, 1827, there was born to Christian and Christina (Hetrick) Weaver, the subject of this sketch, in Columbiana County, Ohio. The mother died after bearing Mr. Weaver a family of twelve children, and this gentlemen married Mrs. Sally Hoffman for his second wife, who bore him two children. Mr. Weaver is now dead, but his last wife is yet living. Father of subject was a farmer. He was an honest, straightforward man, a Deacon in the German Baptist Church, and a well-respected citizen. Jacob Weaver was reared on his father's farm, assisting his parents in the duties of farm life that devolved on them. His educational advantages were very limited, and he received but a meager schooling. He emigrated to Indiana the fall of 1849, and for a few months resided in Jefferson Township. Early the next year, he removed to Orange Township, which he has since made his home. The country at that time was quite wild, and small clearings were all that attested that people had been there. Mr. Weaver worked around at different jobs until his marriage to Lydia Towns the fall of 1852, since when he has been living on his present place. He commenced with small means at his command, but by hard labor and economy has made a competence. He owns 102 acres of well-improved land, and is in good financial circumstances. He is a Democrat, and he and wife are members of the German Baptist Church. The children born to them are as follows: Rachel, David, Lee, Lou, Jacob and Lona, living, and Ellen, Eli, John and Rosetta, dead.

**CHARLES A. WILSON, M. D.,** proprietor of the Mineral Springs Therapy, Rome City, was born April 20, 1842, in Worcester County, Mass. He is one of five children, of whom Wheaton and Jerusha (Chase) Wilson were the parents. Up to the age of nineteen, he lived at home, and received a good practical education. At the age of twelve, he began working at ornamental painting, but discontinued it for the study of medicine when sixteen. He left his studies and enlisted, September, 1861, in Company I, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He served in the infantry until after the capture of Newbern as Assistant Hospital Steward, and was then transferred on the United States steamer Delaware, and, after six months, to the ship Onward. This vessel left port with sealed instructions, not to be opened until they had sailed easterly 100 miles. On opening these instructions, it was found that they were out for a two years' cruise in search of the Alabama and Florida, and to protect the rights of American citizens in foreign ports. For a year and nine months they cruised around with ordinary success. Dr. Wilson, on this trip, obtained a good knowledge of surgery, besides a memorable experience in for-



oreign countries. He was discharged in the fall of 1864, and, that winter, took another course of lectures at Harvard. He graduated with honors from that institution in the winter of 1868, and up to 1870 practiced medicine in Montague. He then came to Kendallville, Ind., and from there to Wolcottville two years later. At the latter place he had a good practice. He came to Rome City and established his Mineral Springs Therapy and Water Cure. He has now good facilities for treatment of chronic diseases. The Doctor is the inventor of an abdominal supporter. He was married in November, 1868, to Harriet S. Brick, and to them has been born one son—Charles F. He is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the Baptist Church at Wolcottville.

### ALLEN TOWNSHIP.

JAMES M. AMOS was born in Baltimore County, Md., January 3, 1816, and is a son of Frederick and Naomi (Alderson) Amos, both of whom were born, reared, married and had a family of eleven children born to them in Maryland, the subject of this sketch being the youngest. When about ten years of age, his parents moved to Cumberland County, Penn., and from there to Richland County, Ohio, in 1836, where they resided. The father was a man of good education and of more than an average degree of intelligence. He taught school, was a farmer and surveyor. James M. Amos was reared on a farm, received only a fair education, and remained at home until twenty-eight years old. He was married December 28, 1843, to Miss Margaret Weaver, who was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 18, 1825. To this union were born six children—John D., Martha and Susan, living; and Waldo, Naomi and William, deceased. Mr. Amos farmed in Ohio until 1853, when he came to his present place in Noble County, where he has since remained. He started a poor boy, but, by industry and economy, has placed himself in comfortable circumstances. He is a Democrat in politics, and a prominent citizen.

HENRY BAUM is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, born February 28, 1817. His parents died when he was quite young, and he was sent to this country to be reared by an uncle who resided in Ohio. After a few years the uncle died, and young Baum went to Pennsylvania, where for a number of years he was employed upon a canal. He was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Fryer, in 1838. She was born in Snyder County, Penn., June 28, 1816. To them were born two children, viz.: Emanuel F. and Permelia. In 1854, Mr. Baum came to Avilla, and engaged in the mercantile business, in which he continued until 1878. He was Postmaster at Avilla some eight years. His son, Emanuel, was born September 23, 1844, and, to a great extent, has always assisted Mr. Baum with his business. He was married to Miss Frances A. Young, September 15, 1874. This lady was born in De Kalb County, Ind., May 26, 1853. They have one child—Charlton H. Mrs. Baum has for some time been connected with the Avilla School as teacher, a position she fills with much credit.

MONROE BENDER was born in the Swiss Republic March 24, 1814. His parents, Otnier and Osa Bender, emigrated to this country in 1838, and settled at Shelby, Richland Co., Ohio. Six weeks after their arrival, the mother died. In the family were eight sons and four daughters. The father

made Richland County his home, where he was well and favorably known. Monroe Bender received but a limited education, and, when fourteen years of age, went to Norwalk, Ohio, where, for five years, he worked at whatever he could get to do. He then worked in a mill at Bellevue, Ohio, after which he entered the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, working in the shops and as fireman on the road. He also worked in the shops of the Pennsylvania Railway Company at Fort Wayne, and then went to Ohio, and until 1860 was engaged in the mercantile business. He then came to this county, and has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married to Miss Fanny Stigmire in 1861. She was born in Switzerland October 16, 1836, was baptized by Father Stoker, and from seven to fifteen years of age attended school in her native country. She then learned the dress-maker's trade, at which she worked carefully, saving her money until twenty-three years of age, when she came to this country alone, and until her marriage with Mr. Bender made her home with friends in Seneca County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Bender have had a family of five children, viz.: Samuel F., Amelia V., Emma L., Frank M. and Fanny M. Mr. Bender owns 280 acres of land, which is nicely improved and well stocked. He is a Democrat, and he and family are members of the Catholic Church at Avilla.

DAVIS BLACK was born in Cumberland County, Penn., August 7, 1825. He is the son of Peter and Martha (Amos) Black, full mention of whom is made in another part of this work. Davis Black was brought up on his father's farm, receiving his education in the log schoolhouses of that day. He married Miss Caroline Sigler May 23, 1850. Mrs. Black was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1825. The fall following their marriage, they moved to this county, and purchased eighty acres of land. This was unimproved at the time. They have since added to it, until they now own 160 acres, which are nicely improved and well stocked. To them have been born four children, viz.: Matilda A., Martha D. and William W., living, and Mary E., deceased. Mr. Black began life as a poor man, and he and wife have made what they have since their marriage. They are public-spirited people, and have the respect of all who are acquainted with them. Mr. Black is a Democrat, but liberal in his views.

FREDERICK A. BLACK was born in Harford County, Md., July 31, 1813. He is the son of Peter and Martha (Amos) Black, who were born, reared and married in Maryland. They removed to Lancaster County, Penn., in 1819, and then in a few years to Cumberland County, the same State. In 1833, they moved to Richland County, Ohio, and to this county in 1852. In their family were eight sons and two daughters, the greater portion of whom now reside in Noble County. The father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and participated in a number of engagements. He was a Jackson Democrat, and held many positions of honor and trust. Both he and wife have been dead some years. Frederick A. Black was brought up on a farm, and received few advantages for obtaining an education. When about twenty-four years of age, he began working in a saw-mill, and for seven years continued in this business. He was married to Miss Sophia Shafer in 1836. She was born in Bedford County, Penn., in 1817. From this union there were seven children, viz.: Mary A., John D., Margaret E., Elizabeth, Sarah M., Peter O. and Jane S. In 1845, Mr. Black came to this county, and purchased eighty acres of land in Jefferson Township. He has added to his first purchase from time to time, until he now owns 376 acres. He has always followed farming

and stock-raising, and has done much toward improving the stock of Noble County. He is a self-made man in the fullest sense of the term. He has held the office of County Commissioner three terms, during which time he suggested and carried out many needed reforms in the management of the county's affairs. He has also held the office of School Trustee. Justice of the Peace and other offices, and proved valuable and efficient. Mrs. Black died in 1850, since which Mr. Black has remained single, caring for his family and keeping them together until their respective marriages. He is a Democrat in politics, and a useful and honored citizen.

M. BLUST was born in Seneca County, Ohio, September 13, 1844. He is the son of George and Elizabeth (Myer) Blust, who were natives of Germany, where for seven years the father served as a soldier. In 1837, he came with his family to this country, and located in Seneca County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming. He was twice married. To the first marriage there were nine children and by the second six. He was an industrious man, a good citizen and a member of the Catholic Church. Our subject was reared on a farm and received but a limited education. When about nineteen, he left home and came to Avilla, Ind., and for some time worked at carpentering. He then began manufacturing brick and erecting buildings, and has thus continued. He makes about 500,000 brick per annum, and has been in the business some nineteen years. In 1875, he began to manufacture drain tile, which he is now engaged in quite extensively. Both the tile and brick he manufactures are of a superior quality, and he finds ready sale for them. He was united in marriage with Miss Bernedena Soele January 7, 1869, born in Pittsburgh, Penn., December 25, 1844. From this union there were five children, viz.: Mary E., Frances A., Emma and two that died in infancy. Mr. Blust is an industrious man and a prominent member of the Catholic Church.

MRS. FRANCES R. BROUGHTON is a native of Juniata County, Penn., born November 12, 1831. She is the daughter of Joseph and Susan (Garehart) Smith, mention of whom is made in the biography of Samuel E. Smith, Swan Township. Mrs. Broughton remained with her parents until 1848, when she came with Henry Fryer and family to Allen Township. On the 3d of July, 1852, she was united in marriage with Mr. Nathan Broughton. He was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., March 18, 1828. Mr. Broughton came with his widowed mother and family to Swan Township in 1839. He began life as a poor boy, having received but a limited education; but possessing a strong will and a desire to succeed, he, with the assistance of his good wife, made for his family a comfortable home. He was a man of decided political and religious views, ever favoring the right and promptly rejecting and opposing everything known to be wrong. This early settler departed this life August 6, 1877. In his family were five children, viz.: Clara P., Cornelia A., William A., Everette W. and Florence A. Mrs. Broughton has resided on the old homestead and cared for the family since her husband's death. She is quiet and unassuming in her manners, is a lady of culture and refinement and has the respect of all who know her.

WILLIAM BROUGHTON was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., June 29, 1822, the son of Amos and Nancy (Timmerman) Broughton, a sketch of whom appears in the history of Swan Township, this work. William came with the family to Swan Township in 1839, and the winter following returned to Champaign County, Ohio, where he attended school. On his return, he and his brother Samuel began making brick at Swan. He was married to Miss

Rebecca Cospers March 24, 1844. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 12, 1825. There were seven children born to them, viz.: Charles W., Cordelia, Mortimer, Forbes H., Lafayette, Frank and Nora. Charles W., Mortimer and Forbes H. each served their country three years in the war of the rebellion, and Charles W. was severely wounded at the battle of Shiloh. Mrs. Broughton died October 16, 1880. She was a loving wife, a kind mother and a Christian lady. Mr. Broughton married Mrs. Hannah (Cospers) Strayer April 23, 1881. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, May 24, 1833. Mr. Broughton built the Albion and Kendallville Schoolhouses, two churches at Albion and a number of other buildings in the county. He superintended the making of brick for two years for the Northern Indiana State Prison. He is a staunch Republican, and did much to encourage a strong loyal sentiment at the North during the late war. He appraised the real estate of Noble County in 1862, and has held the office of County Commissioner and various other positions in his township. He owns a nicely improved farm and is one of the practical men of Noble County.

CURTIS BROUSE, JR., was born in Medina County, Ohio, October 20, 1840, son of Curtis and Rebecca (Wall) Brouse, the father being a native of Medina County and the mother of Pennsylvania, and married in Ohio. They moved to Lorain County, Ohio, and from there to Noble County, Ind., in 1854, locating on the place now owned by our subject. The father is now living in Kendallville, but the mother is deceased. Curtis Brouse, Jr., received a common education, and assisted his parents on the farm until September, 1861, when he enlisted in Company F, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was a participant in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville; at Stone River he was shot through the left lung near the heart, the ball passing entirely through his body. He lay two days and nights where he fell before his wounds were dressed; but, on the enemy's evacuation of the battle-field, he returned to the hands of our troops and was moved to Nashville, and from there to Louisville, then sent to Quincy, Ill., where he was discharged May 11, 1863. Six years he resided in Michigan, and with the exception of this time, he has continued to farm in Noble County. July 1, 1864, he married Miss Alvina Matthew, a native of Grant County, Wis., born May 7, 1846. June 1, 1865, there was born to this union one son, Ulysses C. Mr. Brouse owns ninety acres of land, but farms 200, 110 of which belongs to his father. He has made what he now owns by hard work and economy. He is a Republican, a member of the Protestant Methodist Church, and an intelligent citizen.

JOHN CRONE was born in Franklin County, Penn., August 26, 1818. He is one of a family of nine children, born to John and Elizabeth (Pence) Crone, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State. They were married at Little York, Penn., and removed from there to Richland County, Ohio, in 1832. The father was a Fife Major in a Pennsylvania regiment during the war of 1812. He was a blacksmith by trade, and had the respect of all who knew him. He and wife both died in Richland County, Ohio. John Crone received but a limited education, and remained at home, working for his father, until he attained his majority. He was married to Miss Catharine Switzer August 27, 1839, who was born in Richland County, Ohio, February 27, 1821. From this union there were twelve children, viz.: Daniel, Elizabeth, Barbara, Joseph W., Mary J., John S., William H., Sarah A., Amy R., Lucy I., and two that died in infancy. Mr. Crone remained in Ohio farming until 1849, when he came with his family to this country and settled on a portion of the



land he now owns. He has added to his first purchase here until he now owns 222 acres, which is nicely improved and well stocked. He is a Democrat; a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a hospitable Christian.

REV. DOMINIE DUEHMIG was born in Ebenheid, Baden, November 9, 1842, one of twelve children born to Erasmus and Anna (Beahtold) Duehmig, natives of Bavaria and Baden respectively. The father was a man of intelligence and education, and his occupation was farming and weaving. All the sons were college graduates. He died in 1873, and his widow six years later. Our subject attended the Parish schools until fourteen years of age; during this time he had taken private instruction in Latin. He then attended a high school at Bischofsheim for four years, after which he attended school at Wertheim two years. He attended the University of Freiburg, Baden, eighteen months, and while there took up the study of theology. He graduated from the University of Louvain, Belgium, in 1866, and in March of the same year was ordained a Deacon of the Catholic Church by Cardinal De Ster, Archbishop of Malines, Belgium. August 5, 1866, he was ordained a priest (for the American Mission) by the Bishop of Liege, Belgium. In the latter part of 1866, he came to this country, and was placed on the Huntington, Ind., charge, as assistant. After about two months he was appointed to the Avilla charge. Since coming here he has strengthened the congregation, and built one of the finest churches in the county. He has also built churches at Albion, Bremen, Kendallville, Ligonier and one in Swan Township, and increased the congregations at all these points. When he came first to his present charge, it included the Missions in Noble, De Kalb, Steuben, La Grange, Elkhart, Kosciusko, Marshall, Whitley and a portion of Allen County, which now require the labor of five resident priests. Father Duehmig is an enthusiastic worker in the important position he occupies and as a pastor has achieved great success.

SAMUEL C. FAIRBANKS was born February 19, 1822, in Jefferson County, N. Y. His parents, James and Margery (Potter) Fairbanks, were also natives of the Empire State, whence they moved, in 1833, to Geauga County, Ohio. Here they passed the remainder of their days, engaged in agricultural pursuits. The father served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and to him and wife were born eight children. Samuel C. was brought up on his father's farm, and from boyhood was accustomed to hard work. He was united in marriage with Miss Margaret E. Armstrong August 29, 1844. This lady was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., October 3, 1824. From this union there are three children, viz.: George H., Emma E. and Harriet L. Mr. Fairbanks remained in Ohio, engaged in farming, until 1846, when he came to this county and purchased 80 acres of land. He had little or no means, and he and wife saw many hardships, and had to work hard and use strict economy before they found themselves in possession of a comfortable home. They now own 153 acres of nicely improved land. Mr. Fairbanks is a Democrat, and has held positions of honor and trust in the township. He and family are intelligent reading people, and have the respect and confidence of all who know them.

AARON FIELDS was born in Vermont July 30, 1826. He is one of ten children born to Josiah and Eliza (Halstead) Fields, natives of the Green Mountain State. They moved to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, in 1830, where, May 5, 1843, the father died. The mother died in this county August 15, 1864. Aaron Fields received but a limited education, and soon after the death of his father, he left home, and, after roaming around some time, located in

Kendall County, Ill. Here he remained until 1846, when he enlisted in Company E, Second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served one year in the Mexican war. He participated in the battle of Buena Vista, and a number of lesser engagements. After the war, he returned to Ohio, and on the 3d of July, 1851, was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Stray. She was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., October 8, 1832. To them were born eight children, five of whom are now living—Alice J., Francis M., Forrest E., Minnie U. and Maud. Those deceased are Flora A., Laura T. and Mary M. Mr. Fields was engaged in farming and carpentering in Ohio until 1852, when he came to this county, where he has since resided. He owns 90 acres of well-improved land; is a Republican.

MONROE L. GAWTHROP was born in La Grange County, Ind., September 28, 1836, and is a son of Samuel and Prutia (Littlefield) Gawthrop, natives of New York State. Edmund Littlefield, grandfather of our subject, emigrated from New York to Adrian, Mich., in about 1825, and shortly after this came to Pretty Prairie, in La Grange County, and was among the first settlers. Our subject's parents were married in Greenfield Township, La Grange County, and to them were born four children. In about 1841, the father died, after which the mother married Daniel Bixler, one of the first settlers of Noble County, and in 1842, they moved to Kendallville, where our subject's youth was passed. When twenty-one years old, he went to Illinois, and, after two years in this State, went to Iowa. He remained there one year, then came back to Illinois, where he remained another year, and then returned to Indiana. He was married September 24, 1863, to Miss Lucy Taylor, who was born in Champaign County, Ohio, November 8, 1843. To this union were born three children—Luella M., Charles M. and Ray D. Mr. Gawthrop owns 105 acres of well-improved land, which he has made by his own labors. He followed saw-milling some five years, but the greater part of his life has been passed in farming and stock-raising. He is a Republican, and has taken an active part in the advancement of all laudable and educational enterprises.

HART T. GRAHAM was born in Franklin County, Mass., May 27, 1821. He is one of ten children born to Zerah and Clarissa (Taylor) Graham, both of whom were natives of the Bay State. They were married in their native State, and moved from there to Chautauqua County, N. Y., in 1829. After living here some years, they removed to Geauga County, Ohio, and from there in a short time to Summit County, the same State. Here they resided until 1848, when they came to this county, which they ever afterward made their home. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and he and wife were hard-working, kind-hearted, Christian people. Hart T. Graham received but a limited education, and got his start in life by working by the month on a farm. He was married to Miss Harriet Bond June 12, 1844. This lady was born in Allegany County, N. Y., November 23, 1823. From this union there were four children, viz.: Emma J. and Guy E., living; Mary A. and Ellen I., deceased. Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Graham came to this county and purchased forty acres of land. They have since added to it, and now own ninety acres, which is well improved. They are intelligent, kind-hearted, hospitable people, and possess social and moral qualities of a high order. Mr. Graham is a Republican.

HENRY H. HAINES, of the firm of Wood & Haines, was born in Allen Township, this county, June 1, 1848, and is the son of Samuel P. and Mary (Smith) Haines. He was reared upon a farm, and received his early education

in the common schools. He graduated from the Iron City Commercial College in 1870, and was for some years engaged in the drug trade in Avilla. He was married to Miss Mary Craven March 16, 1871. She was born in the Buckeye State September 14, 1847. From this union there are two children, viz., Ada E. and Almerta P. In 1880, he and his brother-in-law, Washington L. Wood, formed a partnership in the manufacture of wooden force pumps, apple jelly, sorghum molasses, cider making, etc. They have a new process for making the juice of the apple into jelly, and have a capacity for manufacturing 100 gallons daily. They also have a process of making sorghum molasses, entirely freeing it from all acidity. They can manufacture about 300 gallons per day, and of their pumps 100 per month. They are both liberal in their political views, are strong advocates of temperance, and are members of the Masonic order.

**ROBERT S. HAINES.** Samuel P. Haines, father of Robert S., was born in Union County, Penn., November 10, 1810. His parents, George and Margaret (Himebaugh) Haines were early settlers of Union County, Penn., and the parents of nine children. Samuel P. was reared on a farm, and received but a limited education. When about twenty, began working at the carpenter's trade. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Smith in 1832. She was born in Union County, Penn., September 17, 1813. From this union there were nine children, five of whom are yet living, viz., Robert S., Joseph W., Henry H., Janette L. and John P. Those deceased were Albert L., Thomas E., Loruma J. and George G. In 1842, Mr. Haines traded a small property he had in Pennsylvania for 160 acres of unimproved land in this township, and the same year moved his family on it. He came over the mountains in a one-horse wagon, and was about a month on the way. They saw many hardships, but by economy he and wife have secured a comfortable home. He left his farm in 1878, and came to Avilla, where he and wife expect to pass the remainder of their days. Robert S. Haines was reared upon his father's farm. He was united in marriage with Miss Permelia Baum December 24, 1856, a native of Pennsylvania. She died in Avilla, September 30, 1874. From this union there were six children, viz., Milton B., Emma G. and Irvin D. (living), Ida M., Sarah M. and Roxanna M. (deceased). Mr. Haines married Miss Rebecca E. Swinehart October 5, 1875. From this union there is one child—Gertie M. Mrs. Haines was born June 24, 1850, in Wyandot County, Ohio. Robert S. Haines remained at home for most part until nineteen years of age. He then, with a brother, operated a saw-mill four years. He then embarked in the mercantile business with Baum & Walter, at Avilla, retaining his connection with them some twenty years. During this time, he was appointed agent for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad at Avilla, a position he yet holds. He is a Notary Public, and has held positions of honor and trust in Allen Township. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Masonic order.

**EDWARD HALFERTY** is a native of Westmoreland County, Penn., his birth occurring October 14, 1816. His father, William Halferty, was also a native of Westmoreland County. He was reared a farmer, which became his occupation through life. He served in the war of 1812, married a Westmoreland County lady, Elizabeth Luther, and in 1819 moved to Richland County (now a part of Morrow County), Ohio, where he lived the remainder of his days. His wife, who bore him a family of nine children, is yet living at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Edward Halferty was reared on a



farm, receiving the greater part of his education in a rude log schoolhouse, a very few of which were seen in early times. He remained at home, in charge of the farm, until thirty years of age, and, November 17, 1844, married Henrietta Craven, who was born in Morrow County, Ohio, January 17, 1823. In 1851, this couple removed to this township, where they have since resided. They own 159 acres of good land, which has been acquired by them through hard labor. They are parents of nine children, whose names are Mary J., Byron, Charles M., William, Franklin P., Sarah E., Albert, Aldora and Milton. Mr. Halferty is one of the progressive and intelligent men of Allen Township, and favors the advancement of all laudable and educational enterprises.

HENRY HARMES is a native of Hanover, Germany, where he was born December 30, 1822. His parents, Frederick and Mary Harmes, were also natives of Hanover and had six children. In 1830, they emigrated to this country, landing at Baltimore, and soon after started for Pittsburgh, Penn., but, on account of sickness, were compelled to stop in Bedford County, Penn. Here the father and one child died. The family continued to reside in this county some ten years, and then moved to Ashland County, Ohio, which was the home of the family until the mother's death. Henry Harmes when quite young began working out, contributing the greater portion of his earnings to the support of the family. He married Miss Maria Young September 19, 1850. She was born in Huron County, Ohio, September 12, 1828. They had seven children, only two now living, viz.: Clara J. and George E. Those deceased were Alwilda A., Joseph A., Judson H., William H. and Carey. Mrs. Harmes died September 12, 1868. In 1851, Mr. Harmes moved to De Kalb County, Ind., where he remained until 1870, when he purchased his present place, a well improved farm of 165 acres. His present wife was Mrs. Sarah (Calkin) Knapp, to whom he was married January 13, 1870. She was born in Essex County, N. Y., December 20, 1829. Mr. Harmes was originally a Whig, now a Republican. He lends his influence in the elevation of mankind and in the promotion of worthy objects.

GABRIEL S. HENRY. John and Mary (Swinehart) Henry were natives of Pennsylvania, married in Ohio and parents of a family of nine children. They were farmers, honest and industrious, and were respected by all who knew them. Gabriel S. Henry, a son of the above, was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, November 5, 1831. He received a common-school education, and when sixteen years old removed to Wood County, W. Va., with his parents, where they owned a large amount of real estate. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, and was married, October 2, 1854, to Miss Sophia McKenzie, who was born in Ohio August 4, 1831. After this event, Mr. Henry began working at the carpenter's trade, in connection with farming, in West Virginia, until 1865, when he moved to Allen Township, Noble County, Ind., where he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. His sons now have charge of the farm. In 1881, Mr. Henry moved to Avilla, and engaged in furniture trade and undertaking, which he carries on with success. He began life a poor boy, but by hard labor and economy has made his own way in the world. He is a member of the M. P. Church, a Republican and an intelligent and enterprising citizen. He and wife are parents of the following family: Martha J., James M., Margaretta C., Elizabeth, John S., Ida B., Robert A. and William F.



**SAMUEL HOKE** was born in York County, Penn., May 10, 1821. He is the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Wiest) Hoke, who were natives of the Keystone State and the parents of nine children. The father died in 1826, leaving seven children, who were yet at home, to the care of the mother. She was a woman of great force of character, and soon after her husband's death removed with her family to Richland County, Ohio, where she raised her family in a creditable manner and where she died in 1871, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. Our subject received a common school education, and when about sixteen began working at the cabinet-maker's trade. After two years, he gave this up, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married to Miss Annie Moree in 1840. She was born in Switzerland March 26, 1814. From this union there were seven children, viz.: Elizabeth, Jacob, Sarah, Amanda, Amos, Ellen and one that died in infancy. Mrs. Hoke died March 14, 1880. Mr. Hoke resided in Richland County, Ohio, until 1850, when he came to this county and purchased a farm, upon which he resided until about seven years ago, when he moved to Avilla. He began life as a poor boy and is a self-made man. He is a member of the Evangelical Association, a strong advocate of temperance and an upright, charitable Christian.

**FERDINAND HUELSENBECK** was born in the Province of Westfahlen, Prussia, July 9, 1844. He is the son of Augustus and Margaret (Stemmar) Huelsenbeck, who were the parents of five sons and two daughters, all of whom were natives of Prussia. The father was a farmer and merchant. Our subject attended school and assisted his father until about fifteen years of age. He then began peddling hardware, which he continued until he was drafted into the Prussian army. He served during the last war between Prussia and Austria, and participated in twenty-one engagements. Soon after his discharge (1868), he came to this country, and, after working for some time by the month, purchased the farm he now owns. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Pieper in 1871. She was born in Prussia in 1852, and died October 18, 1872. From this union there was one child—Augustus. In 1876, he was married to Magdalena Steuri, who was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, in 1854. From this marriage three children have been born, viz.: Mary M., Emma E. and August C. In 1877, Mr. Huelsenbeck built a frame business building at Auburn Junction, and in 1880 erected a two-story brick business house in Auburn. He has been engaged in the mercantile business eight years—four years at Fort Wayne, and four years at Auburn. Mr. Huelsenbeck came to this country a poor man, but has accumulated considerable property. He is a useful and progressive citizen.

**LEWIS IDDINGS** was born in Boston Township, Summit County, Ohio, July 29, 1820. He is one of ten children born to Henry and Sarah (Meltin) Iddings, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. They were married in their native State, and resided in Berks County until their removal to Summit County, Ohio, which was in 1811. While living here, the father served as a soldier in the war of 1812. He followed farming in Summit County, and resided there until 1836, when he came to this county and located a short distance south of Kendallville, where he and wife passed the remainder of their days. [Further mention of them is made in another part of this work.] Lewis Iddings was reared upon his father's farm, receiving a common-school education. He began for himself, as a farmer, when about twenty years of age, but soon after went to "jobbing" on the Wabash & Erie Canal, where he remained some three years. He then returned to this county, and for some years was

engaged in farming and carpentering. He was elected County Treasurer in 1862, and in 1864 was re-elected. He married Miss Rebecca Stilley September 10, 1845. This lady was born in Morrow County, Ohio, February 7, 1825. From this union there are six children, five of whom are yet living, viz.: Florence, Virginia, Eugene, Byron and Victoria. Grace was the name of the one deceased. Mr. Iddings owns 280 acres of land, and valuable property in Kendallville. In politics, he is a stanch Republican.

WARREN IDDINGS was born in Boston Township, Summit County, Ohio, August 2, 1825. He is the son of Henry and Sarah (Meltin) Iddings, who removed from Ohio to this county in 1836, and located on the farm our subject now owns. Here he was reared to manhood, assisting his father upon the farm in the summer, and attending school for a short time during the winter. When about twenty years of age, he began working at the shoemaker's trade, which he followed about fifteen years, and then engaged in farming and stock-raising, which he has since followed. He was married to Miss Hester Newman, March 24, 1851. She was born in Middlebury, Summit Co., Ohio, October 29, 1833. To them have been born seven children, three of whom are yet living, viz.: Homer L., and Sadie and Ivie, twin sisters. Those deceased were Estell, Isadore, Lanora and Eva. Mr. Iddings owns 175 acres of land adjoining the town of Kendallville. He began life with but little means, and for most part has made what he now has by his own exertions. He is a stanch Republican, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have a nice home and are respected folks.

JONATHAN JAMES was born in Chester County, Penn., June 21, 1821. He is the youngest of a family of six children born to Josiah and Jane (Knox) James, the former of whom was a native of Chester County, and the latter of New Jersey. The father died when our subject was a child, and the care of the family fell upon the mother. She was a woman of energy and executive ability, and brought up her family in a creditable manner. Jonathan at an early age began to do for himself, and when eighteen he began learning the plasterer's trade, which he followed some thirteen years, and then followed farming in his native State until 1860, when he came to this county, where he has since resided. He was married to Miss Amelia A. Smith November 3, 1843, who was born in Juniata County, Penn., April 10, 1825. To them have been born four children, three of whom are yet living, viz.: Theodore B., Jennie and Hie L. The one deceased was David O. For eight years after coming to this county, Mr. James followed farming. He then purchased a hotel in Avilla which he operated some time, when his failing health compelled him to sell out. He remained out of active business until 1878, when he built the present St. James House of Avilla, which he has since successfully conducted. Commercial travelers and all others who have stopped there speak of it as "one hotel in a thousand." Mr. James is a liberal in religion and politics.

ANDREW JOHNSON is a native of the State of New York, born near Buffalo November 4, 1813. Thomas Johnson, his father, was a native of New England, a soldier of the war of 1812, and a farmer. He married Sarah Dancer, a native of New England, lived in New York until 1817, when he and family moved to Portage County, Ohio, where he principally made his home until his death. Andrew Johnson is one of eight children. He received but a common-school education, was reared to hard labor on a farm, and at the age of thirteen was left an orphan, and for a few years lived with an uncle. He then began life's battle on his own responsibility, and in 1838 married Miss

Hannah Warner, who was born in the Empire State January 14, 1818. This couple were parents of ten children, viz.: Sarah, Almira, Thomas, La Fayette, Mary, Elsie, Jane, Andrew, Abram and Lucy. They remained in Ohio until 1844, when they emigrated to Allen County, Ind., where they lived some five years, and then came to Allen Township, where they have since resided. Mrs. Johnson died June 2, 1877. One son, Thomas, served his country in the late war, was wounded, and died at Corinth from his wounds. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Protestant Methodist Church, and is an indefatigable worker in the cause of temperance. He owns ninety acres of good land, is a Republican, and an enterprising citizen.

HIRAM L. KING was born in Lake County, Ohio, October 2, 1826. He is the son of Hiram and Catharine (Lowe) King, a sketch of whom appears in the history of Swan Township. On Hiram L., the eldest son, devolved a great many of the hardships of clearing up the farm, and looking after its interests. When he had reached his majority, his father gave him 160 acres of unimproved land in Allen Township. This he began to improve, although he made his home with his parents until about thirty years of age. He was married to Miss Frances A. Mumford, June 7, 1859. She was born in the Keystone State November 10, 1836. They have had two children, viz.: Herbert H., born June 16, 1860, and Helen F., born January 29, 1862. Mrs. King died October 9, 1864. Mr. King has always followed farming and stock-raising. He owns 280 acres of land, which is nicely improved and well stocked. He has paid considerable attention to the raising of Durham cattle, and has some fine specimens of this breed on his farm. He is a Republican, and a strong advocate of temperance. He has given his children good educations, and contributed liberally to all worthy enterprises.

JOHN F. KREIENBRINK was born in Hanover, Prussia, September 4, 1830. He is the son of John H. and Elizabeth (Arnold) Kreienbrink, who emigrated with their family of two sons and two daughters to this country in 1833. After stopping in Cincinnati, Ohio, about three years, they moved to Putnam County, the same State, where they passed the remainder of their days engaged in agricultural pursuits. They were hard-working people, and members of the Catholic Church. John F. assisted his parents until he was fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to the tailor's trade, at which he served a term of three years at Covington, Ky. He worked as a journeyman in Covington until 1866, when he came to this county, and purchased a farm of 120 acres. He has since added to it, until he now owns 160. He was married to Miss Maria E. Baringhaus in 1853. She was born in Hanover, Prussia, December 24, 1832. From this union, there are ten children, viz., Theodore, Mary, Josephine, Sarah, Henry, Mary, Henry, Minnie, Julia and Frances. Of these children, Mary and Henry, the first of these names, are dead. Mr. Kreienbrink is emphatically a self-made man, and he and family are members of the Catholic Church.

CHARLES G. KRESSE was born in Prussia April 6, 1828, one of five children born to Frederick and Christine (Ossig) Kresse. The father was a farmer and miller, and he and wife always remained in their native country. Charles G. attended school until fourteen years of age, when he entered a mill, and learned that business thoroughly. In 1853, he came to this country, and was for some time employed in a mill at Monroe, Mich. He then came to Kendallville, and began working on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad. He attended school one winter in the Whitford neighborhood, and

soon after entered the drug store of Asa Brown, at Lisbon, as clerk. He then bought Mr. Brown out, and for some years ran the business alone. He married Miss Margaret Scheirich July 11, 1854. She was born in Baden, Germany, March 8, 1837. From this union, there were six children, viz., Charles G. A., Emma C., John C. G., Charles A., Mary E., and one that died in infancy. Mrs. Kresse died January 6, 1871. On the 6th of May, 1871, Mr. Kresse married Miss Fredericka Busch. She was born in Prussia April 28, 1849. By this marriage, there are four children, viz., August C., Louisa L., William F. and Amalia B. Mr. Kresse owns 100 acres of well-improved land, and also a good business building in Kendallville. He is liberal in his political views, and is a member of the Order of Knights of Honor. He has a large library; takes a number of good papers and magazines, and is one of the reading and well-posted men of Allen Township.

ANDREW LASH was born in Alsace, France, October 8, 1812. William Lash, his father, was a native of Baden, Germany. He was married in Alsace to Miss Mary A. Wineman, a native of that province, and to them were born a family of six children, Andrew being the only son. The father was a carpenter and cabinet-maker. In 1827, he came with his family to this country, and after living at Canton, Ohio, some time, moved to Carroll County, where he and wife spent the remainder of their days. Andrew Lash assisted upon the home farm until the death of his parents. He was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Raney February 10, 1840. She was born December 22, 1819, in Alsace, France. They have had ten children, viz., Gregory, Elizabeth, George, Mary, John, Anthony, Christina, Paul, William and Clara. Mrs. Lash died September 29, 1877. October 1, 1878, Mr. Lash married Mrs. Mary A. Hart, a native of Prussia, born April 24, 1833. Mr. Lash removed to this county in 1864, and purchased a farm, upon which he resided until 1880, when he sold it to one of his sons and moved to Avilla, where he purchased a nice home property. He is a self-made man, a Democrat, a member of the Catholic Church, and a good citizen.

LUMAN A. LOBDELL was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., May 28, 1834, and is a son of Daniel and Emeline (Broughton) Lobdell, who were natives respectively of Connecticut and New York, and the parents of eleven children. Daniel Lobdell and family moved to Noble County, Ind., in 1841, locating in Swan Township, on the farm now owned by Samuel Broughton, where they lived a number of years, afterward entering a tract of land near the head of Long Lake, in the western part of the county. They remained here until 1850, farming, clearing, suffering from malarial fevers then so prevalent, during which time their family was decreased by the death of three children. The spring of 1850, Mr. Lobdell started overland for California, but in June of that year died in Utah Territory. The death of the father left the burden and care of the family on the shoulders of the mother and our subject, who was the eldest child. Under such circumstances the mother reared her children, who with affection remember the loving care, kindness and self-sacrifice only a mother can give. Our subject remained at home until twenty-one years of age, and March 25, 1854, was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Bricker, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 11, 1835. To this union were born four children—Orland W., Charles E., Emma L. and Orsa A. The mother died November 3, 1863, and May 12, 1864, Mr. Lobdell married Mrs. Sarah S. Eddy, who was born in Michigan, February 2, 1832. To this marriage were born three children, whose names are Luman A., John D. and



Uri G. Mr. Lobdell is a Republican. He always farmed until September, 1881, when he removed to Avilla, where he has since been engaged in mercantile pursuits.

DR. FRANCIS C. MALONY was born in Richland County, Ohio, January 8, 1843; his parents are Robert and Jemima (Cornwall) Malony. He was reared on a farm, receiving an academical education. He attended and taught school, and assisted his parents on the farm until he began the study of medicine in 1863. He read for a time under the instruction of Dr. G. Mitchell, of Mansfield, after which he attended two terms at the University of Wooster, situated in Cleveland. He graduated from that institution the spring of 1866, and the same year came to Noble County, Ind., locating in Cromwell, where he began practicing. He remained there four years, and then came to Avilla and began to practice, and is now the possessor of a large and lucrative practice. His wife, Rebecca (Hadley) Malony, was born in Richland County, Ohio, January 1, 1844, and they were married May 20, 1869. They have one son—Robert S. Dr. Malony is one of the leading physicians of Noble County; is a member of the A., F. & A. M., of Avilla, and is independent in politics. His father, Robert Malony, was born in Pennsylvania, July 29, 1816, and his wife in Ohio, October 23, 1823. They were married February 25, 1841, and farming was always their employment. They came to Avilla in 1877, and were the parents of only one son, our subject.

JESSE H. MATTHEWS was born in Wayne County, Ohio, May 6, 1820, and is a son of Jesse and Elizabeth (Calhoun) Matthews, who were reared, educated and married in Pennsylvania. They came to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1815, where they have since resided. At the age of twenty our subject, Jesse H. Matthews, went to Illinois, where he contracted jobs of clearing, at which he continued about four years, then went to Grant County, Wis., where he resided some fourteen years. He then came to and has since resided on his present place. Mr. Matthews began life a poor boy, but, by honest industry and economy, he has earned a sufficient amount of property to keep him in comfort during the remainder of his days. He is a Republican, formerly a Whig. He was married, November 22, 1841, to Elizabeth Helman, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1825, and to this union were born this family—Sylvia A., Mary M., John A., Emma A., Martha J., Hester E., Chester E., Lydia H. and Elliott P. The mother died May 7, 1861, and September 26, 1862, Mr. Matthews married Mrs. Elizabeth A. Lavering, a native of Pennsylvania, and born July 12, 1830. To her marriage with Mr. Matthews there were born two children—Homer H. and Minnie M. Mr. Matthews is a farmer and owns 180 acres of good land. When twenty-one years of age, he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and ever since he has remained with that denomination; all his children are steady attendants to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Matthews and family are highly respected.

ALBIN and IGNATUS MEYER were born near Strasburg, France, the former March 1, 1825, and the latter January 25, 1829. Jacob Meyer, their father, was twice married; by his first marriage there were two children. His second wife, Miss Magdalena Buchs, was the mother of nine children—Albin and Ignatus being two of that number. The last wife died near Strasburg, in 1833. In 1838, the father came with the family to this country and located in Seneca County, Ohio, where he continued to reside. He was a hard-working, intelligent man, a good citizen, and a member of the Catholic Church. Albin Meyer was reared on a farm receiving a common-school education. He

was united in marriage with Miss Theresa Zongker, a native of Stark County, Ohio, January 10, 1853, who was born April 20, 1838. From this union there are nine children, viz., Elizabeth, Theresa, William, Magdalena, Francis, John, Augustus, Lewis and Agnes. Two years after his marriage, Albin removed to this county, and purchased the farm he now owns, which at that time was covered with a dense forest, but he has cleared it and erected upon it comfortable buildings. He began life as a poor boy and is a self-made man. Ignatus Meyer was brought up on a farm, receiving a limited education. From fifteen to eighteen years of age, he worked by the month on a farm. He then began working at carpentering, which together with farming he has followed all his life. He was married to Miss Mary M. Borck in 1860. She was born in Noble County, Ind., in 1841, and is the daughter of Francis and Anna M. (Weimer) Borck, who settled in this county in 1835. To Ignatus Meyer and wife have been born six children, viz., Mary C., Annie M., Emma, Frank J., Rosa and Ignatus. In 1856, Mr. Meyer came to this county, and worked eleven years at his trade; since that time he has been engaged in farming and stock growing. Both the Meyer brothers have made what they now possess by their own exertions. They own nicely improved farms. They are members of the Catholic Church and are Democrats. They liberally contribute to religious and educational enterprises.

**BENJAMIN MOREE** is a native of Canton Berne, Switzerland, and was born February 18, 1820. He is a son of Rudolph and Anna (Bieterman) Moree, both natives of Switzerland, and the parents of seven children. They emigrated to the United States in 1825, and located in Jefferson Township, Richland County, Ohio, where the parents died. Our subject was reared on a farm, receiving but a limited education. He remained at home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and in 1843 married Miss Lydia Hoke, who was born in York County, Penn., May 17, 1821. To this union were born seven children—Amanda, Ellen N., Mary E., George D., Emma A., Alice S. and Amos (deceased). In 1848, Benjamin Moree and family emigrated from Ohio to Allen Township, where he purchased 140 acres of land, which was entirely uncleared. They settled on this place and began clearing and improving it. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moree have been hard-working and industrious people, and what they now own they have acquired through much self-sacrifice. Mr. Moree is a Democrat, a member of the Lutheran Church, and an enterprising citizen.

**SUMNER K. RANDALL.** Edwin Randall, father of this gentleman, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., May 18, 1809. He was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education. When a young man, he taught both singing and day schools, and while yet young he left home and went to live with an uncle, who was a lawyer, residing at Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y. Here he had access to a splendid law library, and by applying himself, he obtained quite a knowledge of law. In 1835, he came to Toledo, Ohio, and the year following, took a trip through Indiana and Michigan, entering 480 acres of land near where Avilla now is, and tracts near South Bend and in Shiawassee County, Mich. He then returned to Toledo, where he remained until 1841, when he came to Allen Township, this county, which he ever afterward made his home. He was married to Miss Mary A. King, June 16, 1842. This lady was born in Chenango County, N. Y., December 18, 1824. From this union, three children were born, viz., Sumner K., born May 2, 1843; Perry A., July 24, 1847; and Amy C., August 23, 1853. These

children were born in this township, and all are married. Mr. Randall was a Democrat. He was an Associate Justice of the Circuit Court a number of years, and held various other positions of honor and trust. He died September 14, 1873. His widow survives him and resides upon the old homestead in Allen Township. Sumner K. Randall was reared upon his father's farm, and received a good common-school education. He always remained with his parents, and after his father's death took charge of the home farm, which he has successfully operated. He has dealt in agricultural implements, some time in connection with his farming and stock-raising. In 1878, he bought out Baum & Haines, of Avilla, and embarked in the mercantile business. He carries a stock worth about \$15,000 all the time, and has one of the largest and most complete general stores in Noble County. He also deals in grain, seeds and all kinds of country produce. He was united in marriage with Miss Lorette Stahl, September 12, 1876. She was born in Allen Township, April 21, 1856. They have two children, viz., Amy J., born September 7, 1878; and Mary A., August 21, 1880. Mr. Randall owns 120 acres of land and a portion of the old homestead. He is a Democrat and a member of the Masonic Order.

RYLAND READ was born in Windsor County, Vt., January 28, 1811. He is the son of Samuel and Lydia (Page) Read, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of New Hampshire. They were married in the Green Mountain State, and there the mother died in a few years after their marriage. Only one child was born to this union. The father married Elizabeth Moore for his second wife, and to them were born seven children. In 1838, they moved to Licking County, Ohio, where they ever after resided. Ryland Read, when thirteen years of age, left home, and for five years lived in Boston, Mass. He then returned to his native State, and for two years attended school, after which he went to Licking County, Ohio, and until 1836 was variously employed. He then came to this county, stopping at Kendallville and vicinity, where for some time he worked at the carpenter's trade. He then began farming, which for the most part he has since followed. He was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Iddings April 8, 1835. This lady was born in Boston Township, Summit County, Ohio, January 4, 1812. From this union there were three children, viz.: Ellen L., Henry A. and Sarah R. Henry A. served during the war of the rebellion in Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and died in 1872 from disease contracted while in the service. Ellen L. married E. H. Bundy, and they reside upon the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Read are intelligent and respected people, and have the love and confidence of all who know them.

NATHAN ROBERTS was born in Erie County, Penn., December 8, 1833, and is a son of Nehemiah and Charlotte (Tannar) Roberts, who were natives respectively of Vermont and New York. They were married in New York, moved to Pennsylvania, and from there to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1836, where they lived until the spring of 1843, when they emigrated to Noble County, Ind. They located first in Allen Township, but soon afterward moved to Wayne Township. Our subject passed his youth and early manhood on the farm, during which time he received a common-school education. In 1852, he and brother Alpheus, together with a number of others, started overland for California, where they remained mining until 1855, when the brothers returned home, in a measure recompensed for their labor in the mines. Nathan then purchased a part of the farm he now owns, and which now consists of

over three hundred acres; and this he has acquired principally by his own exertions. He was married in 1858 to Miss Nancy R. Whitford, who was born in Allen Township in 1838, and died February 5, 1874, the mother of two children by Mr. Roberts—Myra and Willie G. March 11, 1879, Mr. Roberts married his present wife, Miss Leah Waits, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 24, 1841. He is a Republican in politics, and is active in the support of the temperance cause. In 1876, he began dealing in blooded stock, and he is recognized as among the leading stock-men of Noble County. He now has a herd of twenty-one Short-Horn cattle that are registered in the American Herd Book.

JAMES RYLAND was born in Belmont County, Ohio, March 31, 1820. He is the son of Samuel and Hannah (Myers) Ryland, both natives of the Keystone State. They had two children—James and Matilda. They moved to Belmont County in an early day, where the father died when James was about four years of age. After her husband's death, Mrs. Ryland went to live with her parents in Wayne County, Ohio. Here she was married to Thomas Appleton, and, after some years, they moved to Summit County. There James was reared, receiving but a limited education. He was married to Miss Charlotte Bond April 20, 1841. This lady was born in Genesee County, N. Y., December 25, 1820. In 1847, Mr. Ryland moved with his family and settled on the place he now owns in Allen Township. The land was covered with timber, but they were frugal and industrious, and soon were comfortably situated. In their family were six children, viz.: Francis M., James A., George W., C. Albert and Alfred A., living, and Olive C., deceased. Francis M. went out as a private during the late war, and was promoted to a Lieutenant. Mr. Ryland owns 159 acres of well-improved land, which he and wife have obtained by their own endeavors. They are reading, intelligent people, and have given their children good educations. Four of the sons are experienced and successful school teachers.

GEORGE M. SCHWAB was born October 27, 1837, in Baden, Germany. He is the son of George and Margaret (Schanline) Schwab, both of whom were natives of Baden. The father was an honest, hard-working farmer; he died in Baden when George was a child, and, in 1848, the mother with the son came to this country and settled at Avilla, in this county, where she resided the remainder of her days. George M. Schwab received a common-school education, and when about sixteen years of age went to Stark County, Ohio, where he worked on a farm some time; he then returned to Indiana, and for some time drove a bus at Fort Wayne, after which, he drove stage for some time between Cincinnati and Georgetown; he also worked in a hotel in Pittsburgh, Penn., some time. In 1860, he purchased forty acres of land, where he now lives, and began farming and stock-raising, a business he has since followed. He was married to Miss Mary Smith December 27, 1859, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, where she was born April 21, 1834. Mr. Schwab has a nicely-improved farm, and raises good stock of all kinds. He is a Democrat and a member of the Lutheran Church.

ISAAC SHAMBAUGH is a native of Snyder County, Penn., his birth occurring June 17, 1825. He is one of thirteen children, eleven yet living, born to Christian and Mary (Walter) Shambaugh, also natives of the "Keystone State." Christian Shambaugh was a wagon-maker and farmer. After the death of our subject's mother, his father remarried and was the parent of eighteen children; he is yet living, hale and hearty, at the advanced age of



eighty-seven. At the age of nineteen, Isaac Shambaugh began working at the carpenter's trade. In 1845, he went to Richland County, Ohio, where, on the 12th of September, 1847, he was united in marriage with Julia A. Hosinger, who was born in Richland County December 1, 1827. To this union there have been born nine children whose names are Almanda C., Aaron C., Alexander H., Ursuly M., Anna C., Samuel A., Isaac H., Franklin A. and Edward E. Mr. Shambaugh has worked at his trade to a greater or less extent all through life. For many years past, he has been farming as well as carpentering. In 1858, he came to Allen Township, Noble County, Ind., where he has since made his home. He owns 165 acres of fine farming and grazing land; is a Republican, and an earnest worker in the cause of temperance and the advancement of education.

JOHN D. SHEOFFER was born in Loudonville, Ohio, July 28, 1833. He is the son of Dewalt and Barbara (Baughman) Sheoffer, both of whom were natives of Westmoreland County, Penn., where they were married and resided until 1832, when they moved to the Buckeye State. In 1850, they moved to Kosciusko County, Ind., where, September 7, 1858, the father died; his widow survives him at an advanced age. John D. was reared upon a farm. He was married to Miss Mary A. Shadow July 6, 1856; she was born in Snyder County, Penn., December 13, 1836. From this union there are three children—Emma E., Horace J. and Samuel C. Mr. Sheoffer followed farming in Kosciusko County until 1868, when he came to Avilla and erected the present grist-mill at that place at a cost of \$17,000, which he operated some time and then rented it and went to Steuben County. After about five years, he returned and took charge of the mill, which he has since successfully operated. He has put in much new machinery since his return, and has every facility for doing custom and merchant milling. He is liberal in his religious and political belief.

ESQUIRE H. SHERMAN was born in Palmyra, N. Y., April 27, 1837, and is the eldest of three sons born to Gilbert and Hannah M. (Rowley) Sherman. The father was born in Wayne County, N. Y., in 1814, and his wife in the same county in 1812. The father engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods until 1850, when he came to Allen Township and purchased a tract of land, and for a number of years followed farming and stock-raising. He held numerous positions of honor and trust in this township. He has resided in Michigan for some years. Esquire H. Sherman was brought up on his father's farm, receiving but a limited education. He began when quite young to assist in his father's saw-mill, as well as to help upon the farm. When about twenty-three years of age, he took charge of the mill, which for some time he successfully operated. His marriage with Miss Ellen B. Haines took place April 26, 1860. This lady was born in Juniata County, Penn., May 6, 1844. To them have been born five children, viz., Victoria R., Mary C., Helen L., Esquire H. and Maurice E. Mr. Sherman for some years was actively engaged in farming and stock-raising, but owing to ill-health sold the greater portion of his real estate, retaining only eighty acres that he now occupies as a homestead. He is the present Trustee of Allen Township, and through his exertions and sound judgment the grade of its teachers and schools has been very perceptibly increased. He is liberal in his political views, and is an intelligent, progressive, public-spirited gentleman.

EDWARD B. SPENCER was born in Greenfield Township, Huron County, Ohio, May 10, 1823. His father, Samuel C. Spencer, was a native

of New Haven, Conn., and came and settled with his parents in what is now Hartford Township, Trumbull County, and here he was raised to manhood, receiving but a limited education. In 1811, he went to Huron County, Ohio, and pre-empted a piece of land, which he began to improve, but after some months was driven from his possessions by the Indians, and returned to his home in Trumbull County. He was married in Ashtabula County, Ohio, to Miss Nancy Woodworth, a native of the Bay State. After the war of 1812, he returned to his possessions in Huron County, taking his young wife with him. Here they remained, following agricultural pursuits until 1837, when they removed to this county and settled on Section 9, in Jefferson Township. They came with ox teams, bringing with them cattle, sheep, hogs, some farming implements, and a set of carpenter tools. They had to cut a road through heavy timber for seven miles before they reached their destination. The father and mother had twice before lived in new and sparsely settled communities. They were energetic and industrious. They had a family of ten children, eight of whom (six sons and two daughters) came with them to this county. Six of these children are yet living; five reside in Noble County. Both parents are now dead. They were intelligent, and respected by all who knew them. Edward B. Spencer was brought up on his father's farm, receiving his education in log schoolhouses. When about eighteen years of age, he took charge of the home farm, and after a few years erected a saw-mill in Jefferson Township, which for some years he successfully operated. He was married to Miss Emily Wheeler February 5, 1850, who was born in Wayne County, Penn., March 26, 1826, and is the daughter of Trueman Wheeler, who came to this county with his family in 1844. Mr. Spencer remained in Jefferson Township two years after his marriage, and then came to his present home. He owns 440 acres of land, which is nicely improved and well stocked. He has been engaged in farming and feeding stock, also been engaged in stock shipping since 1853, and has been very successful. He has done much to improve the stock and agricultural resources of the county. Mrs. Spencer is a lady of more than ordinary mental ability. Previous to her marriage she taught a number of terms of school. She taught the first school in the neighborhood where she now lives, having but six pupils (all there were in the surrounding country). She also taught the first school in Kendallville, where she had enrolled about fifteen pupils. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer are reading people. Mr. Spencer is a staunch Republican.

JOHN SPOONER was born in Salem, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, May 30, 1816, one of four sons, two yet living, born to Pardon and Polly (Chapman) Spooner, who were natives respectively of Vermont and Rhode Island, but married in Ohio. The father was twice married, his first wife, Susan D. Maranville, bearing him seven children. Our subject was reared on his father's farm, and when sixteen years old became a sailor. For three years he sailed on Lake Erie, both as cook and common sailor. He then sailed the ocean for four years, traveling in foreign countries. He then returned to Lake Erie, where he served a number of years as mate. In 1843, he came to Noble County, locating in Washington Township, but for several years during the summer seasons still served on the lake. He was married, June 4, 1843, to Miss Martha Rawson, who was born in Pierpont, Ashtabula County, Ohio, July 18, 1817, and to them were born three children—Laflava, Jared and Mary. Jared served in the war of rebellion. Since 1852, Mr. Spooner has been engaged in farming. He owns eighty acres of good land, and is a Republican in politics. Mrs. Spooner was among the first school-teachers of Washington Township. Dur-

ing his life as sailor, Mr. Spooner had some thrilling experiences. While first mate on board the brig "Osceola," he, with Capt. Snow and seven ship hands, left Buffalo with a partial cargo of stoves, on the evening of the 18th of November, 1846, and when forty miles out, were run ashore in a gale eight miles west of Dunkirk, N. Y. They passed a terrible night; and when relief was sent them from shore, ten hours after, Mr. Spooner and a seaman were the only survivors. Mr. and Mrs. Spooner are now in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity after an eventful life of usefulness.

SAMUEL P. STEWART was born in Allegheny County, Penn., July 15, 1840. He is one of nine children born to Uriah and Margaret (Harbison) Stewart, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State. The Stewarts are of Scotch, and the Harbisons of Irish descent. Uriah Stewart, with his family, removed to Swan Township, this county, in 1857, where they have since resided. Samuel P. Stewart was reared upon a farm and received a common-school education. He remained at home until about twenty-three years old, when he began for himself as a farmer. He was united in marriage with Miss Susan Hooper, December 19, 1863, who was born in Allegheny County, Penn., January 19, 1841. They have had four children, three of whom are yet living, viz.: Ida M., Eva J. and John S. Mr. Stewart followed farming until 1872, when he and a brother engaged in the mercantile business at Avilla, which he still follows. He has built up a large and lucrative business. He is a staunch Republican, and a member of the Masonic Order. He has been Postmaster at Avilla since 1875, and has held other positions of honor and trust.

THOMAS STOREY was born in Yorkshire, Eng., February 29, 1816, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Sidgwick) Storey, who were natives of the County Durham and the parents of eight children. The father was a farmer and veterinary surgeon. He lived and died in his native country. Thomas Storey was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education. When fourteen years old, hired out to the neighboring farmers for from £5 to £16 per annum. He disposed of his interests in England, and in 1839 came to Lockport, N. Y., where he remained until 1842; then came to Noble County, Ind., and the spring of 1843, entered eighty acres of land in Allen Township. In 1844, he settled here permanently. Mr. Storey was married, September 6, 1844, to Miss Mary Southworth, who was born in Lancashire, England, October 25, 1818. Mr. and Mrs. Storey were among the early pioneers of Allen Township. Their first log cabin was 12x14 feet. Mr. Storey and wife have been hard-working and industrious people. They are faithful adherents of the Catholic Church, and are among the respected citizens of Allen Township.

MOSES and DANIEL TRYON are natives of Wayne County, Ohio, and are the sons of John and Lydia (Sadler) Tryon, the former a native of the Empire State and the latter of Canada. The father, in 1816, went to Wayne County, Ohio, where he was married, and ever afterward resided, following his trade, that of a wheelwright. He was a hard-working man, and reared a family of twelve children. Moses Tryon was born June 3, 1818. His education consisted of such as could be obtained in the log schoolhouses of that early day, and from boyhood was accustomed to hard work. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine J. Dunfee December 29, 1836. She was born in Fredrick County, Md., April 13, 1818. To them have been born the following children—William, Cornelius, Henry, John, James, Milton and Newton (twins), Sophia and George (twins), and Lucy J. Henry, John and James, served with distinction during the late war. In 1841, Mr. Tryon came in a two-horse wagon



with his family to this county, locating on the land he now owns. On his arrival, he found he had left just 8 cents cash. This to a man of less nerve and energy would have been disheartening. He and wife went to work with a will, and it was not long ere they were as comfortably situated as their neighbors; however, they endured many hardships and privations. Mr. Tryon and wife live upon the old homestead, where the most of their lives has been passed. They are kind-hearted, hospitable people, and have the respect of all who know them. Daniel Tryon was born February 11, 1824, and, like his brother, was raised upon a farm, receiving but a limited education. He was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Richey, June 4, 1848. This lady was born in Wooster, Ohio, January 15, 1830. From this union there are eight children, viz.: Delia, Emma, Mina, William, Lucina, Adda, Morton and Burton. Two years after his marriage, Mr. Tryon moved to this county, which he has ever since made his home. He owns eighty acres of well-improved land, which he has obtained by his own hard work. Both he and his brother are staunch Republicans, and are among the county's best citizens.

W. B. VAN GORDER is a native of this township. He is the son of Aaron A. and Rebecca J. (Campbell) Van Gorder, the former a native of Livingston County, N. Y., and the latter of Fayette County, Penn. They came to this county in 1853, where they have since resided. They have four children, viz.: W. B., Henry J., Sarah E. and Joel C. They own a nicely improved farm of 280 acres. W. B. Van Gorder was reared on his father's farm, attending the home and Avilla schools during the winter months. When about twenty years of age he taught a term of school, after which he entered the Fort Wayne College, from which institution he graduated at the head of his class in the spring of 1881, excelling especially in civil engineering. He taught several terms of school while attending college, thus acquiring a thoroughly practical as well as a theoretical education. He is the Principal of the Avilla school, which under his efficient management has become one of the best in the county. He is a Republican.

HENRY VOGEDING, one of the leading merchants, is a native of Prussia; born October 22, 1824. Son of Francis A. and Mary A. (Rutenfratz) Vogeding, who came to the United States in 1836, and located in Putnam County, Ohio. His father was a cooper, but during his residence in Ohio was engaged in farming; he died ten years after settling in Putnam County. Subject was the eldest of a family of seven children; at the time of his father's death the greater portion of the care of the family rested upon him. At the age of 19 he went to Dayton, Ohio, where he remained for nearly sixteen years, following coopering most of the time, and sending home the greater portion of his earnings. He then went to Putnam County, where, for about three years he was engaged at his trade. In 1859, he came to Allen Township, where he has since resided. He engaged at coopering and farming until 1872; has since been actively engaged in mercantile pursuits. He carries a complete stock of dry goods, groceries, hats and caps, boots and shoes, tin and hardware, valued at \$10,000; his trade is large and is steadily increasing. Mr. Vogeding owns 87 acres of land in the township, and is a progressive and enterprising citizen. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Siefker, November 1, 1847, at Dayton, Ohio. She is a native of Hanover, Germany, born in 1822. From this union there are five children, four now living—August, Rosena, Agnes and John; Joseph, deceased. They are members of the Catholic Church.



**ELIHU WADSWORTH** was born in the city of Hartford, Conn., June 29, 1802. He is the son of David and Irene (Olcott) Wadsworth, who were born, reared and married in the city of Hartford. They removed from there to Old Portage, Summit Co., Ohio, in 1814, and here, in 1825, the mother died. To them were born a large family of children, but only six reached their majority. The father died in 1838. Elihu Wadsworth was brought up on a farm, and from early boyhood was accustomed to hard work. His education was obtained in the subscription schools of that day. He was married to Miss Phebe Ulmer December 31, 1829, born in Maine May 11, 1810. From this union there were five children, viz.: Joseph T., William F., Edwin N., Chloe E. and Henry E. Joseph T. resides in Allen Township, and is a farmer. The daughter is married, and resides in Kendallville. Henry E. resides in La Porte, Indiana, and is the editor and proprietor of the *La Porte Argus*. Mr. Wadsworth moved from Summit County, Ohio, to this county in 1836, arriving in Allen Township, and locating on the farm he now owns, October 20 of the same year. He has since resided here, and for the most part has been engaged in farming and stock-raising. His wife died May 28, 1874. Mr. Wadsworth has always voted with the Democratic party. He has held the offices of County Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, Township Trustee and other positions of honor and trust. He owns 120 acres of nicely-improved land.

**GEORGE WEAVER** was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 6, 1824, and is a son of Willian and Catharine (Stout) Weaver, who were married in Richland County, Ohio, and to them were born a family of ten children, all of whom are living. The father was a native of Virginia, and the mother of Pennsylvania. They lived a long life of usefulness, and died honored and respected citizens. George Weaver received but a common-school education; was reared on a farm at home until he reached his majority, when he came to Noble County, driving cattle for Amos Black. This was in 1845; and, after remaining here six months, Mr. Weaver returned to Ohio, and, April 8, 1846, married Miss Elizabeth Musgrove, who was born in the same county as himself, December 13, 1830. Four children were born to this union—Allen, James, Albert and Jane. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver remained in Ohio until 1853, when they came to Noble County, where they have ever since resided. Mr. Weaver's early life here was one of hardship. For three years, he was afflicted with sore eyes, but by hard labor and determination has acquired 120 acres of good land, well improved. He is a Democrat, and an intelligent and enterprising citizen.

**HEMAN H. WHEELER** was born July 22, 1823, in Wayne County, Penn. He is the only son of a family of twelve children born to Trueman and Hannah (Carr) Wheeler. The father was a native of Massachusetts, and the mother of Rhode Island. They both went with their parents to Wayne County, Penn., when children, where they were reared, married and resided a number of years. In 1841, Mr. Wheeler entered 175 acres where his son Heman H. now resides, and the same year came with part of his family (only four of the twelve children came with the parents), to locate upon it. Finding it wholly unimproved, he took the family to Steuben County to reside while he improved the place to some extent. In 1844, he came with his family to his place in Allen Township, which they have since made their home. Mr. Wheeler was a well-read man, and held, in his lifetime, many positions of honor and trust. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for twenty-five years in Pennsylvania, and it is said that during that time he had not one of his decisions reversed by any of the superior courts. He was well posted and possessed a superior mem-

ory. He died April 18, 1867, aged eighty-four years, and his wife November 21, 1880, who was ninety-seven at the time of her death. Heman H. Wheeler received a common-school education, and, when a young man, taught several terms of school. He helped to clear up the place in Allen Township, while the family resided in Steuben County. He always made his home with his parents, and, during their old age, cared for them. He was married to Miss Loretta M. Mather January 4, 1848. She was born at Akron, Ohio, September 3, 1827. Five children have been born to them, three of whom are yet living, viz.: Henry W., Frank D. and Mina L. Those deceased were named Trueman S. and Frank C. Mr. Wheeler owns 460 acres of land at present, although he has owned much more at different times. He has dealt largely in cattle and hogs, shipping to Chicago and Eastern cities; has devoted his entire time to his business. He is a thorough and practical business man; a Republican and a prominent citizen.

ALONZO D. WHITFORD (deceased) descended from an old and respected New England family, his birth occurring May 3, 1810, in Otsego County, N. Y. His parents moved to Wayne County, Ohio, soon after the war of 1812, and it was here that he was reared upon his father's farm, receiving but a limited education. He was married to Miss Louisa M. Webster December 29, 1831; she was born in the town of Putney, Vt., July 9, 1812. Her parents, Asahel and Janette Webster, moved to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1817. Mr. Whitford remained in Wayne County some three years after his marriage, and then moved to Hancock County, Ohio. In 1837, he came with his family to this county and entered 320 acres of land in Allen Township. Mr. Whitford was a man of more than ordinary ability and natural powers of mind. He took advanced ground on nearly all the leading issues of his day, and was a strong anti-slavery man. He died March 12, 1879. In his family were six children, viz., Mahala L., Webster, Nancy R., Almira, William H. and Alonzo M. Of these, William H. was born in Allen Township January 18, 1842. He received a good common-school education, and was united in marriage with Miss Sarah H. Hill January 27, 1869. She was born in Niagara County, N. Y., December 7, 1848. From this union there are two children, viz., Fred E. and Ethel M. Alonzo M. resides upon the old homestead with the mother. He and brother own nicely improved farms which they have well stocked. They are Republicans, and among the enterprising and progressive men of Noble County.

JOHN YEISER was born in York, Penn., November 23, 1822. He is the youngest of a family of seven children born to John and Elizabeth (Whitmire) Yeiser, both natives of the Keystone State. They were married and resided in their native State until 1833, when they moved with their family to Richland County, Ohio. Here they reared their family and resided till the mother died in 1848. The father, in his old age, came to live with his son John in this county, where he died in 1867. Our subject was brought up on his father's farm, receiving a common-school education. Soon after attaining his majority, he began working at the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he followed in Ohio until 1855, when he moved to this county and purchased the farm he now owns in Allen Township. He was married to Miss Margaret Shambaugh June 3, 1848. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, February 20, 1827. They have five children, viz., George, Elizabeth C., James E., Mary E. and Frank C. Mr. Yeiser owns 180 acres of land, which he paid for with money earned working at his trade. His farm is well stocked and nicely improved. He is a Republican, and one of Allen Township's prominent citizens.

**ELKHART TOWNSHIP.**

**JOHN P. BAKER**, born in Germany, is a son of John and Margaret Baker, both natives of that country, where the father died. The subject was educated in Germany, and in 1853 came to America with his mother, who died in Orange Township. Here the subject worked by the day for one year, and purchased a farm of forty acres, that he partially cleared, and upon which he built a barn, house, etc., and afterward located. He married, in 1860, Mary Stoekle, who came with her parents to Wayne Township from their native home in Wurtemberg, Germany. They lived in Orange Township until 1869, when Mr. Baker purchased one hundred acres of land in Elkhart Township, where he now lives and which he has greatly improved. It now contains a good frame residence, and all the other buildings required by the model farmer. In 1870, his wife died. Their children were John, William, Frederick and Joseph, all at home. Mr. Baker's second and present wife, Sarah J. Baker, is a native of Ohio, and daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth Bloomfield, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Pennsylvania, who came to Orange Township in 1853, where the father died, and the mother is at present living on the old farm. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are members of the Dunker Church, and have five children—Henry, Lilly, Hattie, Winnie and Elmer.

**RENWICK W. BARTLEY**, M. D., spent his early life in New York City, the place of his nativity, and from 1863 to 1866 he lived in Pennsylvania; then a year was passed in Illinois, returning to Pennsylvania, where he remained until 1869, when he went to Northern Wisconsin, and entered a drug store as clerk. After studying medicine for three and a half years, under Dr. Lacey, he took a course of lectures at the Bennett Medical College, Chicago, Ill.; then entered upon the practice of medicine in Merrimac, Wis. After a stay there of one year, he came to Wawaka in November, 1874, where he followed his profession until 1875. Then practiced one year in Brimfield, at conclusion of which the Doctor resumed his profession in Wawaka, in 1879 connecting with his practice the drug business. In June, 1878, he was married to Elizabeth M. Nimmon, whose parents were natives of Ohio. Her father was an eminent physician and surgeon. One child, Karl N., has been born to the Doctor and wife. The parents of Dr. Bartley, Isaiah and Mary Bartley, were natives, respectively, of Orange County, N. Y., and of Baltimore, Md. The latter died in Washington City; the former in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Bartley is a member of the Brimfield Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 587. His wife of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**WILLIAM H. BLACK** is a native of Delaware County, Ohio, and lived with his parents until twenty-one years of age. They came to Whitley County, Ind., in 1860, and subsequently moved to Perry Township, where the mother, Drusilla Black, who was a native of Ohio, died in 1871. The father, George H. Black, a native of New York, married again, and is living in Albion. The subject was married, February 4, 1868, to Miss Cenia A. King, native of Perry Township, where her parents, Michael D. and Mary King, natives of Pennsylvania, located, and where the mother died in 1871; father still living. Mr. Black and wife have since been living on their farm of 100 acres in this township, with comfortable surroundings and substantial buildings. Besides this,

Mr. Black owns 40 acres of partially improved land south of his farm. He has always followed farming, and when a boy went to school winters, acquiring the common-school education. There are six children in their family—Charles, Frank, Evalena, Wright, Roy and Ethel, all at home.

GEORGE Z. BOLLER, son of George F. and Elizabeth Boller, natives, respectively, of Germany and Pennsylvania, was born in Wayne County, Ohio. His mother died in that county, and his father in Elkhart County, Ind. The subject attended district school in Wayne County until seventeen years old, when he taught a four months' term of school; subsequently attended school one term at the academy at Canton, Stark Co., Ohio, and two terms at Wooster, Ohio, after which he followed teaching several years, teaching fifteen terms in all. He was married in Wayne County, Ohio, November 14, 1850, to Catharine Zook, daughter of Gideon and Mary Zook, natives of Pennsylvania, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, where her father died and her mother is now living. After living there four years, Mr. Boller came to Elkhart Township in 1855, and located permanently on forty acres of partly improved land. He has made subsequent purchases, and now owns one hundred and two acres of good land, sixty acres thoroughly improved and cultivated, with good buildings and rich productive soil. Mr. and Mrs. Boller are members of the Amish Mennonite Church, and are intelligent, enterprising citizens. They have one son living—Benjamin F., a student at Yale College, New Haven, Conn.; and one deceased—Amos.

FRANCIS M. BUKER was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, where he lived with his parents until eighteen years of age. His father, Caleb Buker, a native of Maine, followed farming in Muskingum County a number of years, and afterward turned his attention to the mercantile business. His mother, Catharine Buker, was born in Pennsylvania. Both of his parents died in Muskingum County. Francis Buker obtained a fair education, and for ten years was engaged principally in teaching, part of the time officiating as clerk in his father's store. January 4, 1861, he married Sarah T. Trittip, a native of Loudoun County, Va., and in May, 1861, they settled on their present farm of one hundred and fifty-three acres, in Elkhart Township. One hundred acres are nicely cultivated and improved, and their frame residence, when first built, was considered an elegant structure. Mr. Buker has set out 1,500 fruit trees, and otherwise increased the value of his farm. Mrs. Buker's parents, Thomas and Sarah A. Trittip, natives of Loudoun County, Va., in 1856 came to La Grange County, Ind., where they are still living on a farm. Mr. Buker held the office of Justice of the Peace for eight years, and served efficiently. Their children are seven, five living—Charles C., Sarah C., George F., Ernest C. and William T., all at home; Daisy D. and John J., deceased.

ABRAM FRANKS passed his boyhood days in Wayne County, Ohio, place of nativity. In 1863, he came to Jefferson Township, this county, with his parents. Was married January 1, 1864, to Maria Buttermore, whose parents were George and Barbara Buttermore; the former is dead, and the latter is now living, at the age of eighty-two, in Fayette County, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Franks commenced life together in Jefferson Township. He subsequently purchased a partly-improved farm in Elkhart Township, of about 130 acres; upon this they are now living, having cleared and brought under cultivation other portions of the tract, erected a good barn, and added other convenient and comfortable surroundings, rendering the place valuable and desirable as a home place. To them have been born eight children, who are living



with their parents, viz.: Carrie, Florence, Brady, Forrest, Arthur, Belle, Gertrude and Edgar, forming a pleasant and interesting family circle. Mr. Franks' parents were Uriah and Elizabeth Franks. The father, now eighty-two years old, was a native of Pennsylvania; and the mother, now seventy-seven, of Ohio. They are living with their son-in-law, Mr. McFarland, in this township.

**WILLIAM GAGE** is a native of Wayne County, N. Y., and son of Hosea and Electa Gage. His parents, natives of New York, in 1834 located on a farm in Michigan, and resided there until 1842, when they came to this township, where the father died. The mother is yet living at the advanced age of seventy-three. The subject spent his boyhood days on the farm with his parents in Indiana. He served an apprenticeship of one year at the blacksmith trade; then followed farming in the summer and his trade during the winter. January 30, 1859, he was married to Mary Kern, a native of Pennsylvania. His parents, Isaac W. and Catharine Kern, came to Indiana in 1845, and located on a farm in Perry Township, where they afterward died. After his wife's death, which occurred January 16, 1879, Mr. Gage was married to Adessa Franks, a native of Williams County, Ohio, and daughter of Jacob and Margaret Franks. She is a member of the M. E. Church, and his first wife was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The subject first settled on 80 acres of land in Elkhart Township, lived there one year, then purchased 80 acres in Section 19, where he moved and is still residing. He has 60 acres cultivated and improved; in 1878, he built a fine brick residence, and altogether his farm presents a very thrifty appearance. Mr. Gage was drafted in the late war. They have had seven children—Emma, married and living in Elkhart Township; Louis, deceased; Jesse, John, Nellie, deceased; Isaac and Abram.

**ABRAHAM GILL**, one among the thriving farmers of this township, was born in Union County, Penn. His parents, Jacob and Susannah Gill, were natives of the same place, and his mother died in Pennsylvania. Abraham Gill's youth was passed in the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio, attending school, and farming during the summer vacations. After leaving Ohio, he came to Wells County, Ind., and purchased 80 acres of wooded land, where he built a log cabin, and lived twenty-six years. He then came to Sparta Township, and bought 80 acres of land partially improved, and, after working it fourteen years, he sold it and located on his present farm in Elkhart Township. He owns 104 acres, and has improved 80 acres, upon which is a good frame dwelling-house, large barn, etc. Mr. Gill was married in Stark County, Ohio, to Mary McDaniel, a native of Stark County, and daughter of James and Sarah McDaniel, the latter a native of Pennsylvania, who, after her husband's death in Stark County, came to Indiana, and remarried. Mr. and Mrs. Gill are both members of the Christian Church. They have had twelve children—one, Elibabeth, deceased; the others all married except John, who is living at home; Anne R., living in Fort Wayne; Sarah J., Sparta Township; Josiah G., Perry Township; Jacob F., Michigan; David, Elkhart Township; Mary E., Ligonier; Amos A., Michigan; Adam, York Township; William, Michigan; and Almeda, Michigan.

**MARION GLANT**, proprietor of one of the two hotels at Wawaka, is a native of Miami County, Ohio, and came here with his parents, natives of Ohio, in 1869. His education was obtained at West Milton, Ohio, and he lived with his parents until twenty-five years old. His father, John Glant, kept a butcher shop in Wawaka, where he died. His mother, Eliza Glant, is living

with her son in Ohio. The subject was married February 10, 1870, to Athelia A. Henry, a native of Ohio, whose father, Mark W. Henry, is dead, and her mother makes her home with subject's family. Since their marriage they have been engaged in the hotel business at Wawaka, and they are at all times ready to administer to the wants of the traveling public. Their hotel is known as the Wawaka House, and is conveniently located near the depot. Until about two years ago, theirs was the only hotel in Wawaka. Mr. and Mrs. Glant are pleasant, affable people, and well adapted to their calling.

WILLIAM GOLDEN is a native of Pennsylvania, son of William and Temperance Golden, both deceased. The mother died in Pennsylvania and the father in Ohio. The school days of William were limited to three terms in Fayette County, Penn. In his early days, he learned shoemaking; engaged in this and running a tannery four years; subsequently he built a tannery at Vienna, and conducted it seven years; then, in 1847, came to this county, and located in a rude cabin on 200 acres of wood land. In two years he was the owner of 1,000 acres in one body; improved two farms, but, being land poor, he turned it into \$10,000 worth of railroad stock, and \$4,000 in a woolen-mill at Rome City; lost it all. He then made another beginning in this township, by purchasing 80 acres, little improved; to this he added until he owned 400 acres. He has built a good house and barn and other buildings; he now owns 200 acres, having sold off 200. His present farm is well improved and cultivated. March 8, 1836, he married Elizabeth Parks, daughter of James and Susannah Parks, both of whom are dead. Mrs. Golden is a native of Kentucky. They are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church, and have had ten children—Sidney A., married and a resident of California; James W. (deceased), William A. (died in the army), Mary J. (deceased), Susannah, Francis M., Benjamin F., Stephen, Hannah C. and Elizabeth (deceased).

CHARLES K. GREENE is an affable, thrifty merchant of Wawaka, carrying a stock of drugs, groceries, wall paper, etc., to the value of \$2,000. Mr. Greene is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, where he spent his boyhood years. At the age of eighteen, he commenced the study of medicine with Drs. Young and Calvin. After four years' application, he came to Zanesville, Ind., where he taught school one term, after which, he found employment in a drug store, for a Mr. Mackall, in Sheldon, Allen County. Here he served for about one year. May 18, 1876, he married Louisa Caston, daughter of John Caston, of Wells County, Ind. Mr. Greene and wife moved to Wawaka, where he engaged in clerking for M. Caston, in a drug store. June 9, 1877, he purchased the business, amounting to about \$600. In this venture he has been successful, and has built up the trade, added to his line and is now in a prosperous condition. He has filled the office of Justice of the Peace, to which he was elected in 1878 by a vote of 219 to his opponent's 35; belongs to the Brimfield Lodge of I. O. O. F., and he and wife belong to the M. E. Church. Two children have been born to them, one of whom, Myrtle, is deceased. The one living is Raymond V. Mr. Greene's parents, Charles M. and Annie Greene, are still residents of Ohio.

JAMES HALL, a prosperous farmer of Elkhart Township, is a native of Ohio, and came with his parents, William H. and Lucy Hall, to Indiana in 1838, and settled on a farm in Elkhart Township, where the mother died. She was a native of Vermont. William Hall is eighty-six years old, was born in Pennsylvania and is now living in Iowa. The subject received his schooling in Ohio, and was married, April 3, 1851, to Elizabeth Hamilton, and since

then has been living on his present farm of 125 acres, that is furnished with all the modern improvements. She was born in Ohio, and was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Hamilton, natives of Pennsylvania. She died in 1865 and left five children—Mary, in La Grange County, married; Benjamin F.; Sarah S., married and living in La Grange County; Ida S., La Grange County; and Elmer E. Mr. Hall subsequently married Mrs. Sarah J. Ferguson, a native of Ohio. They have four children—Lemira, Lucy L., Ezekiel W. and Melvin. Mr. Hall is the inventor of Hall's Windmill, which was patented in 1871 and again in 1873. He was interested in that business about five years, then sold it to Flint, Walling & Co., who continue to manufacture and erect windmills in various parts of the country.

LOREN R. HATHAWAY was born in Perry Township, Noble County, Ind. His parents, William and Margaret Hathaway, came to Indiana from Ohio, their native State, and located on a farm in Perry Township. Here Loren Hathaway was reared, and was taught the common branches at the district and town schools. It was here also that his mother's death occurred. His father was proprietor of the first hotel started in Ligonier, where his last days were passed. The subject was united in marriage, in 1874, with Miss Alice L. Smith, a native of Darke County, Ohio. Her parents, William and Elizabeth Smith, were also natives of Darke County. Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway came to their present farm in Elkhart Township in 1879. They have a good home and a family of three children—William H. L., Eva L. and Tola B., all living at home.

CHRISTIAN HELTZEL, a native of Virginia, spent his youth in the States of Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. He came to the latter State in 1836 with his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Heltzel, natives of Virginia, who located in Perry Township, where the mother died. His father served as Collector and Assessor two terms and Recorder eight years. He died in Albion. Christian Heltzel never attended school, but can read and write readily enough to transact all business forms. He purchased forty acres of land in Elkhart Township in 1847; subsequently purchasing and disposing of land, and engaged all the time in clearing and improving. He now owns 140 acres and is comfortably situated. He was married, in 1844, to Catharine Vance, native of Ohio and daughter of Martin and Barbara Vance, also natives of Ohio, who came to Benton Township, Elkhart County, in 1829. They had twelve children—Melissa, deceased; Marian and Eliza A. (twins), deceased; George W., now living in Sparta Township; Marquis D., at home; Caroline, living in Napanee, Elkhart County; John V., in Sparta Township; Thomas J., in Elkhart Township; Amos C., in Indianapolis; Charles, deceased; Jefferson C., at home; and Catharine E., deceased. Mr. Heltzel's first wife died in 1863, and he subsequently married Elizabeth Rentfrow, native of Ohio. They have two children—Andrew J. and Seymour.

JAMES J. KNOX is a native of Richland County, Ohio, a son of John and Mary Knox, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio, where they lived on a farm until their death. James remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years old. He served as a soldier in the Mexican war thirteen months. After returning to Ohio he came to Noble County in 1848, and purchased 184 acres of timber land in Elkhart Township. Mr. Knox returned to Ohio and wintered, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California, where he engaged in gold mining until 1852, when, in July of that year, he again returned to Ohio. In 1853, he retraced his steps to Noble County and built a steam saw-

mill in Allen Township; this he operated for two years. September 5, 1854, he married Naomi A. Black, a daughter of Peter and Martha Black, who came from Maryland in 1853, and located on farm in Jefferson Township, where the father died; the mother then lived with her son Cyrus until her death. In October, 1855, Mr. Knox and wife settled on his farm in this township, which he improved with fine buildings, orchard, etc. This farm he sold in June, 1881, and purchased a fine brick residence in Ligonier; which he intends making his future residence. Mr. Knox and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have had five children—Martha L. and Mary P., both deceased; Alice, Kate and Gertrude B. He still owns 433 acres of land, and is a substantial citizen.

AARON E. MAWHORTER, son of William and Prudence Mawhorter, was born February 11, 1838, in Elkhart Township, where he lived with his parents on a farm, and obtained a common-school education. March 22, 1858, he married Rebecca Kessler, who was born in Morrow County, Ohio. Her parents—Andrew and Mariah Kessler—the former a native of Pennsylvania, the latter of Morrow County, Ohio, came to Indiana and located near Rome City. The mother died July 3, 1881, and the father is still living on the farm with his daughter. Mr. Mawhorter and wife are thrifty people, and have made vast improvements on their well-regulated farm. He now owns ninety-three acres of land, upon which are numerous fine buildings, besides town property in Wawaka. They have two children living—Eva C., who married a farmer of Elkhart Township, and William A., at work for himself; and one, Prudence M., deceased.

WILLIAM MAWHORTER (deceased) was born in Washington County, Penn., February 9, 1812. His parents, William and Margaret Mawhorter, were wealthy, but lost their property and came to Ohio when William, Jr., was about thirteen years old. Here, the father died. The subject of this sketch, when he grew to maturity, purchased forty acres of land in Marion County, upon which he lived with his mother and sisters, and engaged somewhat in clearing until 1834, when he sold out and came to this county, and purchased 160 acres of land in this township from the Government. March 19, 1837, he was married to Miss Prudence Pierson, who was born in Cape May County, N. J., August 18, 1816. They commenced housekeeping in the log cabin on his land, on which they lived until 1866, when he removed to eighty acres in Section 21, which he had purchased. Here his wife died July 7, 1870, he following her May 21, 1872. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was Steward several years. Their children were: Aaron E., Martha A. (deceased), Sarah C., William H., Francis M. (whose head was injured when three years old, impairing his mind; he lives with his youngest brother), Joseph A. (deceased), Thomas J., Marcus L., Joshua K. and Dr. N. (deceased). Thomas J. was born in this county December 10, 1852, and was married May 17, 1874, to Miss A. Rendel, who was born in Ashland County, Ohio, October 10, 1854, the daughter of William and Susanna Rendel. To them have been born four children, viz.: Miron E., Dora B., Blanche M., deceased, and Walter A. Mr. and Mrs. Mawhorter are living upon the land entered from the Government by his father.

GEORGE W. MUMMERT is a native of Canton, Ohio, whose parents were Adam and Mary Ann Mummert, natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Canton in 1816, where the mother subsequently died. The father is still living, and though he is eighty-one years old, he is quite active. In the year



1854, at the age of eighteen, George W. came west to Goshen, Ind., where he found employment in a grist-mill. August 6, 1858, he married Louisa Zinn, whose parents were natives of Clark County, Ohio. Mr. Mummert followed milling in Goshen about fourteen years, then moved to Wawaka, where he built a grist-mill in 1868, in partnership with E. W. H. Ellis; July 23, 1875, this property was destroyed by fire, when Mr. Mummert bought Mr. Ellis' interest and immediately erected a steam saw-mill; this he continues to operate in a thoroughly business-like manner. He filled the office of Township Trustee two terms, and subsequently that of County Commissioner two terms. He is a member of Goshen Lodge, No. 34, I. O. O. F., of twenty-four years' standing, and member of Freeman Encampment. He is also a Master Mason of the Albion Lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Mummert have had a family of four children—William C. is now Postmaster at Wawaka, and Elmer E. is living at home. All of the family are members of the M. E. Church.

JAMES E. NOWELLS ministers to the wants of the traveling public as landlord of a comfortable hostelry in Wawaka. He was born in Holmes County, Ohio, and was bound out to Peter Dunmire, who kept a hotel. James' school opportunities were limited. He came to this township in 1856, but returned again to Ohio September 13, 1857. He married Mary A. Kline, daughter of Jacob and Barbara Kline, who still live in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Nowells came to his former location on a rented farm; continued on rented property for a number of years, when he bought ten acres at the Poplar Grove Schoolhouse, after which he was employed as night-watchman at the railroad depot in Wawaka for six months; then engaged in same capacity at the woolen mills in Rome City for one year; then one year as clerk in a Mr. Miller's store, same place. Returning to Wawaka, he exchanged some real estate for town property, and started a grocery store; this he continued for two years and six months, when he engaged in his present business, keeping hotel. Mr. Nowells has been honored with the office of Justice of the Peace for four years. They have three children—Alva E., Joseph L. and Minnie. His parents were Joseph and Sarah Nowells. The mother died in Ohio; the father came to Indiana, and is now seventy-five years old.

JOHN PANCAKE is a native of Ohio, where he lived on a farm and received the common education. His parents, John and Dorothy Pancake, came from their native State (Virginia) to Ohio, and settled on a farm, where they died. The subject came to Indiana in 1846, and located on land that had been entered by his father in 1838, and upon which he is now living. He has worked diligently, and at one time cleared a road through his farm, besides opening several others. His farm consists of 280 acres, enriched and cultivated soil. In the place of the log cabin of former days is an elegant brick residence, with other buildings to correspond. In 1846, Mr. Pancake was married to Miss Effie A. Radcliff, native of Ohio, and daughter of Job and Martha Radcliff, natives of Virginia. His wife died in 1847, in Indiana. He subsequently returned to Ohio and married Susan Cornell, now living. She was born in Virginia, and her parents, Daniel and Elizabeth Cornell, were also natives of Virginia, and were living in Illinois at the time of their death. Mr. and Mrs. Pancake have three children—Elias, married and living in Kansas, and Lizzie and Ella, living at home.

JOSEPH L. PANCAKE was reared in this township, where he came with his parents in 1844, though born in Ohio. They were also natives of Ohio, and located on 160 acres of land entered from the Government, which

they afterward increased to 320. The father, Isaac Pancake, died February 26, 1880, and his wife, Eve, September 14, 1881, on the old farm. Joseph Pancake was married December 22, 1870, to Olive Peck, whose parents, Burton and Sarah Peck, natives of New York, are now living in La Grange County, where Olive was born. They have two children—Verne L. and Emma G. Mr. and Mrs. Pancake belong to the Lutheran Church. His farm is desirably located, has an excellent soil, and is adorned with a good frame residence, large barn, etc. Mr. Pancake received a moderate education, and is esteemed as a good citizen.

EDMOND POTTER was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., where he lived until ten years of age, after that in Ohio until twenty-one, receiving a common-school education in Richland County. In 1844, he came with his parents to Indiana, and engaged in clearing land, etc. He was married November 13, 1845, to Sarah J. Creigh, whose parents, Samuel A. and Lydia A. Creigh, located in Wayne Township in 1844. They are both dead. Mrs. Potter is a native of Richland County, Ohio. They lived on a rented farm in Wayne Township one year; he subsequently went to Michigan, where he drove team on public works, and two years for a railroad company at Niles; followed this in building a mill in the Galien woods; then was something over one year lumbering at La Porte, Ind. He then rented a farm one year, when he bought forty acres wild land in La Porte County, which he improved for two years; then removed to Sparta Township, this county, and rented for one year; purchased sixty-five acres wood land in York Township, built a house and improved. In three years, sold and purchased eighty acres more; improved this with house, orchard, etc., remaining five years; sold and purchased eighty acres in Elkhart Township, partly improved; sold this in six months; went to Iowa, bought ninety acres, which he cultivated one year; then sold and returned to York Township and bought his former tract of eighty acres; this he cultivated and improved fourteen years, when the spirit of change again came over him, and he traded for his present farm in Section 29, consisting of 170 acres; has a good frame house and barn and other buildings, orchard, etc. Mr. Potter has served as Constable two years. They have ten children—Amada, Judson, Mary, Edmond H., Paul, John T., Cynthia A., William, Simeon B. and Charles W. The parents of Mr. Potter were Henry and Azubah Potter; the father, native of Connecticut, and died in Wayne Township, this county; the mother, native of York State, died in Elkhart County, Ind.

PHILIP REIDENBAUCH (deceased), son of Philip Reidenbauch, was born in Germany, and learned the carpenter's trade there. At the age of twenty, he came to America and followed his trade for four years. March 16, 1844, he married Catharine Comingue, daughter of Lorenzo and Mary A. Comingue, all natives of Germany. Mrs. R. came to America in 1840. The subject and wife lived three years in Zanesville, Ohio, then came to Springfield, Elkhart Township, where, during the winter, he was engaged in carpentering, and then settled on their farm of eighty acres in Section 25. This land he cleared and improved, making subsequent additions until it now numbers 240 acres, 140 of which is cleared; and, together with the large frame residence and other requisite buildings thereon, presents really a beautiful appearance. Mr. Reidenbauch died October 18, 1881, much regretted by all. He was a member of the German Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a highly respected citizen. Mrs. R. is a member of the same church. They had nine children—Henry, killed in the battle of Mission Ridge; Catharine and Jacob, both mar-

ried and living in Elkhart Township; Christina, living in Detroit, Mich.; Melinda, living in Wayne Township; Lizzie, a resident of Michigan, and John, Philip and May A., all living at home.

JOHN W. RENDEL, a native of Ashland County, Ohio, is a son of William and Susanna Rendel, natives of Pennsylvania; came with them to Wayne Township, Noble County, and located on a farm. The subject was reared in Noble County, and taught school when eighteen years of age. He was married, November 14, 1869, to Catherine E. Haller. She was born in Wayne County, and her parents, John F. and Joanna Haller, were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. In 1870, they came to Elkhart Township, where Mr. Rendel purchased eighty acres of land, which he has largely improved. For some time Mr. Rendel followed teaching in connection with farming, and for the past five years has been engaged in the ministry. He has served as Township Trustee two terms, and is serving his third by holding the office on account of his successor's incompetency. He and wife are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church. They have four children—John A., Charles F., Orvill and Ota E.

JOSEPH A. RITCHISON, son of Thomas and Mary Ritchison, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, and was reared and educated in Ohio. His parents were natives of Maryland, and came to Ohio, where they were engaged in farming, and where they died. Joseph Ritchison was brought up to hard labor on a farm, and spent some time in boating on the canal and river. In 1836, he went to Greene County, Ohio, and was there married, in 1837, to Margaret Boroughs, a native of that county, and daughter of William and Sarah Boroughs, who were born in Maryland, and died in Ohio. The subject and wife lived in Greene County for thirty-eight years, engaged in farming, and then sold out and came to Indiana, where Mr. Ritchison purchased a farm of eighty acres in Elkhart Township, and resumed his old occupation. This land he has largely improved, and has erected numerous buildings. While in Ohio, Mr. Ritchison was elected Constable eight different times, and filled the office of Trustee two terms, and that of Deputy Sheriff two terms. They have had three children—Mary J., married, and living in Sparta Township; Milo A., married, and living in Elkhart Township; and William B., deceased.

WILLIAM ROBERTS was born in New Jersey, but passed his boyhood in Knox County, Ohio. His father, James P. Roberts, was a native of Scotland; his mother, Hannah, was of Pennsylvania. They settled in Knox County, where they died. In February, 1855, James was married to Mary M. Coffinberry, daughter of G. L. Coffinberry. Her parents lived in Ohio, where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts came to Albion April 13, 1855, where he engaged in painting, having learned the trade in Fredericktown, Ohio. After six years in this employment, he purchased a stock of furniture and undertaking, which business he ran four years, then sold and purchased a half interest in a grocery and provision store; this occupied two years of his time, when he sold to William Johnston. In 1868 and 1869, he clerked for Mr. Black, and in 1870 came to Wawaka as clerk in Mr. Ward's drug store. In November of 1871, he purchased the business. This establishment burned in 1875, about one-half of the stock being saved; sustained a loss of \$700. Started up the business again, and sold out in 1877; then purchased a farm of eighty acres. His health failing, he sold at the end of two years, and engaged in insurance, which business now receives his full attention. Representing, as he does, seven of the strongest companies, adds largely to his prestige of success. He makes his office

with G. W. Mummert. Mr. Roberts and wife have the following-named children—George L., James R. and Charlotte B. Mr. Roberts for four years administered the law to the satisfaction of the community as Justice of the Peace.

FREDERICK SCHWAB is a native of Switzerland, where he spent his boyhood years, and where his parents were born and died. In 1857, he came to this country and located at Springfield, in this township. Here he served two years as an apprentice at the carpenter's trade with his brother. Continued at this trade until 1862; then enlisted in Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Resaca, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge. In addition to this, had his share of marching, skirmishes, etc. His health being impaired, he engaged in shoemaking in Missouri for two years. Returned to Wawaka in 1875, and engaged in butchering for a summer; then, after one year in the grocery business, Mr. Schwab commenced general merchandising, in which trade he still continues, carrying a stock of about \$4,000; being well-adapted to this calling, he has become popular and commands an increasing custom. His wife was Mary A. Lower, daughter of Daniel and Abigail Lower, natives, respectively, of Germany and Ohio. The father came to America in 1831. Mr. and Mrs. Schwab were married in May, 1866. They have had five children—Margaret A. (deceased), Millie M., William D., Nora E. (deceased), and Charles W. Mr. Schwab is a member of the Ligonier Lodge, No. 267, I. O. O. F.

GOTTLIEB SCHWAB was born in Switzerland, where he served as an apprentice for two years at the shoemaker's trade. In the year 1866, he came to this country from his native land and settled in Wawaka. Following his inclination and previous training, he engaged in shoemaking and in the boot and shoe trade. This business he still continues, having the only establishment of the kind in the village. Mr. Schwab has had thorough training in his line, and by close attention to his business has been able to draw custom from a large section of the surrounding country. He carries a well-assorted stock of about \$1,500 worth. October 29, 1868, Mr. Schwab was married to Nancy Hersey, daughter of Henry Hersey, a native of Ohio. To this union were born five children, viz., Fannie F., Jennie, Cora, Ira and Clarence; the latter, deceased. Mr. Schwab is an Odd Fellow, a member of the Ligonier Lodge. His parents were John and Annie Schwab, both of whom died in Switzerland.

CALVIN A. SEYMOUR, M. D., is a native of this county, born in Noble Township, where he passed his early days with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He then entered school at Albion which he attended two years. After which he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Leonard in Albion, completing with Dr. E. H. Depew, of Wolf Lake. In the meantime our medical student taught school some. He graduated in his professional studies at the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis. He then began this practice at Sheldon, eleven miles south of Fort Wayne, where he continued with excellent success for nine years. Subsequently the Doctor came to Wawaka and located permanently, where he continues in his profession. In the year 1869, he was united in marriage with Callie V. Keller, a native of Virginia. She is a member of the Christian Church. They have three children, viz., Horace A., Bertie B. and Ovis. The Doctor's father was a native of New York, and came to Indiana in 1834, worked at "Rowdy Ridge," now known as Christian Chapel. He purchased a farm near Wolf Lake, where he died in 1873.



THOMAS SHAW is the son of Hamilton and Abigail Shaw, and was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, the nativity of his parents. They removed to Hardin County, Ohio, in 1847, where they now live on a farm. Thomas Shaw was reared on a farm; was married in December, 1853, to Susannah Stump, native of Hancock County, Ohio; she died in 1862. Mr. Shaw came to Elkhart Township in 1855, and located on unimproved land, which he cultivated for eight years, when he went to Illinois, where he remained on a farm about one year. Returned to this township and located on his present farm of 126 acres which is under a good state of cultivation, and which he has improved by adding necessary and comfortable buildings. He also owns thirty-six acres of other land. He was married to his second wife, Rachel Grisamer, in November, 1863; she was born in Perry Township, this county, to Joseph and Anna Grisamer; the mother died in March, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church. He served one year as Township Trustee, and is the father of three children by his first wife—Jesse B., Marion F. and David A.

FRANCIS M. STAGE is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and remained with his parents, Benjamin and Loraine Stage, until twenty-five years of age. They came to Indiana in 1834, and located on wooded land in Perry Township, Noble County, where they died. Benjamin Stage was born in New Jersey, and his wife was a native of Maine. Francis M. Stage was commonly educated, and reared to farm labor. October 11, 1856, he was married to Louisa Bradford, whose parents, Joseph and Phebe Bradford, natives of Ohio, came to Indiana, and located in York Township in 1831, where the father died in 1839. Mrs. Bradford died in Perry Township. Louisa Bradford is a native of York Township, and after her union with Mr. Stage, they settled on their present farm in Elkhart Township, where they are comfortably and prosperously living. When twenty years old, Mr. Stage began teaching, and taught three terms. He has served two terms as Township Trustee, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. They have had nine children—Anson B., Otis, Willard, James, Ward, Loraine (deceased), Lillian, Benjamin and Lydia, twins, (deceased).

JACOB E. STAGE, one of the prominent farmers of the township, is a native of the Buckeye State, and lived with his parents until twenty-three years of age, assisting in clearing and improving land. Benjamin and Loraine Stage, his parents, natives respectively of New Jersey and Maine, came to this county in 1834, locating in Perry Township, where they cleared a farm and subsequently died. The subject married Miss Catharine Marker, May 12, 1853, and located on the farm in Elkhart Township—that his father had previously purchased, and which was slightly improved. Mr. Stage is sufficiently skilled in the trades to do his own carpentering and blacksmithing, and is a thorough and practical farmer; has a fine orchard, and the land under excellent cultivation. His wife died in 1874, August 24. Her parents were George and Mary Marker, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Indiana, and located in Perry Township, where they died. Mrs. S. left two children—Albert F. and Emmett M., the latter now clerking at Slabtown. Mr. Stage's present wife was Mrs. Sarah A. Teaford, daughter of Abraham and Mary Yost, and a native of Ohio. Her father was born in Virginia, her mother in Maryland. They have three children—Mary A., Rosa A. and Alton H.

RICHAUD J. STAGE is a native of Noble County. His parents, Benjamin and Loraine Stage, natives, respectively, of New Jersey and Maine, were

early settlers of this county, where they came in 1834, locating in Perry Township, on the place known as the Haw Patch. Richard's early life was passed here with his parents, and he attended the common district school. In 1861, he married Miss Melinda Swank, a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and daughter of Jacob and Mary Swank, who were natives of Virginia, now deceased. They have had five children; one, Mary E., is deceased, and the rest are living at home—Ida M., Sarah, Bell and Alma. Sarah is deaf. Mr. Stage learned engineering in 1869, and has followed it up to the present time, with the exception of one year.

ANANIAS STEWART is a native of Elkhart Township, where he was reared on a farm, receiving instructions in the common school. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Stewart, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Indiana in 1839, locating in Elkhart Township, Section 24, where he had previously purchased 160 acres of wooded land. After clearing a place he built a log cabin, and made other land purchases, among them, in 1865, 100 acres in Iowa, where he moved the ensuing year, and where he died in 1867. The mother is sixty-four years old, and is living with her youngest daughter on the old farm in Elkhart Township. The subject, in 1862, enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was in the battle of Lexington, and was taken prisoner. For two days he went without food, and on the third day was paroled. In about eighty days, was exchanged, and received his discharge in January, 1863, making in all about six months' service. He married Salome Osborn, September 28, 1865. She is a native of La Grange County, and daughter of Nathan P. and Elizabeth Osborn, natives of New York and Ohio, who came to Indiana in 1838, located in La Grange County, Clearspring Township, but subsequently moved to Elkhart Township, where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church, and are living on the father's old farm, where they first settled. They have four children—John, Cary, Walter, Cora E., all living at home.

HENRY STUMP is living upon the farm to which he moved from Michigan, in which State he commenced housekeeping after he was married, December 23, 1866, to Emily A., daughter of Isaac and Barbara Tibbott, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Indiana. Mrs. Stump was born in Elkhart Township. The farm of Mr. Stump is well improved, with a fine brick residence, good barn and other necessary fittings. He is a native of Seneca County, Ohio, the son of John and Barbara Stump, who came to Indiana in 1856, locating in this township, where they died. They were natives of Pennsylvania. Henry Stump spent his boyhood in Hancock County, Ohio, and came to this township in 1857, and taught school that winter. In the spring of 1858, went to California, and in the fall to Oregon; in the spring of 1859, to Klikitat Valley, W. T.; was one of the first four in that valley; he returned to the Willamette Valley, Ore., then went on a prospecting tour to Frazer River, a distance of 800 miles; this venture was a financial failure. Returned to the Willamette Valley late in the fall, where he remained during the winter; in the spring, he went on a prospecting tour with a party of seventy to southeastern Oregon, near the Blue Mountains; here, in Baker County, they discovered the Auburn mines. When ready to return, the company divided into three squads; one company going northwest, were captured by the Indians, and all killed but one. Mr. Stump's party arrived in safety. He returned to the mines the next spring, and worked them that season with ordinary success; spent the following winter in the Willamette Valley, and in the

spring, in company with his brother, located within ten miles of the mines with a herd of cattle, where they remained two years, engaged in raising grain and vegetables and caring for their stock, at the end of which time he returned to Elkhart County. Mr. Stump has filled the office of Township Assessor seven consecutive years. They have one child—Minnie M.—living at home.

HENRY WALKER, a well-to-do farmer of Elkhart Township, was born in Baltimore County, Md., and reared in Ohio, whither his parents—Christopher and Magdalene Walker, natives of Maryland—came in 1819, and devoted their remaining days to the pursuit of agriculture. The father made a trip to Indiana, and purchased 426 acres of Government land in Elkhart and York Townships. Henry Walker lived with his parents until twenty-three years old. December 23, 1841, he was married to Catharine Davis, a native of Maryland, and daughter of James and Elizabeth Davis, both natives of Maryland, where they died in Baltimore County. They commenced married life on the father's farm in Ohio, but in 1842 came to Indiana and located on their present farm of eighty acres; this is now in a fine state of cultivation, and contains many fine buildings—good barn, frame residence, etc. His wife is an adherent of the Old-School Baptist Church. They have four children—Nehemiah, living in Kansas; William, in Ionia County, Mich.; George W., in Albion, and Cecilia, living with her parents.

WILSON L. WELLS is a native of New York, where he lived until twenty-six years old. His education was obtained at the common school in Masonville, Delaware County. At the age of eighteen he began lumbering, and carried lumber by raft from Deposit to Philadelphia. He followed this business seven years. His parents, Levi and Electa Wells, natives of Connecticut, died in New York. Wilson Wells was married, in 1835, to Julia Smith, native of New York, and daughter of William H. and Betsey Smith; the former died in the war of 1812, and the latter in Noble County. The subject and wife came to Noble County in 1835, with a two-horse wagon, bringing their effects with them. The journey lasted about five weeks. They located in Elkhart Township, and began clearing and improving the land. The Indians, although at that time numerous, were not troublesome. The first acre of spring wheat that Mr. Wells sowed, produced eighteen bushels. He paid \$200 for his first land, eighty acres, and subsequently added eighty more that adjoined it. His farm now consists of 208 acres, seventy of which are cleared, and contains many fine buildings, a good orchard, and all the modern improvements and conveniences. The subject at one time graded two miles on the Lake Shore Railroad at a cost of about \$8,000, but was never remunerated for his services. By his first wife, who died in 1842, he had one child—Cordelia (now deceased). In 1844, he married Emily Sebbins, native of Massachusetts. She died in 1847. They had one child—Julia (now deceased). Mr. Wells' present wife, Abigail (Smith) Wells, is a native of Delaware County, N. Y. They have two children—Alice (now married and living at home), and Electa (who married a farmer of Elkhart Township). His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

JOHN ZIMMERMAN came from Switzerland, his native country, with his parents, in 1833, at the age of fifteen. The family located on a farm in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, John assisting in clearing the land. His parents, Daniel and Ann Zimmerman, remained here until they died. After ten years at home, John learned the tanner's trade, serving as an apprentice two years with Phillip Warnee. March 22, 1841, he married Susanna Schranz, whose parents, John

and Magdalene Schranz, were natives of Switzerland, came to Ohio in 1833, subsequently to Marion County, Ind., where they died. Mr. Zimmerman and wife, with their effects in a one-horse wagon, came to this township with \$15 in money. He purchased four acres of land, and erected a log tannery. The first oil he used in his business he brought in a ten-gallon keg on horseback from Goshen, twenty-five miles. At the end of three years he bought forty acres of land, which he began improving; to this he continued to add until he became the owner of 400 acres. He continued his tanning in connection with farming until 1868, when he came to Wawaka and engaged in the hardware and leather trade; subsequently changed to a general stock of merchandise, which business he now conducts. Mr. Zimmerman's first wife died in 1864. By her he had the following children—Joseph, William, Elizabeth, Delilah, Jacob L., Daniel T., Mary, Ellen, Manuel (deceased), and Sarah. In 1865, he married Mrs. Hoffman. From this union there have been two children—Sophia and Millie, the former deceased. Uriah a son of Mrs. Hoffman by former husband, has also been a member of the family. Mr. Zimmerman has been Township Trustee four terms. Himself and wife are members of the M. E. Church, of which he has been Steward twenty-three years. He has in his day erected twenty-three buildings. His business room is a neat brick and his residence a commodious structure of same material.

### SPARTA TOWNSHIP.

JESSE BAKER is a native of Kosciusko County, Ind., where he was born September 13, 1835. His parents moved to this township when he was about one year old, thus becoming associated with pioneer experiences from his earliest days. The log schoolhouse, with its greased paper windows and otherwise rude character, was his only opportunity for an education, and clearing the farm of his father gave ample opportunity for physical development. October 31, 1857, he married Eliza Lane, and by her has become the father of eight children—John E., Alice (deceased), Myron, Celestia, Ella, Charlie, Melvin and an infant deceased. In 1862, Mr. Baker bought a farm of 170 acres, and has cleared in his life about 130 acres, and has produced from 300 to 1,800 bushels of wheat per year. This farm he traded, in 1878, to Mr. Shearer for his present farm. Mr. Baker's parents were John and Jane (Thompson) Baker. The father was a native of Fayette County, Ohio, and was left with the care of four children by the death of the mother in 1844. He died August 26, 1879. Jesse Baker had one brother in the Union army during the late war. Is a Democrat in politics, and is a well-to-do and industrious farmer.

JOHN CALBECK was born in the Dominion of Canada, near Montreal, March 1, 1837, the fourth child of John and Eliza (Shrader) Calbeck. His father, John Calbeck, was a merchant near Liverpool, England, previous to 1831, when he came to America, after which he followed the occupation of farming. John Calbeck received a good common-school and academical education in Stark County, Ohio, where his father moved from Canada. In 1858, he came to Indiana to visit his brother, Joseph Calbeck, and that winter taught school. In 1861, he came to Indiana, and located, buying, in 1862, forty acres of land on Section 11, where he has since resided. Mr. Calbeck has paid considerable attention to scientific researching, and has a fine library, also an



interesting collection of geological specimens. He has delivered quite a number of lectures on science and theology, and has educated himself and family. In politics, he is liberal, voting for the interests of the people. In religion, he is Swedenborgian, believing the teachings of the Bible as expounded by Swedenborg. He now owns 280 acres of fine farming land. He was married, March 11, 1861, to Catharine Gesaman, and they had seven children—Orlando, Rinaldo, Milton, Almira (deceased), Newton, Milo and Lacemtum. Mr. Calbeck is a highly respected, honorable citizen.

JOSEPH CALBECK is a native of England, and was born near Liverpool May 14, 1827. He is the third in order born to John and Eliza Calbeck. The father, who was a merchant in England, crossed the ocean in 1832 and settled in East Canada, where he commenced farming. In about three years, he went to West Canada, shortly after which, his family came over from England and joined him. In the meantime, his attention had been attracted to the United States, which ripened into a determination to cross the line. Consequently, after a time, he, with his family, emigrated to Stark County, Ohio. In that fertile section he remained until his death in 1867. The representative of this sketch, owing to the vicissitudes and surroundings of his early life, received but a meager education; but, by reason of superior natural endowments, he has become well informed and has developed into prominence in business affairs. In the fall of 1855, he came to Indiana, and after working rented land about three years, he purchased eighty acres in Section 15 of this township. For fourteen years, in connection with farming, Mr. Calbeck bought and shipped stock. Since that he has been dealing in grain and transacting quite a brokerage business in Cromwell. By his acute perceptions he has been able to make his grain operations remunerative for himself, and others have profited by his dealing for them. He now owns 248 acres of land, but does no farming himself. In 1852, he was married to Miss Mary Lichtenwaller, and by her has five children—Ida, Isabel, Lewis, Myron and John. Mr. Calbeck is a Republican and stands high in business and other circles.

JOHN EARNHART was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, August 12, 1811, the son of William and Jane (Patterson) Earnhart, and one of a family of eight children. His father was a gunsmith, and followed this occupation in Circleville, Ohio. When he was about eighteen years old, John commenced to learn this trade of his father, at which he continued to work. March 12, 1833, he was married to Mary Hitler. They removed to this county in 1843, arriving in September. He purchased a farm of 240 acres from Isaac Spencer, with five acres improved. This land was situated upon Section 22 in this township. Upon this he settled and commenced clearing, hiring some of his chopping done, but rolled logs and built fence himself. Mr. Earnhart also worked at gunsmithing more or less for fifteen years after coming to Indiana. They have had born to them twelve children—James, Susan (deceased), Thomas, Joseph and Harriet (deceased), William, John (deceased), Nelson, Alvin (deceased), Jane, Ellen and Lewis. Mr. Earnhart is a Democrat, and has filled the offices of Trustee, Assessor and Justice of the Peace each a term of four years, and is a worthy citizen of the township. Though healthy and strong himself, he has had much sickness in his family and has seen the rough side of life. He now owns 400 acres of land and has six children married.

JOHN GANTS, M. D., was born October 17, 1832, in Stark County, Ohio; is the son of Samuel and Anna (Hoover) Gants, one of thirteen children. He was raised on his father's farm, and received a common-school and

academical education. When twenty-two years old, he commenced the study of medicine under Dr. Clover, and in 1858 came West to Noble County, located at Cromwell and commenced the practice of medicine, and has amassed considerable property. During the winter of 1871-72, he attended the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical College, from which he graduated with honors, and is now the leading physician in Cromwell. In 1879, he was married to Eliza Surfis, of Noble County. They have two children—Roland and Maud. Mr. Gants is a strong Republican, and is an enterprising, intelligent citizen.

JOSEPH HITLER, a farmer of Sparta Township, and whose post office is Ligonier, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, November 28, 1816, a son of George and Susan (Gay) Hitler, and one of a family of eleven children. He was raised on a farm, and received a good education. In 1852, he came to Indiana, and settled on his present farm on Section 22, where he at first bought 300 acres, but since that time has increased the number, by purchase, to 430, which gives him a fine, productive farm. This is under a good state of cultivation, and yields a good revenue under the systematic management of Mr. Hitler. March 3, 1841, he was married to Miss Louisa A. Winstead, a lady from Fairfield County, Ohio. To them were born twelve children—William, George (deceased), Susana, Martha, Mary, Ellen, Sarah, Melinda, John (deceased), La Fayette, Miralda and Joseph E. Mrs. Hitler died May 31, 1881. Mr. Hitler is a man of liberal means, a Democrat in politics, and a worthy citizen.

JACOB HONTZ was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 30, 1831, the second of thirteen children, whose parents were Jonathan and Mary (Wentzel) Hontz. The father, in his earlier life, was a farmer, but later took up the occupation of a weaver. In 1853, he came from Ohio to this township, and settled on 160 acres in Section 18, which he bought from the State. There he lived until his death, July 9, 1878. The mother died April 3, 1881. Jacob was furnished with plenty of hard work during his boyhood days, in clearing the farm, notwithstanding which he obtained a fair education. He married Hannah Hoak, from Champaign County, Ohio, March 1, 1855, and thus became the father of eleven children—David (deceased), John H., William C., Mary E., Jonathan A., Samantha J., Daniel S., Lewis C., Harriet A., Effie F. and Correna M. Mr. Hontz, before coming to Indiana, learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked about six years, most of the time in Ohio. He is a Democrat in political matters, and belongs to Ligonier Lodge, 185, F. & A. M. One of his sons, William C., is a school teacher, having taught two or three terms; one of the girls is married.

JOHN C. JOHNSON, son of Daniel and Nancy (Cochran) Johnson, born in Wyoming County, N. Y., December 25, 1816, is the eldest of five children, and of the best Scotch-Irish ancestry. His father was a poor carpenter and millwright, and never had a home, and the subject, at the age of twenty, having acquired a fair education, started out with the determination to succeed and make for himself a home. He started, March, 1837, and traveled via Black Rock to Canada; thence to Detroit, and down to Lima, where he was taken sick and remained until October, when he came to this county and settled on the reserve, Section 16; he subsequently sold that land for \$300, and bought 88 acres in Section 8; in three years, he moved to his farm, where he has remained. He owns 83 acres of good farming land, and is a prosperous farmer and influential citizen. For five terms he served the township as Justice of the Peace. He was married, November 24, 1839, to Eliza Prentice. They had eight children—Milo, Perry, William P., Charles W., Ida and Lida,

twins (deceased), Amanda and infant daughter (deceased); three of the sons and one daughter are married. Perry and William served in the late war three years and two months in the Second Indiana Cavalry and Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Universalist Church, and a strong Republican.

JACOB KISER, one of the pioneers of Sparta Township, is a native of Jefferson County, Ohio, where he was born in 1812. He comes from a pioneer family, his parents and grandparents being among the earlier settlers of Ohio. His father, Jacob Kiser, was a native of Pennsylvania, coming at an early day to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Shower, also from Pennsylvania; while residing here, he entered the service in the war of 1812. They subsequently removed to Wayne County, Ohio, where they were also pioneers, living there until their deaths. Our subject is the fourth in descent in a family of seven children. He became familiar, in his youth, with all the phases of pioneer life. He was married in 1834 to Miss Jane Smith, a native of Chester County, Penn., and subsequently became the owner of his father's old farm in Wayne County, upon which he lived until the fall of 1843, when, with his family, he decided to emigrate to Indiana. He located in the woods of Sparta, upon what is now the finely-improved farm of his son Moses. This farm he cleared up and improved, living there until 1871, when he sold and removed to Perry Township, remaining there until 1881, when he returned to Sparta Township, purchasing the farm of Harrison Galloway, where he is at present living. He has 100 acres of land located upon the southern township line. Mr. Kiser is one of the valued citizens of Noble County. His line of conduct and action has always been progressive, and, as a farmer, has made a practical success. He has served as Township Trustee for many terms. As an early settler, he has been selected to appear in the portrait department, from Sparta Township, in this work. Mr. and Mrs. K. have had a family of twelve children, six of whom attained maturity; three now living—Moses, William S. and Isabell Hersey. Ann (deceased) was the wife of Mathias Green. He died in the army in 1863. She died in 1869, leaving three children. Maria died in Perry Township. Perry was a member of Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in active service nearly three years. He died in Perry Township in 1877.

MOSES KISER is the second child of Jacob and Jane (Smith) Kiser, who had twelve children. Moses was born in Wayne County, Ohio, July 18, 1837, and came with his parents, in 1843, to Indiana, and settled on Section 10, in this township. Here Moses obtained such education as the schools of the log cabin days afforded, and when about eighteen years old learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. This he followed several years. In the war of the rebellion, on the 7th of August, 1862, he became a member of Company B, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. William N. Voris. In this service, he participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, and others of lesser note. On the 29th day of May, 1865, he was honorably mustered out as Sergeant. Returning home, he was subsequently elected Sheriff of Noble County, in which capacity he served so satisfactorily that he was re-elected for another term. On retiring from this position, he purchased the old Kiser homestead, upon which he still resides, a good Republican, and an honored and respected citizen. He now owns 173 acres of the valuable lands of Sparta Township. Mr. Kiser was married November 22, 1866, to Elizabeth A. Strouse. To them have been born three children—Walter F., Perry W. and Roscoe.

JACOB KREAGER was born in Licking County, Ohio, August 12, 1823, the fifth child of John and Sallie (Hursey) Kreager. Being left an orphan when quite young, his education was sadly neglected. At an early age, he went to work at the carpenter's trade, but growing tired of this, he rented a farm in Ohio and worked it for two years; then went to hauling stone. This business proving distasteful, he discontinued it and bought a farm of fifty acres. This he soon sold and bought 116 acres, which he farmed for one year, and then sold for \$1,500, and came to Indiana in May, 1854. Here he bought a farm of eighty acres, giving \$1,500, and his team and wagon for the same. Here he built himself a cabin and worked at clearing up his farm, and has succeeded in obtaining 760 acres of the best farming land in Sparta Township. Mr. Kreager is fond of good stock, and pays some attention to breeding Durham cattle. He was married, March 24, 1850, to Miss Artemisia Belknap. They have six children—Cara P., John D., Emma E., William H., Mary A. and Minnie M. Mr. K. is a good Democrat, and a well-respected, influential citizen.

SPALDEN McMANN was born in Madison County, Ohio, November 2, 1834, the seventh child in a family of ten, whose parents were James and Mary (Lee) McMann. The father was a farmer, and came to Indiana, settling in Kosciusko County with his family in 1838, and Perry Township, this county, in 1840. In 1844, he moved to Section 5, of this township, where he died in July, 1869. The mother died in December, 1877. Spalden McMann obtained a limited education in the log schoolhouse of his neighborhood at intervals, when he could be spared from helping his father on the farm. In 1852, his uncle, Spalden Winchester, gave him forty acres of land, upon which he commenced for himself in 1856. Since that time, he has purchased an additional 280 acres, which makes him a farm not easily surpassed in soil and other good qualities. November 22, 1855, he was married to Elizabeth Gale. They have had twelve children—an infant (deceased), James (deceased), Melissa, Cora (deceased), Henry, Ann, Caroline, Schuyler, Perry, John, Spalden and Mary. In the late war, the family of which Mr. McMann is a member was represented by three brothers, showing a patriotic devotion to the country. He is a Republican, and a thorough good citizen.

DANIEL OHLWINE, the fourth of twelve children in the family of Charles and Elizabeth (Schrader) Ohlwine, was born in Warren County, Ohio, February 14, 1810. He moved with his parents to Montgomery County, Germantown, when three years old, and, when about ten years of age, to Greene County, Ohio. His father was a tanner, and followed that trade until within a few years of his death, which occurred in 1856. The subject received the average education, and was employed during his youth in chopping, grubbing and splitting rails. In September, 1833, he came to Indiana, went back to Ohio in November, then returned in the spring of 1834, and built the cabin where he now lives in the spring of 1835. The first term of court in Noble County was held in 1836, on the old Adam Engle farm, and Mr. Ohlwine served on the jury. In January, 1835, he assisted at the burial of the old Indian chief, Flat Belly, with whom he was well acquainted. Mr. Ohlwine was fond of hunting, and, in 1844, bought 124.92 acres of land, the deed for which was signed by Gov. James Whitcomb. He has cleared, in all, about 200 acres of land. In 1840, he traveled on foot through Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas, and was gone about three months. February 17, 1831, he was married to Miss Maria Weed, who died in October, 1859. They had one child—Archie. Mr. Ohlwine was again married May 22, 1860, to Mrs. Sarah



(Bartley) Ballah, a member of the Christian Church. He is a strong Republican.

SAMUEL OHLWINE is a native of Greene County, Ohio, where he was born May 31, 1820, one of twelve children, to Charles and Elizabeth (Holtz) Ohlwine—the father was a farmer and tanner. Samuel, though raised on a farm, secured a good education, and commenced teaching school in Ohio, where he taught three or four winters. This calling he followed after coming to Indiana, until he had taught some eighteen terms, or about twenty-one in all. April 13, 1843, in Greene County, Ohio, Mr. Ohlwine was married to Eliza Ann Hopping. In October, 1845, he came to this county, and settled where he now lives. He bought eighty acres of land from the State, which he paid for in money called "blue dog." This he got at 45 cents on the dollar, and paid for his land with it at par. Mrs. Ohlwine died January 7, 1877. By her he had four children—Jasper N., Martha J., John Q. (deceased) and Mary Ann. Jasper enlisted in Company E, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Silver's, and served in the late war about four years, being mustered out as Sergeant. Mr. Ohlwine December 18, 1879, married Lena Breninger for his second wife. He is a substantial citizen, and a desirable neighbor. In 1858, he was elected County Commissioner, in which capacity he served twelve years. During his term of office, the present court house was built, the county poor farm was purchased, and the buildings on it erected. Mr. Ohlwine was also, in 1874, a candidate on the Republican ticket for the State Legislature.

NATHANIEL PRENTICE was the son of Nathaniel Prentice, an old Revolutionary soldier, who served during the war, and was in the battles of Monmouth, White Plains, and assisted in the capture of Cornwallis. He cast his first vote for President for George Washington. Was a native of Connecticut, and, in June, 1800, was married to Margaret Hedden, a widow with one child, from New Jersey. Mr. Prentice had also been previously married, and had two children at the time of his union with Margaret Hedden. To this union, seven children were born, one of whom, the subject of our sketch, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., July 8, 1808, and is the fifth one in order of descent of the name of Nathaniel. He was raised on his father's farm, and received a good common-school education. Nathaniel and his brothers came to Noble County in 1837, and were soon followed by their aged parents. Nathaniel settled on the farm where he now lives, and his father on the farm now belonging to Mrs. Hull, on Section 29. The latter died January 23, 1839, highly respected by all who knew him. After the death of his father, Nathaniel still continued to work at clearing his farm, and, in December 14, 1851, was married to Catharine (Rice) Shepper, widow of John Shepper, and by her had eight children—Arcella (deceased), William H., Orpheus L., Laura, Luella, Lucy, Edwin Nathaniel and Oliver (deceased). Mr. Prentice has resided in Sparta Township since his arrival in Indiana; is independent in politics; is a member of the Christian Church and a highly respected citizen.

JEREMIAH B. NOE was born on Section 23, this township, February 7, 1844, the twelfth of a family of fifteen children. His parents were Aaron and Sarah (Beem) Noe, the former of French and the latter of Dutch descent. They came to Indiana, in 1837, from Licking County, Ohio. The father was a blacksmith and farmer, and set up the first blacksmith-shop in Sparta Township. In 1841, Allen Noe, a brother of the subject and but a child, disappeared from the yard while the mother was busy, and was never found. It is

supposed he was stolen by the Indians, a full account of which will be found in the second chapter of the county history. Jeremiah was reared to farm labor. In 1860, he bought eighty acres of land, which he has cleared, and also owns a part of the old homestead, in all about 127½ acres. In February, 1862, he enlisted in the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Company I, and served at the battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Stone River and minor engagements. He was wounded in the leg and lay in the hospital for fifteen months. Was discharged in February, 1864. He married, August 19, 1866, Rebecca Surfus. They had four children—Ellen, Ellsworth, Howard M. and Gracie. Mr. Noe has a flint-lock musket, four feet long, which his grandfather carried in the Revolutionary army. For the past three or four years, he has been engaged in shipping stock. He is a Republican and a good citizen.

NATHAN WHITE was born in Fayette County, Ohio, November 19, 1827, the third child of John and Maria (Baker) White. His father was a farmer and in 1838 came to York Township, and entered 160 acres of land on Section 30. He then returned to Ohio for his family, where he was taken sick and died, leaving his wife with the care of six children. In 1844, Mrs. White, a heroic woman, moved, with her family, to York Township, and settled on the land her husband had previously entered. This they commenced clearing, and by hard labor made for themselves a good home. Nathan acquired an education by attending school winters, and by industry and economy finally secured the old homestead by purchase. January 4, 1855, he married Maria Kimmel. They had three children—Irene, John O. and Mira. In March, 1868, Mrs. White died. In 1866, Mr. White bought his present farm on Section 13, this township, upon which he moved in 1869. It is on what is known as the Sparta Flats and one of the richest in the township. Mr. White's landed possessions comprise about 420 acres, 230 of which is under cultivation. Though by going security for others, and thus losing large sums of money, he is still ranked as one of the wealthy and respected citizens of the county. In political affiliations he is a Democrat, and in 1864, during the war of the rebellion, furnished his substitute for service in the army for the Union.

WILLIAM K. WOLF was born in Greene County, Ohio, February 25, 1825. His advantages in the way of education and social culture were those common to farm life of those primitive years. He came to Indiana in October, 1861, locating on 160 acres of land purchased by him. Upon this he began the labor of cultivating the forty acres already under improvement and extending the clearing. He now has 180 acres, with 120 under cultivation, the whole, with the improvements, constituting a most desirable property and a pleasant home. Mr. Wolf was the eldest of a family of ten children, whose parents were Daniel and Roseanna (Kershner) Wolf, of German descent. He was married to Susan Kindel October 25, 1846. They had four children—Cleanthus (deceased), Casper and Florence (twins), and William Calvin. During the late war, in October, 1864, he was drafted and became a member of Company B, Thirteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which organization he served until his discharge in August, 1865. He is a stanch Republican and a member of the Christian Church, of which organization he is a Trustee. As a Christian gentleman and neighbor, he stands above reproach.

**NOBLE TOWNSHIP.**

**WILLIAM ABURN** was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, June 25, 1825. All his education was received before the age of ten years, his mother having died when he was of that age. He bound himself to a farmer when he was twelve years old, to serve till he was eighteen. His father was killed about a year after his mother died, while assisting in hanging a slaughtered beef. Mr. Aburn served out the time for which he had bound himself, for which he never received compensation. After that he worked by the month and day until he reached the age of twenty-five, when he married Miss Catharine Arnett, of Miami County, Ohio. Seven children have been born to them, the eldest being dead. He moved into this county in August, 1860. Empty handed, but by industry and good management, he has succeeded in placing himself and family in a fine brick house, with first-class surroundings. He owns 240 acres of excellent land. Four years after he had settled in the woods, he was drafted into the army, and paid \$1,000 for a substitute, rather than leave his family without his protection. He says God seemed to favor him, and he never in his life paid a debt more easily.

**JOHN S. BARTLEY** was born in Sparta Township, Noble County, Ind., March 25, 1841, and with the exception of four years passed in Wells County, Ind., he has made this county his home. He enlisted in the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry February 4, 1862, and took part in the battle of Shiloh and siege of Corinth. His regiment was guarding a train during the battle of Perryville, Ky., and had about as warm a time of it as any of them. He was discharged from No. 14 Hospital, Nashville, Tenn., March 15, 1863, having been rendered unfit for service from an attack of measles. Mr. Bartley was married to Miss Sophia Richmond August 9, 1864. His father and grandfather were natives of the State of New York; his wife's folks are from Pennsylvania. Mr. Bartley has commenced work on a barn, a fine improvement.

**SIMON BENOHER** was born in Harrisburg, Penn., October 10, 1841. He remained there until the age of twenty-three years; he had the advantages of a limited common-school education. He lived one year in Clark County, Ohio; from there he went to Indianapolis, and thence to Roanoke, and came to this county about the year 1868. In 1862, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served with them nine months. He served most of his enlistment in North Carolina, being present at the great battle of Gettysburg, but his regiment was not ordered in. He received his muster out at Chambersburg in 1863. In 1871, he married Miss Rosa Fisher, with whom he now lives. They have a family of four children.

**JOSEPH BITTING** was born in Union County, Penn., May 26, 1837. Catharine (Butterbaugh) Bitting was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, December 17, 1833. Mr. Bitting came into this county in 1861, and settled on the farm where he now resides, one mile southwest of Noblesville, on the Columbia City road. His father, Henry Bitting, was a native of Pennsylvania, born June 9, 1800. His mother was born April 18, 1807. He was married in Miami County, Ohio, June 26, 1859. Four children are living, two boys and two girls. Mr. Bitting served as a soldier in the late war, first in the Thirty-second Indiana Volunteers, but afterward transferred to the Sev-

enty-ninth Infantry. He served principally in North Carolina, Virginia and Louisiana, and received his discharge at Indianapolis May 17, 1865. After his discharge, he returned to civil life, resumed his farming, and has been successful. He cleared up the farm where he now lives, and has put it in a good state of cultivation.

ALPHEUS I. BUTLER was born in Ross County, Ohio, January 13, 1829. His father was born in Culpeper County, Va., August 19, 1795, and married Miss Sarah Seelock in Loudoun County, Va., February 28, 1820. They resided in Virginia till 1822, when they moved to Ross County, Ohio. They lived there eight years; then came to Indiana, stopping at Fort Wayne till February, 1831. They then moved to Elkhart County, and settled on the Elkhart River, near Benton. Mother Butler was born in Loudoun County, Va., May 11, 1803, and died March 1, 1880. The subject of this sketch attained to manhood in Elkhart County. September 13, 1860, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Laura Jane Childs. Three children have been born to them, only one of whom, the eldest, Luella Blanche, is now living; she was married to A. J. Yallinger September 15, 1876. Lizzie May, the next oldest, died September 10, 1880, of blood cancer in one of her limbs. These two girls were possessed of considerable musical talent. Mr. Butler is a successful farmer and stock-raiser. His farm is situated on the Fort Wayne & Goshen road, about one mile northwest of Wolf Lake. His health for the last twenty years has not been good, yet he manages his farm, oversees the work, and makes a success of it.

PATRICK CLARK was born on the Isle of Man. His baptism dates January 1, 1820. His parents emigrated to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, when he was but ten years of age, and settled near the city of Cleveland, in Warrensville Township. He received but a common-school education, but he has raised a family of well-educated children, two of whom are teachers, and rank high in the profession—Anna having taught twelve years and Catharine eight years. Mr. Clark was married to a young lady—Elizabeth Clark—in 1829. Her parents also lived on the Isle of Man. Mr. Clark moved to where he now resides, near Wolf Lake, in March, 1866. He owns a fine farm, and has erected thereon an elegant brick residence, which commands a splendid view of the adjacent country. Mr. Clark enjoys a competency, and is living at peace with all the world and with God. He has an attractive family, and the young people of the neighborhood collect there to enjoy themselves. Everything about the premises seems to be well ordered. The family of children consists of Caroline, Anna, Catharine, Celia and Henry. The eldest is married to Edgar Sparrow, and the second one to Leroy Surfus.

THOMAS R. DAVIS was born in Clark County, Ohio, January 28, 1844, and the same year his father came to Indiana and settled where Thomas now lives, at which time there was not a house between his and Wolf Lake. The father died in July, 1878. His mother is still living. His Grandfather Davis died in Clark County, Ohio, in 1847. His grandfather, Thomas Richardson, died in 1852. His great-grandfather, William Richardson, died in Paulding County, Ohio, at the age of one hundred and six; he had been a soldier of the Revolution, and was with Gen. Wayne in his campaign against the Indians. Wayne's mother and his mother were cousins. Mr. Davis enlisted in the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry in July, 1862, and while on the march in Kentucky, October 7, 1862, he was sun-struck. On the 9th, having sufficiently recovered, he rejoined his regiment, and at the



commencement of the battle of Stone River, December 31, he was captured and marched to Chattanooga, being three days without food, and then only receiving a pint of corn-meal with the cob ground in it. He was then sent to Atlanta, to Montgomery, Ala., and then back to Atlanta. Having an attack of typhoid pneumonia, he was dumped off on a platform to die, but was picked up and taken to a hospital. Finding a friend, he was kindly treated and recovered. He there witnessed a sale of slaves. From here he was taken to Petersburg in freight cars, being confined in them eight days without food, on account of drunkenness of the officer in charge. He was in Libby Prison one month and ten days, when he was paroled by answering to another man's name, who had probably died the night before. When Mr. Davis had recovered sufficiently to walk about, he weighed eighty-three pounds. He was sent to Columbus, Ohio, and from there reached his home on foot. He was exchanged in May, 1863, joined his regiment at Murfreesboro, Tenn., participating in the campaign against Tullahoma, in the battle of Chickamauga, and was in Chattanooga during the siege and battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He was soon after assigned to the Veteran Reserve corps, and sent to Washington and Baltimore, and finally to Harrisburg, Penn., on detached duty with the disbursing officers. July 8, 1865, he was discharged. Mr. Davis was married to Miss Margaret M. Houser, March 20, 1866.

DR. E. W. DE PEW is a native of this State, born October 30, 1837. He studied medicine with Prof. William H. Myers, of Fort Wayne; he also studied in the State University, at Ann Arbor, Mich., and at Liber College, Jay County, Ind. He commenced to practice at Avilla, where he remained two years. He practiced two years in Salem, Steuben County, and came to Wolf Lake in January, 1865. He stands at the head of the profession in the vicinity of his practice, which is very extensive in the southern part of the county.

GEORGE DODSWORTH is a successful farmer and stock-raiser, and is a native of Yorkshire, England, born June 21, 1827. He landed at New York City in April, 1850; moved into this State in 1852, and settled near Wolf Lake. His farm is on the Cold Spring road, not quite a mile from Wolf Lake. During the war, George Dodsworth was known as the soldiers' friend, and to this day they cannot say too much in his praise. His health at that time was so poor that he could not enlist, but he gave substantial aid and encouragement throughout to the cause of the Union. He is owner of 180 acres of good land, on which are a substantial brick dwelling, good barns and grain houses. He was married April 17, 1851. Mrs. Dodsworth is a splendid housekeeper, and contributes her share to the welfare of their home.

SCOTT GALLOWAY was born in Washington Township, Noble County, March 16, 1849. Joseph Galloway, his father, was born in Ohio, and his grandfather was born in Ireland. Mrs. Frances Galloway, his mother, was born in Vermont. His father and mother were married in Stark County, Ohio, and moved to near Wolf Lake when there were but two log houses between where they lived and Fort Wayne, and but one house in Wolf Lake. Schools were scarce, and Mr. Galloway received but a slight education, but in his own language he tries to "live and learn," and we find him an intelligent and affable gentleman. On the 2d day of May, 1869, he married Miss Rebecca Cramer. They have one boy and two girls living. He moved into the woods where he now lives, and has cleared about 105 acres. He has altogether about 130 acres of cleared land, and seventy-eight acres of wood and prairie. He is well fixed, and purposes taking life at a better advantage and enjoy the fruits of his labor.

Last year he raised over one thousand bushels of wheat and two thousand bushels of corn, with other crops in proportion.

JOHN HANEY was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, February 3, 1814. He lived in Miami County, Ohio, till the year 1847, when he came to this county and bought the land on which he now lives, one and a half miles west of Noblesville. Mr. Haney has been twice married. His first wife, Mary Ann (Dye) Haney, he married April 10, 1838. She died March 31, 1858. September 13, 1860, he was married to Eliza Applegate, whose maiden name was Eliza Dye, and who was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 3, 1825. By his first marriage Mr. Haney has the following children living—Henry, Lloyd, George, Sarah and Mary Ann. By his second marriage he has the following now living—Irvin, Laura, Anorah and Everett. Mr. Haney's father was a native of Germany. His son, Thomas Haney, was a professor of penmanship, and while attending high school at Logansport, Ind., had charge of the penmanship department of the schools. He took cold during a vacation, and died March 28, 1867, unmarried. The following children are dead—Melissa (died November 23, 1860), David (September 8, 1862), and Stockton (November 12, 1862). Stockton went into the army with the Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteers, and died at Jeffersonville, Ind. James M. died July 22, 1872. Mr. Haney has worked hard for his possessions, but his working days are past, and he is now able to live at his ease.

SAMUEL JONES came to the county with his father in 1833. He was born in Clark County, Ohio, November 11, 1827. His father, Samuel Jones, Sr., was born May 30, 1787, and was married to Miss Mary Britten, of Tennessee, January 26, 1809. She was born February 10, 1790. The former died in 1838, and Mother Jones in 1829. Their family consisted of Margaret, born in 1810; Lydia, 1811; Mary, 1813; Elias, 1820; and Narcissa, 1823. Samuel Jones, Jr., was married to Miss Nancy Powers, December 18, 1848. She was born in Goshen, Ind., September 25, 1830. One daughter, Harriet Fidelia, was born to them March 5, 1850, and died March 16, 1851. The mother died of puerperal fever, when the child was but three weeks old. December 7, 1851, Mr. Jones married Hannah Whittecar. To them were born Olive, February 2, 1853; Elias, April 27, 1854; Lydia, December 27, 1857; Laura Ann, April 26, 1863; and Nancy, February 26, 1866. Olive W. died September 29, 1854; Laura A., August 17, 1864; Lydia Alice, December 15, 1865; and Nancy, June 6, 1875. Mr. Jones has but two sisters living. His first schooling was at a private residence at Wolf Lake, by one Miss Stevens. With the exception of one year, since he came to the State, he has passed his days within its borders. The only son of Mr. Jones, Elias S., is at this time Professor of Penmanship of the Normal School at Columbia City, Ind. He has been selected to take charge of the penmanship branch of the select school at South Whitley, Ind. He is a teacher by profession, and has taught in Noble, Elkhart, and Kosciusko Counties.

JOHN P. KITT was born in Clark County, Ohio, August 14, 1825, and spent his boyhood on a farm until the age of eighteen years. He then served three years' apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade in Springfield, after which, he resumed farming. In consequence of poor health, he has spent a portion of his time teaching school—one term in Springfield, Ohio, and one in this township. He was married to Elizabeth Hively January 6, 1853. They have had ten children, seven of whom are living. He arrived at Wolf Lake with his father's family October 22, 1846. In January following, his father purchased a farm

in Section 23, on which he (J. P.) now resides. He has been a successful man, and is comfortably situated. His father died at the age of eighty-four, and his mother at sixty-four years. The subject of our sketch and his brother Nicholas are all that are left of his father's family. He is a member of the Christian Church. He embraced religion at the age of twenty, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church at Springfield, Ohio, and has never been intoxicated, nor uttered a blasphemous oath during his life.

WILLIAM KNEPPER was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, March 1, 1824. Lived in Richland County, Ohio, till about the age of twenty-three. He was married to Miss Susannah Formwalt, in Galion, Ohio, in 1851. She died in November, 1862. Four girls, all living, were born from this marriage. In 1863, he married Miss Mary Billman, who only lived about two years. He has one child by this marriage. Having a family of small children, he was prompted for their good to marry again. In 1865, he married Mary North, who has borne him four children, all now living. Mr. Knepper came to this county in 1854, and worked at carpentering in Albion about two years. He then moved on the line of the Air Line Railroad, bought the first lot sold in Wawaka, and built the first three or four houses there. He remained in the village about two years, then bought land adjacent, and cleared up a farm. In the spring of 1879, he moved to where he now lives, in Section 35, southwest of Noblesville, on the Columbia City road. He has been successful in life, and has his property clear of incumbrance.

SAMUEL KUHN was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, July 12, 1818. His parents moved to Fairfield County during the latter part of the same year, where he passed his boyhood, and received his schooling, which was limited to a term of three months. At the age of twenty-one, he came into Whitley County, Ind., and settled near the north line, in Thorn Creek Township. He learned the trade of blacksmith in Ohio, and about two years after he came to Indiana he started a shop and commenced work. This was quite an advantage to him, as it brought in ready cash. He married Miss Martha Ann James, daughter of John and Margaret James, of York Township, October 6, 1850. Mrs. Kuhns died on the last day of March, 1876, after a lingering illness of about four years. He has raised a family of three children, with one of whom he now lives on the homestead, Mr. Kuhns still retaining his physical and mental vigor, notwithstanding the vast amount of hard labor he has performed.

JOHN MAYFIELD (deceased) was one of the early settlers, having come to the county in 1839. He was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., July 12, 1809. Rheuama, his wife, was born in Ohio, January 14, 1815. John Mayfield came into Ohio with his parents in the year 1815, and was married December 23, 1832. His family numbered eighteen children, six of whom are living. Jonah E., the eldest, now living on his farm, southeast of Wolf Lake, was born February 17, 1834. James B., the youngest, was born February 2, 1857. The names of the other living children are Sarah, Robert, Mary Jane and Juliette. Robert owns a farm south of Wolf Lake. He is infirm, and has taught school a portion of his time. He and Jonah E., his brother, took great pains to show the writer of this sketch the great changes that have taken place in the vicinity of their homes since they were boys. One place where they once hauled marsh hay on a sled is now grown over with oak trees sixty feet high and at least sixteen inches in diameter. At the time they hauled the hay there was not a stick of timber there large enough for an ox-gad. Jonah E. Mayfield was married to Matilda Grimes, April 26,



1863. He has four children living, and owns 265 acres of land. Mother Mayfield is living on the farm near the place where their first log cabin was erected in February, 1839. She knows something of life here in early times, having undergone many hardships; yet she is in the enjoyment of good health. When they first settled in this county they had to go to Niles, Mich., for salt, and have paid for one barrel two spring calves and eight bushels of wheat. Milch cows, good ones for those days, sold at \$8, and dressed pork brought in market \$1.25 per hundred.

ABRAHAM OTT was born in Preble County, Ohio, January 6, 1816. His father, John Ott, was a soldier in the war of 1812. His brother, Frederick Ott, having been drafted, he volunteered to go as his substitute, and served out his brother's time; was then himself drafted and served another term, or until the close of the war. The subject of this sketch was married to Miss Sarah Morgan November 29, 1838. She was born in England, Sussex County, July 10, 1818. She came with her parents to America in her infancy, and grew up to maturity near the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. Her father, Mr. Morgan, emigrated to Oregon Territory in the year 1843. He afterward died there, at the age of eighty-four years. Her mother had previously died near Cincinnati, Ohio, about the year 1825. Mr. Ott and his family suffered much from sickness after coming to this county. For six years some one or more of the family were down sick. At one time, on a very dark, stormy night, in order to get a person to go for a doctor, she had to follow a wagon track that led past a neighbor's house, by getting on her knees and feeling for it. There were no roads; only tracks cleared out through the woods, by cutting away a part of the underbrush. Such, and many other similar hardships were experienced. Mr. and Mrs. Ott are members of the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Ott is a Republican. He has a fine farm and pleasant surroundings, one mile and a half west of Noblesville.

ANTHONY PINCHON was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 11, 1831. He came to this State in 1845, and settled in De Kalb County; moved into Noble County in 1865; remained in the vicinity of Wawaka till 1879, when he came to his present farm. June 10, 1865, he married Miss Mary Ann Deckman, of Steuben County, born in Philadelphia, Penn. Mr. Pinchon's father was a Marylander, born in 1802 and died in 1873. His mother yet survives. His family consists of nine children living. He was not himself a soldier in the late war, but sent a substitute at a cost of \$800. He has, like many of the early settlers, done a great amount of hard labor in his time. He helped his father clear up three farms from the wild, and has cleared one for himself. He claims that in twelve years he cleared 400 acres of heavy timbered land. For a part he received \$1.12, for some \$2.50 and \$5.00. He has been in the grain threshing business the last twenty-four years. Mr. Pinchon's farm is situated three and a half miles south of Wolf Lake, and is good land. He is just becoming situated to enjoy life.

ELI RIVIR was born in Bedford County, Penn., April 12, 1845. He came to this county with his parents when but a child. He was married to Miss Juliann Hosler, March 25, 1866. Miss Hosler was born in Morrow County, Ohio, August 9, 1843. They now have five children living. Mr. Rivir moved to where he now lives soon after his marriage. He has now one of the finest farms in Noble Township, consisting of 202 acres of excellent land, two miles north of Noblesville. Everything about the farm indicates thrift and good management. He enlisted as a soldier in the late war, but his release was



secured by his father on account of under age. Mr. and Mrs. Rivir are members of the Christian Church. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN RIVIR was born on New Year's Day of 1809, in Bedford County, Penn. His wife, Nancy (Stoner) Rivir, was born October 26, 1810, in Lancaster, Penn. Mr. Rivir came to this county in 1845, when he had but \$18, with a large family to support. He put in a crop of corn the next spring; the next fall, while engaged in putting in wheat, he was taken sick and confined to his bed six months. At one time the entire family, excepting Mrs. Rivir and one boy, were down sick, but they were assisted by the neighbors through the winter. In 1855, Mr. Rivir bought eighty acres of land in Green Township. He commenced there in the timber; his family were again taken sick. While rolling together the logs for a clearing, he was so weak he could not walk; but to assist the boys, he would ride a horse, and the boys would hitch to the logs and do the other necessary work. In 1861, he sold his farm with a purpose to emigrate to Kansas, or Missouri, but the war coming on he changed his plans, and bought the land where he now lives. In 1861, on the day that his son Christian Rivir was married, he met with an accident that has rendered him unable to work. While at the mill at Port Mitchell, he was thrown out of the wagon, and received injuries which came near resulting fatally. Mr. Rivir lost three sons in the army—John, Jacob and David. John was starved in Libby Prison. The fourth son enlisted, but was under age and released. Mr. Rivir is a Republican, and a leading member of the Christian Church.

MARCELLUS ROBINSON was born in Elkhart County, Ind., October 16, 1852. Studied for the profession of medicine, first with his father, and afterward with Dr. John Phosdick, Dowagiac, Mich. He commenced practice at Bangor, Van Buren County, Mich. He established himself at Wolf Lake, Ind., April, 1880, since which time he has built up quite an extensive and successful business in his profession. He was married to Miss Mary McClarren in May, 1879. She was born in South Bend, Ind. The elder Dr. Robinson has been a successful practitioner in Elkhart County for thirty years.

LUCRETIA STARKEY, whose maiden name was Mullin, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1814, and grew to maturity in Licking County. She was married to Frederick E. Starkey August 6, 1837. They lived happily till the 16th day of August, 1864, when he died, leaving three children at home, all large enough to be of assistance. She has managed the affairs of the estate, and has overseen the farm so judiciously that the settlement of the affairs was left to her, and not taken into court. She came into this county with her husband in the year 1839, and has made this her home ever since. They had nothing when they started here, but she now has a pleasant home on the Leesburg road, two miles west of Wolf Lake. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for more than forty-five years. In Mr. Starkey's log cabin, the Methodists held their first meetings in this township, and the first Methodist Episcopal Church was organized there. Although past sixty-seven years of age, Mrs. Starkey has but few gray hairs, and gives fair promise of a continuation of life for several years.

JAMES C. STEWART, an active farmer and stock-raiser, residing one and one-half miles east of Wolf Lake, on the Fort Wayne & Goshen road, is the son of Rolan and Nancy (Scarlett) Stewart, who were natives of Massachusetts, but were married in Clark County, Ohio, from whence they went to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where James C. was born January 17, 1829. When he was about six months old, they returned to Clark County, farming there

until 1836, then removed to this county, settling in Green Township. Upon this journey young James, then only in his eighth year, walked the whole distance, and assisted in driving the stock. The following year the father died. Mrs. Stewart, being left with the care of the family, moved to Noble Township, where she died in 1844, leaving four children, two having previously died. James C., after his father's death, went to live with his grandparents, Newman and Tamar (Fitz) Scarlett, on the farm where he now lives, they having settled here in 1836. In 1838, his grandfather died, but he continued to live with his grandmother until his marriage with Miss Margaret J. McWilliams in May, 1852, when they went to housekeeping on his present farm. At the death of his grandmother, he inherited from her sixty five acres of land. To this, by close application to his affairs and judicious management, seconded by his wife in her economical conduct of the household duties, Mr. Stewart has added, until he owns 460 acres, 200 of which are under good cultivation. Upon this farm he has a fine brick residence and other buildings of a needful character. Mr. Stewart is the true type of a self-made man and a valuable citizen. He has served as Constable, Assessor, and as Justice of the Peace for fifteen years. In 1865, a vacancy occurred in the office of Commissioner; Mr. Stewart was appointed to fill the vacancy; at the ensuing election he was elected to the office, but resigned the following spring. During his continuance in this position, a 3 per cent tax was levied to pay off the indebtedness of the county accruing during the war, for the payment of bounties and the maintenance of soldiers' families. This levy was warmly espoused by Mr. Stewart. In 1870, he was elected County Auditor, and re-elected in 1874, serving in all eight years. During the last two years of his office he maintained a telephone, connecting with his residence on his farm, thus enabling him to communicate with his family and direct the management of the farm. Its cost of erection was \$200, and is still open to use. This enterprise denotes the spirit of the man, stamping him as self-reliant and aggressive in business, as well as being a representative in public affairs. He is a member of the Masonic order. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have two children living—Virgil A. and Mary J.

PETER SURFUS is a native of this State. Born near the city of La Fayette in 1836. His parents moved into De Kalb County the following January. He has lived in this township fifteen years. He moved to the State of Iowa in 1856, where he stayed three and a half years, then returned to this State, where he has since been content to remain. He now lives on a farm of 120 acres, three-fourths of a mile north of Wolf Lake. Mr. Surfus has made grain threshing his business a portion of the time every year for twenty-seven years. On the last day of August, 1856, he married Miss Lorinda Bodine, whose parents were originally from Pennsylvania, but moved into Ohio at an early day. Her mother is now living in this State in the seventy-seventh year of her age. Mr. Surfus descends from a very hardy ancestry, noted for their longevity. The following are the names of their children: Eventus Leroy, William D., Alice Jane, Myrta Matilda. Two children are dead. Eventus and Alice are married. Alice married George H. Herrick. The grandfather of Mr. Surfus, on his father's side, was a soldier of the Revolution, and was with Gen. Wayne on his campaign against the Indians in Ohio and Indiana.

WILLIAM S. THOMAS was born in Hancock County, Ohio, November 18, 1841. Spent most of his boyhood in Allen County, Ind. He has a common-school education, and he and Mrs. Thomas were both teachers before

their marriage. Mrs. Thomas' maiden name was Lavantia W. Cook. They were married March 19, 1871, and came to where they now live soon after. Mr. Thomas owns a nice little farm of eighty acres with good buildings and pleasant surroundings. He has but one child, a boy. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have accumulated what they possess since they started together in life.

FRANCIS M. WEIRICH was born in Richland County, Ohio, April 29, 1853. His father's family emigrated to this county in the fall of 1854, and settled in Green Township. His father, Franklin Weirich, was suffocated by "damps" while digging a well for George Shambaugh, assisted by William Applegate. He sacrificed his own life in an attempt to save that of Applegate. Applegate first went into the well and was overcome by the gas. Mr. Weirich went to his assistance, but soon made signs to be hoisted out. As he neared the top, he was entirely overcome and dropped back into the well. Both men were dead when taken out. Coffins were ordered from Wolf Lake, but on account of high waters they could not be brought over. The two men were buried in rough boxes improvised for the occasion. The widow Weirich married again to William McDonald in 1857. Francis M. stayed with them and worked on the farm until the age of twenty-one. In January, 1875, he engaged in the mercantile business at Noblesville, and remained in that business up to 1881. He was married to Catharine H. Hosler December 31, 1876. Venus Minelva and Orestes Fairrel are the names of their children. Mr. Weirich was elected Justice of the Peace in 1878, and still holds the office, to the general satisfaction of the public.

REV. PETER WINEBRENNER, of the Christian Church, near Noblesville, Ind., was born in Liberty, Montgomery Co., Ohio, October 6, 1826, and moved into this county in the year 1837. He received a common-school education, and special tutorage from David Sanford, and from Jonathan Elliott. Elder Winebrenner is a self-educated man, having acquired his learning by close application and hard study. He taught until he entered the ministry in 1857. He has mastered the German and Greek languages, and partially mastered the Latin. By invitation, he has preached in the cities of Philadelphia and Brooklyn, also in Canada. He spoke at the dedication of the School of the Prophets, an institution for the education of ministers at Stanfordville, N. Y.; he also preached at the quadrennial conference at Oshawa, Canada West, in 1869. He held a discussion with an Advent preacher by the name of Comstock, at Nelson, Cloud Co., Kan., in 1879. The result was the establishing of a Christian Church at that place. Subjects of discussion, "Resolved, that the Kingdom of heaven is set up on earth." Affirmed by Winebrenner. "Resolved, that the Scriptures teach that the soul of man is unconscious after death." Affirmed by Comstock. He visited Iowa to discuss in connection with Elder Abbott, but his opponents abandoned the field, and no discussion was held. He was married to Miss Mary Kitt January 21, 1849; two children were born to them. The wife died January 27, 1858. He was married to his present wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Weade, in October, 1858. Three children from this marriage living at home. Besides the church here, he has had the following charges: Clear Creek, Huntington County; Murray Church, Wells County; Union Church, Whitley County; Argos Church, Marshall County, and he has preached to three churches besides his own in this county. The fine new church building just completed was dedicated August 21, 1881. Mr. W. has been Secretary of the Conference since 1869.

DAVID S. WINEBRENNER was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, January 10, 1834. He came with his parents to this State when he was but a child. His education was very limited. He was married to Miss Juliann Ott March 31, 1859. She was born January 10, 1841. Their family consists of Edward, Alice and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Winebrenner are members of the Christian Church near Merriam, in the faith of which they purpose to live out their allotted time, and sincerely recommend to their children that they follow the example of their parents in this particular. Their farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres in good cultivation, about two miles southwest of Noblesville.

JAMES WINEBRENNER is a native of Pennsylvania, born near Harrisburg, June 4, 1845. His father emigrated to Noble County in 1847, and settled near Noblesville. His schooling has been very limited. He was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade in 1867, and follows that business at this writing. He is the foremost smith in the township, and his shop is a model of order and neatness. He was married to Miss Jane Coutts in 1866. Mr. Winebrenner enlisted in the Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry in 1863, and served during the rest of the war. He was in the Atlanta campaign, and participated in the battle of Resaca and several severe skirmishes. As a forager he was a success, as Gen. Logan can testify. He foraged for the General's headquarters eight months. At one time, on the last campaign of Sherman, he barely escaped capture, having run onto a party of "Johnnys" as they were about to take dinner. He was with Sherman's army in the celebrated march to the sea, at the capture of Savannah, and present at Gen. Johnston's capitulation; also witnessed the burning of Columbia, S. C., and was at the grand review in Washington. He had an army experience of which to-day he is not ashamed.

CARLOS R. WILEY is a native of Vermont, born in Rochester, Windsor County. One of his grandfathers was from Ireland, and the grandmother from Scotland. When he was but one year old, his father moved into Huron County, Ohio, near Norwalk. In March, 1837, they moved into Noble County and settled in Washington Township. He was raised on a farm until the age of twenty-one. His education was limited to the common school of that period. He was married to Rosena Barnhart in 1858. His family consists of Charles E., Fanny A. and Nancy, living. He engaged in the mercantile business at Wolf Lake in 1866; has been successful and continues in the business at this writing. In war time—1864—he stood the draft like a man. He is one of Noble County's stanch business men.

LEVI ZUMBRUN was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, October 7, 1840. His parents moved to the State of Indiana when he was but thirteen years of age. They settled in Thorn Creek Township, Whitley County. At the call for one-hundred-day men, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Infantry, Company "K;" was discharged September 29 following. Again, at the call for one-year men, he enlisted in Company "G," One Hundred and Forty-second Indiana Volunteers. He served out his enlistment at Nashville, Tenn., and witnessed the battle of Nashville and the defeat of Hood's army. He was discharged July 14, 1865. After his discharge, he returned to civil pursuits and has been a successful farmer. He owns a farm in the southern part of Noble Township, which is in a high state of cultivation, and is being further improved by a system of underdraining, which he has carried well on to completion. October 30, 1870, he married Miss Hannah Huff. She was born April 2, 1850, in Elkhart Township, this county. Her parents came



from Ohio. She is quite a reader. Her library is stocked with works of travel, biography, history and fiction, Webster's Unabridged being conspicuous amongst the others. Matters within and about the house wear a pleasing appearance of refinement and culture.

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### YORK TOWNSHIP.

JACOB BEARD was born in Columbiana, afterward Mahoning County, Ohio. His father, Christopher H. Beard, was born in Wittenberg, Germany, October 1, 1779. He came to America in 1817, lived in Pennsylvania two years, then went to Columbiana County, Ohio, and located. He died there November 20, 1862. His mother, Christina Beard, was born in Wittenberg, Germany, August 20, 1786. She died in Mahoning County, Ohio, May 4, 1860. Jacob Beard was married to Miss Nancy Elser in Mahoning County, Ohio, April 4, 1858. She was born August 4, 1834. The following are their children: Samuel Monroe, born September 17, 1859; Alfin Elisha, born January 19, 1861; Wilson Henry, born September 22, 1863; all in Mahoning County, Ohio. Alfin Elisha died September 29, 1862. Mr. Beard moved to this county May 5, 1865, and located on the farm where he now resides, about three miles south of Albion. He has a well-improved farm of 120 acres.

JOHN E. BENDER was born in Chester County, Penn., March 4, 1815, where he resided till twenty-one years of age. He was born of poor parents. His mother died when he was four and his father when he was seven years of age. He was bound to Samuel McClintock to serve till seventeen years of age. He faithfully served out his time, and received a suit of ragged clothes for ten years of hard work, and received no schooling whatever. He then commenced work on a salary. In about a year, his employer failed, and John came out in debt. He hired again to other parties, and worked four years, receiving \$8 a month. In March, 1836, he married Rachel Young, and soon after emigrated and settled at Massillon, Stark Co., Ohio. He lived here until the spring of 1868, then came to Noble County and bought land where he now resides, on Section 29, York Township, five miles from Albion. Mr. Bender has been four times married. His present wife was residing in the city of Atlanta, Ga., when it was taken by Gen. Sherman's army in 1864. Her maiden name was Evaline Wright. Mr. Bender is an honorable and upright man. What he possesses he came by honestly and no mortgage hangs over his estate.

ELISHA BLACKMAN, son of Judge Elisha Blackman, was born in York Township, Noble County, October 29, 1838, and has since made that place his home. His father, Judge Elisha Blackman, was born near Wilkesbarre, Penn., August 1, 1801. His grandfather, Elisha Blackman, was born April 4, 1760, and his great-grandfather, Elisha Blackman, was born in 1717. The grandfather and great-grandfather were at the famous battle of Wyoming, Penn., July 3, 1778, and escaped the massacre. The great-grandfather died at Wilkesbarre in 1804. He married Lucy Powell. Grandfather Blackman married Anna Hulburt, and Father Elisha Blackman married Amy Rollin. He died February 29, 1872. Mother Blackman died May 15, 1860. Elisha Blackman, the subject of this sketch, married Miss Mary A. Spangle December 1, 1859. The children are Clara C., Mary Alice and Elisha R., living, and Adella, Lillie and Weller dead. Mary A. Spangle was born March 21,

1840. Her father, Jacob Spangle, died August 15, 1868. Her mother, Sarah Spangle, died in June, 1875. Judge Elisha Blackman was a pioneer of this county, having located in York Township in the year 1834. He was many years Justice of the Peace, and held the offices of Trustee and Township Clerk several terms. He was Associate Judge of Noble County on the bench with Judge Latta.

SYLVESTER BLACKMAN is a native of York Township, Noble County, Ind., born October 6, 1842. His parents were among the first settlers of the county. He was reared to work on a farm, his education, of course, limited. He enlisted in the Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry December 24, 1863. He joined his regiment at Scottsboro, Ala., in February, 1864; was with Sherman's army in its famous march to the sea and through the Carolinas. He witnessed the burning of the city of Columbia, S. C., and drank some of Wade Hampton's old wine (but kept sober). He was with the army till the collapse of the rebellion, and in the grand review at Washington. He was mustered out at Indianapolis July 25, 1865; returned to civil life, and is now living on his farm. October 29, 1868, he married Miss Mary Jane Burns; she was born in Michigan September 2, 1847. Her father came from Ireland, and her mother from the State of New York. In politics, he is a Republican.

JOHN BOWMAN was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, May 3, 1810; was a son of John J. Bowman. His grandfather was Philip Bowman, the son of David Bowman, who emigrated from Wittenberg, Germany, A. D. 1753. The mother of John Bowman was Charlotte Bowman, who died June 15, 1847, in the sixtieth year of her age. She was the daughter of Rev. John and Elizabeth Stough. Elizabeth Stough was the daughter of Conrad Hogmire. John Bowman was reared on his father's farm until he arrived at the age of seventeen years. He then served a three-years' apprenticeship at the tanning business with one Abraham Croft, in Canton, Ohio. He then returned to Columbiana County and started a tannery four miles west of New Lisbon. November 13, 1831, he married Miss Mary Mason, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, December 29, 1812; she was the daughter of Charles Mason, son of Martin and Elizabeth (Watt) Mason. The mother of Mary H. Bowman was Mary, daughter of Christopher and Catharine (Mong) Horn. The grandmother of John Bowman on his father's side was Catharine, daughter of Nicholas and Catharine, (Turner) Fast. John Bowman continued in the tanning business until 1838, when he sold out and turned westward. He moved in wagons and arrived in Noble County March 1, 1838. He located on the land where he now lives, which he commenced clearing. His family suffered much from sickness during the first year. The following is their family record: Jonas, born in Columbiana County, Ohio, October 7, 1832; Lycurgus, in Columbiana County, Ohio, February 19, 1836; Mary Olive, in this county January 23, 1841; Elizabeth, in this county September 13, 1846. All are now living and married. The father and mother, on the 13th of November, 1881, celebrated their golden wedding. The grandfather of Mrs. Bowman, Martin Mason, was many years a captive amongst the Indians. He was captured east of Fort Du Quesne about the time of Braddock's defeat. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman are of ancestry who are noted for their longevity, ranging on both sides into the nineties. They have long been members of the Church of God. They live on the old homestead three miles southwest of Albion in Section 27. Mr. Bowman has a grove of fine bearing chestnut trees, which proves that that timber can be successfully cultivated in this soil. One tree that sprung from a seed that grew on a tree of his first planting is bearing bountifully.

JONAS BOWMAN was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, October 7, 1832; came to Noble County in 1838, since which time he has lived in York Township. His education was limited to the common school of the times. He married Miss Rachel M. Foot March 11, 1860, and commenced housekeeping on the farm where he now resides, about three miles north of Wolf Lake, on Section 29. Mrs. Bowman was born in Malone, Franklin Co., N. Y., May 23, 1831. Jonas Bowman is a son of John Bowman, and belonged to the organization known as the Regulators, for the suppression of lawlessness and crime. During the war, he was a member of the Home Guards. Mr. Bowman may be said to be a very peaceable man. During his entire life, he has had neither a fight nor a law-suit. He is a member of the order of F. & A. M., and a Republican.

JACOB A. BUTZ, deceased, was a native of Europe. He crossed the waters in 1860, and came to Indiana, locating in York Township, where he bought forty acres of land. This he afterward sold, and made another purchase of eighty acres, subsequently adding sixty acres more. In 1862, he married Elizabeth Brown, whose parents were natives of Pennsylvania; her father, of Lancaster County, who came to Indiana in 1852, locating in this county, where he remained until his death. The mother's maiden name was Berkholder. Mr. and Mrs. Butz were both members of the Methodist Church. He died May 28, 1878, leaving Mrs. Butz a widow, with three children—Eliza Jane, Angeline and Etta. They are all living, at the present writing, on the home farm.

GEORGE W. CONRAD is a native of Pennsylvania, born May 6, 1835; his wife, Esther (Burns) Conrad, was born in Elkhart County, Ind., December 22, 1838. He passed his boyhood in Elkhart County, his father having come to this State in 1841. He was married December 28, 1856. His father and mother were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in the year 1793. At the age of eleven years, George W. was bound out to one David Rodibaugh, of Jackson Township, Elkhart County. He served four years of his time, and could not stand the ill treatment he received, and left him. Rodibaugh would not allow him to take even his ragged clothes with him. He worked summers, and went to school occasionally during the winters, until he arrived at the age of twenty. He then went to learn the blacksmith's trade at Waterford, Elkhart County. In partnership with John Burns, his father-in-law, he bought land in the woods. Here he lived twenty-four years, when he moved to where he now lives, about two miles northwest of Wolf Lake, on a farm of 310 acres, well improved, with good buildings. He is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

DAVID DEPEW came to Allen County, Ind., with his parents, from Ohio (his native State) in 1837. Here and in De Kalb County his boyhood days were passed; the county being new and but sparsely settled, his experiences were of a rugged nature. His mother's last days were spent in Allen County, where she died, and the father in De Kalb County. David purchased his first land in the latter county; this he sold, and subsequently bought eighty acres of unimproved land in Noble County. Upon the latter he placed the improvements, doing nearly all the work himself. This farm Mr. Depew sold, and, in 1881, he purchased 160 acres, where he lives, on Section 4. It is improved land, well located for market facilities, with a fine brick residence and other buildings requisite for the demands. His wife, Olive (Cook) Depew, is a native of Indiana. Her parents came from the State of New York (their place of nativity) to Ohio, and from there to Indiana, where they died. Six children

have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Depew, viz.: Hezekiah, Alson, Mary A. (since deceased), Edward, Isaiah and Samuel (deceased). Mr. Depew is one of those stirring, thoroughgoing men, whose presence is valuable to the community in which he lives.

JAMES K. DINGMAN was born in Green Township, Noble County, Ind., August 13, 1847. His father, Adam Dingman, was born near Sydney, Shelby Co., Ohio; he died in Noble County, Ind., in 1876; his mother, Mary Dingman, died February 26, 1880; she was born in Ohio January 6, 1823. Adam and Mary Dingman were married January 31, 1840. They came to Allen County, Ind., in 1832, and to Noble County in 1835. They experienced all the hardships of frontier life. They had nine children. James K. was reared on the farm. January 29, 1868, he was married to Miss Electa Altman, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, February 24, 1852. Her father, John M. Altman, was born November 17, 1827; her mother, Elizabeth Ann Altman, was born August 30, 1834, near Baltimore, Md. Mr. Dingman is a prosperous farmer, living three miles south of Albion in Section 26.

PETER ELSER was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, March 25, 1828. He was one of ten children in the family of George and Mary (Raab) Elser, the former a farmer and native of York County, Penn., and the latter of Ohio. George Elser's parents were George and Catharine Elser, both natives of Pennsylvania, and his father was a wheelwright. Peter Elser spent his boyhood in Ohio. In 1855, he came to Indiana, Huntington County, and thence to Noble County, where he purchased 130 acres of partially improved land, now wholly improved and cultivated. His father is still living, and is eighty-two years of age. The children, six of whom are living, are Catharine, Elizabeth, Nancy, Eli, Rebecca, Sophia; and those deceased, Henry, Sarah and Samuel. Our subject was married April, 1850, to Susan Coblenz, of Ohio, who died in December, 1856, and Mr. Elser, in 1858, married Miss J. Whittaker, a native of Pennsylvania. Their children are Wilson (who resides in York Township), Marcus (who is in Montana Territory), Sarah A., Emma J., Mary E., George W. and Elmer, all living at home. Mr. Elser has served the public in numerous trustworthy offices. While in Huntington County, he was Assessor for one term and Trustee for the same period. In this county he has also rendered his services as Assessor, and served three years as Township Trustee. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and although a carpenter by trade, devotes the major part of his time to farming.

JOHN C. FOOT is a native of Vermont, as were also his parents, and came with them to Ohio. They resided there a number of years, then came to Indiana, and in 1854 located on land, unimproved, in this county, York Township, Section 15. The father, a miller by trade, was engaged with his son in clearing the land, which is now one of the best improved farms in the township. The father died in Indiana, and the mother is living with the subject on his farm. Mr. Foot now owns 155 acres of land; has a fine orchard, good buildings, etc. He married Catharine S. Crispell, a native of New York, whose parents came to Indiana at an early day, where they died. They have had five children—Frank D., Lucy M., George L. and Sarah, all at home, and Angie, deceased. Mr. Foot is an enterprising farmer, and is now serving his second term as Township Trustee, to which office he was elected in 1877.

HENRY FUNK was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 18, 1823. His grandfather, Martin Funk, came to America from Prussia prior to the Revolution. His father, Samuel Funk, was born in Bedford County, Penn.,



in 1776; he was a soldier in the war of 1812. At the close of the war, he emigrated to Ohio, and located near Wooster. Henry came to Indiana in 1846. November 7, 1850, he married Delilah Huffman; she died in 1866. They had two children—Clinton and Willard; Clinton died March 4, 1865. Mr. Funk moved to where he now resides in August, 1864. February 7, 1867, he married Catharine Heckethorn. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1836. Mr. Funk, while he lived in Whitley County, Ind., was Justice of the Peace eight years, commencing in 1855. He is now a highly esteemed citizen, living in partial retirement on his farm in Section 27.

JOSEPH W. GESAMANN is a native of Stark County, Ohio; born July 30, 1835, where he was reared on a farm. He received sufficient schooling to make him a competent teacher, and at the age of twenty-one began that calling, following it during the winter and farming summers. February 24, 1861, he married Loetta Hershey, born in Stark County, Ohio, September 6, 1843, and farmed the old homestead till the spring of 1863, when he came to this county, near Cromwell, in Sparta Township. During the summer, he erected a house on his own unimproved land in Section 16, York Township, where he moved in October. In the autumn of 1869, he moved back to Ohio, and worked in Russell's Separator Manufactory at Massillon one year, and then taught school through the winter; worked in the shops the following summer and taught school again in the winter. In the spring of 1872, he was chosen Superintendent of the Roach Institute in Massillon, remaining in charge five years. In the spring of 1877, he returned to his farm, where he now resides, having erected good buildings and made other improvements. Their children are three—Marvin H., born in Stark County, Ohio, November 13, 1861; Elmus R., in this county June 3, 1863; and Frances, in Massillon, Ohio, April 16, 1870. Mr. Gesamann's grandfather was a Hollander, and came to America and located in Westmoreland County, Penn. Jacob Gesamann, the father of Joseph, was born in Pennsylvania September 5, 1801, and died in Stark County, Ohio, May 21, 1861. He was a farmer, but worked some at wagon-making. His wife, Barbara (Reichard), and mother of Joseph, was born January 12, 1804, and died in Stark County, Ohio, July 3, 1847. Mr. Gesamann was elected Justice of the Peace in 1880, and now holds that office. He is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the United Presbyterian Church of Albion.

HON. ORLANDO KIMMELL, a wealthy farmer and ex-Representative, whose portrait, with others, graces the pages of this work, is, by a long line of ancestry, of Swedish descent, whose forefathers came to America during the early settlement of Delaware, and located on the Delaware River. His paternal grandparents, Joseph and Hannah (Weldie) Kimmell, were natives of Pennsylvania, and settled in Stark County, Ohio, in 1822; their son, Joseph Kimmell, Jr., the father of Orlando, was born in Union County, Penn., in 1802, and came to Stark County with his parents. In 1823, he engaged in fulling and carding in Canton, Ohio. In 1837, he went to Carroll County, Ohio, where he began farming, and, in the fall of 1851, came to Noble County, where he remained ten years, returning then to Stark County, where he now resides. He has been an enterprising citizen, and has filled offices of honor and trust. Orlando was born in what is now included within the limits of the city of Canton, Ohio, March 25, 1830, where he was injured to farm life, and received the benefits of common schooling. At the age of eighteen, he devoted one year to fulling and carding. He accompanied his father to this county in

the fall of 1851, and here he entered upon the stern realities of life in the possession of a pair of three-year-old colts, a rifle and \$38 in money; but the shoulder was placed to the wheel with a purpose to succeed, and though there were times when the struggle seemed to be against odds, yet, with judicious management and constant application, success crowned his efforts. In 1856, January 24, Mr. Kimmell was married to Miss Jane White, who was born in Marion County, Ohio, November 16, 1834. Her father was a Virginian, born in 1800. They have eight children living—May, Lillian, Jennie, Maud, Phella, Morton, Thaddeus and Claudius. They have lost two by death. The success attained by Mr. Kimmell is worthy of emulation. His landed estate is very valuable, and comprises over 1,000 acres in Noble County. He lives on his farm about eight miles southeast of Ligonier, on the Fort Wayne and Goshen roads, in a fine brick residence, with large barns, granaries, etc., for the convenience of farm purposes. He is the most extensive wheat-grower in the county, producing in 1879, 6,000 bushels, and in 1880, 5,000. His success in stock-raising and other departments, is also characteristic of the good management displayed. But Mr. Kimmell's accomplishments have not been confined to the accumulation of wealth; his influence has been felt for the good of the community by his participation in public affairs. As Township Trustee, he served four years, and during this time he was elected, in 1868, as County Commissioner. This office he resigned to accept the higher trust of Representative to the State Legislature, to which he was elected in 1876. He was re-nominated in 1878, but declined the proffered honor. Mr. Kimmell was one of the organizers of the County Agricultural Society; was elected President in 1877, serving three years, and was re-elected in 1882; was prime mover in establishing the Live-Stock Association, of which he served first two years as President. During the war of the rebellion, he was active in looking after the interests of those who had gone to the front, and the county's affairs. Though not a church member, Mr. Kimmell is liberal in fostering church affairs, and is active in public matters where the interests of his community can be advanced.

GEORGE H. LANE, born in Pickaway County, Ohio, October 1, 1836. His boyhood and youth were passed in this county. His education was obtained at the common school, but by dint of close application he prepared himself for teaching, and has successfully pulled through over twenty terms. He first taught in Kosciusko County during the winter of 1856-57. Meeting with marked success, he was encouraged to continue in the business, and succeeded in all the schools he ever attempted. September 10, 1865, he married Miss Mary E. Matthews. Five children are the fruits of this marriage. Mr. Lane has been Justice of the Peace eight years in succession, and declined another election. He lives in York Township, about three miles west of Albion; is a successful farmer, good citizen and neighbor; is wide-awake to the necessities and enterprises of the times, and a Republican in politics.

JOHN C. LANE was born in York Township, Noble County, October 1, 1841. His father, Vincent Lane, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 31, 1803. His mother, Sarah (Hitler) Lane, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 14, 1810. They were married December 18, 1828, and came to this county in 1837. The family consisted of eleven children. Vincent Lane died of lung fever December 17, 1849. He was a County Commissioner six years, and also held the office of County Treasurer, by appointment, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Joseph Bradford, in 1839. He was also Commissioner of the 3 per cent fund one term. John C. Lane

was married to Miss Mary E. Domer, in May, 1880. She was born in Elkhart Township, Noble County, Ind., July 8, 1844. Miss Domer has been a successful teacher in the common schools for a number of years.

**WILLIAM C. LEVERING.** The Leverings in the United States are supposed to have sprung from a family that came over from Wales before the Revolutionary war, and are consequently somewhat related. They are numerous in Central Ohio, in Richland, Knox and Morrow Counties. They are generally well-to-do farmers and good citizens. Neither drunkard nor pauper of that name was ever known. Grandfather Daniel Levering came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, in the year 1809. Daniel Levering's father was a blacksmith, and served in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. William C. Levering was born in Franklin County, Ohio, April 11, 1823. Her father, Samuel Morris, was a Virginian. She came with her parents to this county, in 1836, where they endured the privations and hardships of frontier life, Mr. Morris having carried corn for a grist on his back from Perry's Prairie to a mill one mile east of Wolf Lake. Mrs. Levering, while yet a girl, worked out at 50 cents a week. She has worked six weeks for six yards of calico, just enough to make a dress in those days. She was married to Mr. Levering October 18, 1846. Their children were Manda, Charles M. and Ellen. The latter died September 28, 1859.

**AARON MORE** was born in Ravenna, Ohio, March 17, 1809. His father, David More, was a soldier of the war of 1812, and died in Ravenna of the cold plague, while home on sick-leave. He was a blacksmith by trade. His widow married John McManis, and the children were compelled to seek homes out of the family. Mr. McManis, about 1820, moved to Darke County, Ohio, where he entered land. In about six years, he moved to Willshire, in Van Wert County, where Mr. More visited his mother, in about 1825; then he worked for Capt. Riley, who, being cast away at sea, was captured by the Arabs, and finally ransomed. In the autumn of 1830, Mr. More visited his eldest brother in Medina County; then went to Warren County, Penn., where he worked at painting. His education was picked up, little at a time, as opportunity offered. In 1837, he went down the Broken Sword, into the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, with a raft of lumber, stopping at Wheeling, Va. His step-father having died, he visited his mother at Willshire, in August, 1837. Here he took a lease of some land, and entered upon the support of his mother. He soon entered 80 acres in Adams County, Ind., to which place he moved with his mother in 1841. May 24, 1844, he married Miss Mary Ann Syphers, born in Pendleton County, Va., January 19, 1825, whose father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and her great-uncle, Gen. Everhart, was with Washington in the Revolution. Mr. More's mother died January 18, 1846. In 1853, he bought a store in Willshire, Ohio, and in connection had the post office. In March, 1854, moved to Monmouth. In July, 1858, moved with his stock of goods to Green Township, this county, thence to Cromwell in 1860. In April, 1874, he moved on his present farm, in Section 32. While in Adams County, he served as Justice of the Peace. He became a member of the F. & A. M., Wayne Lodge, No. 25, at Fort Wayne, in August, 1857, and is still a member of that order.

**NATHAN NILES** was born in Bath, Steuben County, N. Y., November 24, 1834. His parents located in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1838. In 1849, they moved to near Shelby, in Richland County. He got his education at the schools of Shelby and Oberlin, attending the latter more or less regular-

ly from 1851 to 1854. November 15, 1854, he arrived in this county, and that winter taught his first school in a log schoolhouse, 15x18, on Judge Blackman's land, receiving \$54 for sixty-six days. He went to Middlebury, Elkhart County, the next spring, and taught a select school. He then worked at the carpenter business with his uncle; in November, he came again to Noble County; the following winter he solicited insurance; in the winter of 1856 and 1857, he taught school again in the little log schoolhouse. He married Jeanette Hubbard, from Ashtabula County, Ohio, who was born November 11, 1833. In the spring of 1860, he went to farming; but, in 1877, sold out, moved to Ligonier, and engaged in the sale of hardware and agricultural implements; in about a year, he bought the farm where he now lives and moved upon it. January 10, 1878, began a ten weeks' term at the Cavin School, in Perry Township, the first teacher having resigned. Since about this time, Mr. Niles has been unable to do hard work. He lives on Section 17, York Township; is of Welsh extraction, and a Republican. His grandfather, Leonard Plants, was the last surviving soldier of the Revolution, in Licking County, Ohio. Mr. Niles was enumerator of the census for York Township in 1880.

JEFFERSON NOE is a son of Aaron and Sarah Noe, who moved from Licking County, Ohio, and located in Sparta Township, Noble County, in 1837. Aaron Noe was born near Newark, N. J., about the year 1806. His father came from France about the time Napoleon I took command of the armies of France. Jefferson Noe was born January 5, 1837, in Licking County, Ohio. Has had but a common-school education, but being ambitious and studious, has become a well-read man. He was married to Miss Mary A. Gloyd May 6, 1860. She was born in Newark, Ohio, February 6, 1836. Her parents were from Maryland. William Gloyd was born in 1812; came to Indiana in 1839; died February 27, 1863; Mother Matilda Gloyd was born in 1814. Aaron Noe was a blacksmith. He died while visiting friends in Illinois, in 1851. His remains were brought back to Ligonier and interred in the City Cemetery; a monument costing \$300 marks his resting-place. Mother Noe died August 12, 1869, and was buried beside her husband. Jefferson Noe has cleared up two farms and worked hard, and is now enjoying life in ease and plenty. The children were Jeremiah, William H., Clara Belle and George Ellsworth; the latter died at the age of fifteen months. Jefferson Noe was about five years old when his younger brother, Allen, was stolen by the Indians, and no tidings of him have ever been received; diligent search was instituted, but of no avail; his fate is yet, and may always remain, a strange, sad mystery. Mr. and Mrs. Noe are prominent members of the Christian Church.

ANDREW J. PARKS is a native of La Grange County, Ind. His mother was born in New York and his father in Ohio. His father died when Andrew was but a child and his mother remarried. After this he lived at home but a short time; went to his aunt's and lived with her some time, then spent eighteen months at Mr. Gerber's. He lived two summers with his Uncle John Roy, passing the winters in Ligonier, at his grandparents'; he next went to Brimfield, where he lived about a year, then at the age of thirteen, went to Albion, where he found a home with Mr. Bliss. At the age of seventeen, he went to live with his aunt, west of Albion, where he remained about one year, then returned to Albion. He finally married Miss Mary A. Hadley, and made himself a permanent home. She is a native of Indiana. Her parents are



Ohioans by birth, but are now living in Indiana. In 1874, Mr. Parks owned 132 acres of land, a portion of which constitutes his present farm. They have three children—Charles, Lillie and Ermina.

CYRUS POLLOCK was born in Washington Township, Richland County, Ohio, April 12, 1832. His father, Andrew Pollock, was born near Pittsburgh, Penn., about the year 1779, and came to Richland County, Ohio, in 1812. He was a soldier in the war of 1812; he came to Noble County in 1853 and died in 1857. Mother Mary (Surplus) Pollock was born in Pennsylvania, in 1800, and died in 1858. Cyrus Pollock came to this country with his father in 1853. October 18, 1856, he married Miss Susannah Earnhart. By her he had one child, Harriet. Mrs Pollock died November 5, 1859. August 12, 1860, he married Martha Jerls. By this marriage he has eight children. She was born in Miami County, Ohio, May 5, 1835. Mr. Pollock was elected Justice of the Peace in the autumn of 1870. He served three years, when he resigned to accept the office of Superintendent of the County Infirmary. He filled the office five years with satisfaction to the public. Since then, has farmed successfully. His farm consists of 120 acres in Section 8, five miles west of Albion.

JAMES ROSCO is a native of Essex County, N. Y., from whence his parents moved to Erie County, Ohio, in 1834. He is one of eight brothers and one sister, and was born September 11, 1833, to Levi and Eliza (Stockwell) Rosco. The father was born in Essex County, N. Y., June 10, 1810. The mother in Massachusetts February 14, 1812. The elder Rosco was a carpenter and joiner, from whom James learned the trade, and at which he worked until 1860. March 23, 1857, he married Miss Elsie Barr, a native of Niagara County, N. Y., born October 29, 1826. The nine years prior to going to Erie County, Ohio, in 1856, she had lived in Michigan. They have one child, Nelson, living; two having died, Arvilla and Edgar, both in the autumn of 1865. Mr. Rosco moved to Green Township, this county, in 1861, and two years later upon his present farm, which consists of 380 acres, well adapted for general farm purposes, and beautified by evergreens, of which Mr. Rosco has set out nearly 500, acting upon the principle that it is every citizen's duty to do what he can to beautify the country for the benefit of coming generations. In all respects he is an enterprising citizen, and one of the foremost in the furtherance of public interests. Largely by his influence and exertion, in connection with James C. Stewart, of Noble Township, the Port Mitchell mill-dam nuisance was abated. In politics he is a Republican, thorough and unequivocal, and a firm believer in the religion of Jesus Christ. He is a member of Albion Lodge, No. 97, F. & A. M., of Chapter No. 64, R. A. M., of Kendallville, and of Apollo Commandery, No. 19, K. T.

JAMES H. SINGREY is a native of Troy Township, Morrow County, Ohio, and was born September 18, 1831. His parents, Thomas and Catharine (Akerman) Singrey, were natives respectively of Maryland and New Jersey. His grandfather, Singrey, native of Maryland, was a noted physician and surgeon, and his grandfather Akerman was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and participated in the battles of Monmouth and Trenton. His parents came to Indiana in 1862, located in Albion, but afterward moved to Jefferson Township, where they are still living, at the advanced ages of seventy-nine and eighty-one. James H. Singrey was reared on a farm in Ohio, and came to Indiana with his parents. He purchased eighty acres of land in Elkhart Township, where he lived two years, clearing and otherwise improving the land. He

subsequently purchased a farm of eighty acres in Jefferson Township, situated on Section 17, where he still resides, and which is now one of the best farms in the township. Mr. Singrey, in 1854, married Sarah J. Herrington, a native of Pennsylvania, born December 3, 1833. Her father, John Herrington, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and a farmer. Mr. Singrey, while in Ohio, served three years as Trustee of Troy Township, and at present is Superintendent of the County Poor Farm, to which office he was elected in April, 1881, for the period of one year. They have six children, Franklin E. (now married and farming on the old home farm), Charles A., Perry J., Debby E., Cyrilla F. and Roy C. Perry J. is on the same farm with his brother Frank, and the others are all at home.

DAVID W. STARK was born in Lancaster County, Penn., February 23, 1855, and came with his parents to Indiana in 1865. His father, Abraham Stark, was born October 24, 1829. His mother, Mary Ann Stark, was born July 4, 1832. David W. Stark married Ellen E. Bower September 4, 1879. She was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, May 28, 1861. Her parents came to Indiana in the year 1870, and bought land in Section 18, York Township, six miles west of Albion, where Mr. Stark now lives. They have one child—Sophia Christina, born January 23, 1881.

JOEL VANDERFORD was born in Ross County, Ohio, November 5, 1813, where he passed his boyhood and youth. At the age of twenty-two, he packed his earthly possessions in a cotton handkerchief, and tramped to this county, where he grubbed and cut wood at 25 cents a cord and boarded himself, to make the money with which he bought the first land he ever owned—the eighty acres on which the fine buildings of Orlando Kimmell now stand. In the summer of 1836, Mr. Vanderford and John Male felled the timber, cut and split 40,000 fence rails. They also laid up a portion of them into fences. March 23, 1837, he married Miss Emeline Bull. She was born in Perry County, Penn., February 23, 1815. Their housekeeping outfit was a board laid on the flour barrel for a table, half a dozen plates, half a dozen knives and forks, one kettle, a teakettle and a skillet. For a cupboard, he put clapboards on wooden pins in the wall. They had one good bed and a bedstead; for the extra bed he put a long and a shorter pole into holes in the logs and put on clapboards for the tick to lie on. They had two chairs with splint bottoms and two without bottoms. Mr. Vanderford grubbed for Joel Smith until he accumulated \$2.50, with which he purchased two bushels of wheat, had it ground and took it home. It proved to be worthless and made him sick, so he went to John G. Hall, who had a mill one mile east of Wolf Lake, and bargained with him for a bushel of corn meal. He was to bring his yoke of oxen and log one day for the meal. When night came, the miller could scrape together but a half bushel. This necessitated coming to the mill again. As he lived four miles from the mill, he had to drive his ox team sixteen miles and do a hard day's logging for one bushel of corn meal. In 1852, Mr. Vanderford went to California and then to Oregon, and traveled over near its entire extent. While there he split three thousand rails. He was absent three years, and returned in 1855, touching at Havana and Key West. While on the Pacific Ocean, he barely escaped being lost in a storm, but he has weathered it all, and is now a hale and hearty man, surrounded by all that tends to make life enjoyable. He owns 317 acres of good land. His residence is on Section 29, six miles west of Albion. The following children are living: Sarah Ann, Elizana, Richard Clark, Mary and William C. Two are dead—Nancy Jane and John Fremont. Two of his

sons were in the army—Richard Clark and William C. Richard C. received five wounds, two of which were severe. One son, John F., was drowned in the lake at Chicago. Mr. V. is a Republican, and a member of the Church of God. He was on the first grand jury impaneled in this county.

JOHN WALKER is a substantial farmer in York Township, where he owns nearly 300 acres of land, with a considerable portion under cultivation, and with improvements in the way of buildings, fences, hedges, orchards, etc., that characterize the whole as the result of efficient management. The 185 rods of fine grown, well-cared-for hedge that surrounds some of the fields is a feature that lends to the beauty and adds to the value of this farm. The soil is productive, and yields bountiful harvests. In 1879, 1,600 bushels of wheat were taken from its fields, and it yearly produces from thirty to forty tons of hay. Other crops are harvested in goodly quantities. The farm is in Sections 1 and 2, and the land—or a portion of it—was entered in 1837 by Mr. Walker's father, Christopher, who was born October 21, 1787. His wife, Mary (Magdelain), and mother of John, was born December 15, 1793; they were natives of Pennsylvania, but removed to Richland County, Ohio, where they remained until their death; the father September 26, 1872, and the mother June 11, 1877. They had eleven children, ten of whom are living: Mrs. Mary Acton, in Wayne Township; Henry, in Elkhart Township; Ephraim, in Morrow County, Ohio; John, the subject; Mrs. Sarah Thompson, in Wayne Township; Gabriel; Israel, in Elkhart Township; Gideon, in Swan Township; Mrs. Susan Denlan, in Knox County, Ohio; Mrs. Elvina Hoffman, wife of John Hoffman, of Jefferson Township; and William, deceased. John Walker was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 21, 1821, where he learned the trade of blacksmithing of his father; this he followed, together with farming, until May, 1849, when he came to this county, locating where he now resides. Here, his time has been given principally to the cultivation of the soil, although he has worked some at his trade. March 25, 1845, he was married to Miss Miriam Cook, also a native of Richland County, Ohio, born November 10, 1824. She is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Walker has erected a fine brick residence in Albion, into which he intends to move in 1882, and live in retirement, and in the enjoyment of the fruits of honest toil. He is a much-respected and highly-honored citizen, and has served his township as Trustee. He has an aunt by marriage—Sarah Stilwell—who will be 100 years old in March, 1882, and who is still quite active for one so aged.

ZENAS J. WRIGHT, a native of Massachusetts, was born November 12, 1817. His parents, Zenas and Nancy (Willis) Wright, were both natives of Massachusetts, and his grandfather, Elisha Wright, was a farmer of the same nativity. Zenas Wright's early youth was passed in New York until 1836, when with his parents he came to York Township, Ind., and located at "Wright's Corners." Here he lived until 1841, when he married Mary Ann Arnold, and purchased eighty acres of his present farm in Perry Township, making subsequent additions until it now numbers 280 acres, and is in a good state of cultivation. They have nine children—Silas J., now on the old farm; William W., who resides in Iowa; Zenas M., in Iowa; Isaac A., on the old farm; Christa, in Nebraska; Adoniram J., in Iowa; and Elsie J., Emma and Minnie at home. Mrs. Wright died April 4, 1881. She was a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Wright is a member of the same church, and served for eight successive years as Township Trustee, and has efficiently served four years as Justice of the Peace.

**GREEN TOWNSHIP.**

**JAMES M. APPEGATE** (deceased), was a native of Richland County, Ohio, born October 23, 1829, a son of Isaac and Sarah (Davis) Applegate, and one of five children. At the age of twenty, he came to Indiana with his brother to teach school, commencing in Green Township, and following this calling through eleven winters in his neighborhood, where he won many friends, being temperate and an exemplary citizen. He was a Republican, and held several township offices. While serving in the army, he contracted sickness, which resulted in his death, January 19, 1879. May 4, 1851, Mr. Applegate was married to Miss Sophronia Gray, the daughter of Samuel and Ruth (Leech) Gray. She was born in Knox County, Ohio, February 17, 1831, and came to Noble County with her parents in 1835, and assisted at the spinning wheel and other domestic duties. She received the common education of her girlhood days. Mr. and Mrs. Applegate were favored by the birth of seven children—Orlando (deceased), Manuel J., Harvey (deceased), Laura J. (now the wife of O. Fulk), Florence, Clara G. and Firmer. Mrs. Applegate is still living on the old farm, consisting of 158 acres, and has the esteem and respect of a large circle of friends.

**W. C. ARTHUR** was born in Huron County, Ohio, March 25, 1828. At the age of eight years he was left an orphan, and with his brothers and sisters lived on the home place. Shortly after reaching his majority, he was induced, by the stories of gold, to go to California. He took passage on the clipper ship *Racehorse* from New York. They were about five months on the journey, stopping at Rio Janeiro, Valparaiso and other places of interest. On his arrival in San Francisco, he associated himself with a company of others and began mining on the Yuba River. The next winter he operated on a little stream called Brandy Gulch, in Yuba County, and here made some money. The next season he operated in and about Camptonville. After a stay in California of twenty-six months, he came by steamer to New York, crossing the Isthmus of Panama. From New York he returned to his old home in Huron County, Ohio, and came to Green Township in 1855, locating on his present farm. He was married July 4, 1855. Three children have blessed this union with Rachel Skeels—Fannie, George and Leslie. All are living; the eldest being the wife of William Shambaugh, of Green Township. Mr. Arthur had nothing to start with, but is now a prosperous farmer. He owns 340 acres of land, is a Democrat, a Mason and he and wife are members of the Free-Will Baptist Church. Mr. Arthur is a son of Thomas and Margaret (Clark) Arthur, who were natives of Ireland. Both died in Huron County, Ohio.

**WILLIAM D. BONAR** was born December 19, 1839, a son of David and Hester (Deweese) Bonar, the parents of fifteen children, ten of whom are yet alive. The father was born October 9, 1784, and was of Scotch descent. September 10, 1820, he married Hester Deweese in Licking County, Ohio, her birthplace. He was a shoemaker by trade, but abandoned that calling on coming to Green Township in 1836, where he entered 80 acres of land, which he cleared and improved. He was of small physical frame, and decisive turn of mind, wielding much influence. He died December 25, 1874, and his wife



May 25, 1846. William D. Bonar passed his youth on the farm, receiving a common school education. December 15, 1863, he enlisted in Company I, Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, and was discharged August 27, 1865, and returned home to his farm. Mr. Bonar owns 120 acres of good land, and is a Democrat. He was married April 19, 1871, to Miss Eleanor Moore, daughter of Samuel and Mary Ann Moore. They had one child, a boy, Alva C. The mother died in January, 1872. Mr. Bonar takes the lead in many things in his township, and exerts a wholesome control over its affairs.

GEORGE W. BROWN was born in Preble County, Ohio, April 21, 1827. He is one of twelve children born to George and Sarah (Nethercut) Brown. The father was a native of Virginia, and the mother of South Carolina. They started out in life poor, but became prosperous farmers, and were honored and respected members of society; both are now dead. George W. received a good common-school education. In 1847, he was united in marriage with Margaret Brumbaugh, and in the fall of 1851 moved to Green Township and settled on 100 acres of wood land his father had purchased for him, and 50 acres that had been given Mrs. Brown by her parents; the clearing and improving afforded abundant work for Mr. Brown. They have added to their original place enough to make 485 acres, which have been partially divided among the children, of whom there have been eight—William, Otho, George, Sarah C., Ellen, Ida, Effie (deceased) and Laura. William married Mary Zumbrum, and resides in Whitley County. The rest are in Noble County. Otho married Barbara Royer; George married Ann McCoy; Sarah is the wife of James McCoy; Ellen is the wife of Aaron Eagly; Ida married Samuel Black, and Laura is single. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the German Baptist Church, and Mr. Brown is a Democrat.

LUKE N. CLEMENS, generally known as Esquire Clemens, was born in Augusta, Va., October 7, 1808. He was one of thirteen children born to John and Anna (Boyer) Clemens, who were prosperous farmers of the Shenandoah Valley. Luke remained with his parents, in Virginia, receiving a common-school education, and in 1825 emigrated with his parents to Madison County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming for a period of twenty years. His father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and he lived in Madison County the balance of his days. While in Ohio, Luke was married to Miss Sarah Rathbun, and in 1845 moved to Noble County, where his brother had preceded him. He purchased his present farm—160 acres—and built thereon a log cabin, moved into it, and thus commenced life in the wilderness. His farm was then a mass of woods, swamps and underbrush, and various species of wild beasts made it their home. Notwithstanding the hardships incident to such a life, he succeeded gradually in clearing and otherwise improving his farm. Mr. Clemens, during his early life here, killed over 200 deer, to say nothing of wild-cats, turkeys, squirrels, etc.; hunting formed his chief amusement. To his marriage with Miss Rathbun there were born twelve children—John, Harmon, Eliza, Polly, Lydia, Elizabeth, Henderson, Melinda, Harrison, Henry, Sarah and James. Of these the following are dead: Eliza, Polly, Lydia, Betsy and Harmon. Mr. Clemens is a man of enterprise, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace for the past twenty-six years.

DAVID CLOUSE, born in Licking Co., Ohio, February 2, 1842. His parents were Benjamin and Lydia (Green) Clouse, and to them were born seven children; only four are living. The parents are both living and reside in Lick-

ing Co., Ohio. David Clouse is a man of common-school education. Having relatives in Noble County, he came here in 1862, and the 21st of October of the same year he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-eighth Regiment, First Indiana Cavalry. At an engagement near Little Rock, Ark., he was wounded in the arm April 1, 1865, which resulted in his discharge June 8, 1865. After the war was over, Mr. Clouse returned home, and having eighty acres of land, he began clearing and improving the same. He was married in 1866, to Electa Bisekornor, who died February 14, 1874, leaving four children. His second and present wife, Lucina Lock, he married in September, 1875. The children of his first marriage are John H., Lydia O. (deceased), Luther C. and Alta; and to his second marriage, Sylvia L., Jesse W., Nellie D. and one as yet unnamed. Mr. Clouse is a farmer—owns eighty acres of good land; is a Republican, and an enterprising citizen. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

JONAS COOK was born in Carroll County, Md., December 10, 1827. He is a son of Baltzer and Elizabeth (Fulkearth) Cook, and of German descent. His parents were both natives of Maryland. The father was a farmer, and moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1830, where he and wife lived the remainder of their days. Our subject, at the age of nineteen, began working at carpentering. Having natural talent in this direction, he continued it profitably some fifteen years; when, having saved a part of his earnings, he purchased 120 acres of his present farm, on which he moved in 1859. Mr. Cook had to undergo, as did the old settlers, the hardships in the clearing and improving of his place. He has increased his original purchase to 220 acres, aided to a considerable extent by his earnings in teaching school. He was married in 1849 to Elizabeth Zeigler, of Montgomery County, Ohio, and who has borne him three children—Letitia A., Granville W. and Silas C. During the fall of 1864, Mr. Cook enlisted in Company C, Thirteenth Regiment, and was discharged at Goldsboro, N. C., at the close of the war. He was at the battle of Bentonville and Richmond, and the storming of Fort Fisher both times. After the war, he came home and recommenced farming. He and wife are members of the German Baptist Church. Mr. Cook is a Republican and a worthy citizen.

JOHN A. CONKLING'S parents were Samuel and Charlotte (Bruce) Conkling, the former of Holland Dutch descent, and the latter of Scotch-Irish. Their family numbered eleven children, five still living. One of these, John A. Conkling, was born in Ohio October 15, 1818, and came with his parents to Delaware County, where they lived ten years. They lived one year in Sparta Township, then moved to Noble Township; after this, all went West to Iowa and Missouri, except John A. The mother died in Iowa and the father in Kansas. The latter was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his sons, Henry and James, served honorably in the last great war. Soon after removing to Noble Township, Mr. Conkling returned to Sparta, where he resided until 1878, then purchased 110 acres of land, where he now resides. On the 29th of August, 1844, he married Matilda Ann Todd, whose parents came from Ohio. Their children were as follows: Levi (drowned when but seventeen years old), Sarah Margaret and John Henry, the latter still living at home. Sarah M. is the wife of Isaac M. Barcus. Mrs. Conkling is a member of the Lutheran Church, and her husband is a Democrat. They are very worthy people; have seen the wilderness transformed into beautiful homes, and the retrospect of their lives is a happy one.

W. C. DAVIS was born in Richland County, Ohio, December 4, 1832, a son of William and Nancy Davis, who came from Westmoreland County,

Penn., to the birthplace of our subject, where they died. They were of Scotch-Irish descent, and the parents of ten children, six of whom are still living. The elder Mr. Davis was a Democrat, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and an early settler of Richland County. He was temperate, and was looked to for advice in matters of importance. Until sixteen years of age, W. C. Davis was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education. He then served a two years' apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. In 1851, he came to Indiana, locating in Noble County, and has worked at his trade ever since. He was married, February 26, 1856, to Miss Nancy McWilliams, who died February 26, 1857. Mr. Davis' second wife was Caroline Hill, to whom he was married April 4, 1868. To their union were born two daughters—Minia, July 11, 1869, and Jennie, December 11, 1871. The mother was born February 23, 1847, and died December, 1871. Mr. Davis' third and present wife, Esther S. Hill, sister of his second wife, he married August 19, 1877. Mr. Davis started in life with but little means at his command, and deserves much credit for his success. He now owns 120 acres of improved land, is a Democrat and an intelligent citizen.

LEVI DILLER was born in Lancaster County, Penn., April 15, 1818. He is one of eight children born to Martin and Rachel (Wolf) Diller. When twelve years old, his parents moved to Frederick County, Md., where he received a good education. From 1836 to 1840, he served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith and machinist's trade, and after completing it came to Preble County, Ohio, where he worked six years. He then purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until the fall of 1857, when he came to Noble County to engage in the lumber trade. He purchased five acres of land in Green Township on which was a small saw-mill. This he improved until he had one of the finest mills in the county. By degrees he increased his business, which now ranks second to none in Green Township. He was married, March 16, 1843, to Catharine Lock, of Frederick County, Md., and to them were born eight children—Louisa J., John H., Margaret E., Elizabeth, Anna, Martin L.; Levi (deceased) and Benjamin F. Mr. and Mrs. Diller are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a prominent Democrat, but has never aspired to political prominence. He now owns 200 acres of land, besides his mill property.

GEORGE EASTERDAY (deceased) was a native of the Buckeye State, his birth occurring in Jefferson County November 15, 1800. His father, George Easterday, was a native of Maryland and of German descent, and moved with his family from Maryland to Jefferson County, Ohio, at an early period. His son, whose name heads this sketch, was reared in Jefferson County, where he was married and whence he moved to Holmes County in 1825, and was soon followed by his father. Both families soon moved to Chester Township, Morrow County, Ohio, where, after a number of years, the parents died. Our subject's wife was Anna M. Summerlot, who bore her husband ten children, as follows: George W., William, Sylvester, Elizabeth and Catharine living, and John, Samuel, Joseph, Lucinda and one that died in infancy, deceased. In 1853, Mr. Easterday came to Noble County, Ind., and located on a farm. Mrs. Easterday died May 2, 1876, and her husband followed her to the tomb February 28, 1880. Mr. Easterday was a farmer and an upright and honest man. He was a Whig and later a Republican, and himself and wife were members of the Lutheran Church. They are gone, but their memory will grow brighter as time fades away.

GEORGE W. EASTERDAY, was born in Holmes Co., Ohio, March 29, 1827. He was reared on his father's farm and worked for them until twenty-two years old, when he received property valued at \$100 and started out for himself. On the 28th of September, 1851, he married Nancy E. Smith, of Morrow County, Ohio, by whom he had eight children—Mary Anna (deceased), Dora S. P. (deceased), Otho D., William D., Edna E., Jeremiah M., Adar M. and Drury S. Otho D. married Flora Franks and lives in Green Township. In 1852, Mr. Easterday came to Noble County, locating on the farm where the Frankses now live. In 1862, he exchanged his farm there for his present one. He now owns 200 acres in Green Township and 100 in Jefferson and Albion Townships. He is a Republican and himself and wife are Lutherans. Mr. Easterday's sister Elizabeth is the wife of Samuel Decamp and lives in Jefferson Township. Catharine is the wife of Henry Kirkpatrick and lives in the same township. Sylvester married Mahala Frederick and lives in Albion.

WILLIAM EASTERDAY was born in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1833. He remained at home until twenty-two years old, and then received \$100 with which to begin life. He purchased eighty acres of his present farm, paying for the same his \$100 and working to pay the remaining \$400. Since then forty acres have been added, making a farm of 120 acres. On the 22d of November, 1860, he married Catharine Engle, and they have three children—Delila Alice, Wilbert Amos and Alma Barbara. Mrs. Easterday was born in Morrow County, Ohio, August 15, 1838. William Easterday is a highly respected citizen. The family of Easterdays are industrious, sober citizens.

JACOB FAVINGER was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 1, 1837. His parents were of German descent, and natives of the "Keystone State," the parents of twelve children, ten of whom are yet alive. Farming was the father's vocation through life. In 1850, he and family moved to Green Township, purchasing wild land. He was an industrious man, a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. His death occurred January 24, 1877; his widow survives him, and resides on the old homestead. Jacob Favinger was reared on his father's farm, and in youth received no education. While in the army he learned to read, write and cipher. When President Lincoln called for 300,000 men in August, 1861, he volunteered his services, and was assigned to Company E, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged for disability at Evansville, Ind., in January, 1864. Mr. Favinger, at the battle of Shiloh, was twice wounded; and while in the engagement at Chickamauga, was shot through the lungs by an ounce ball, which is still in his body. He was married in 1864, to Sarah E. Watt, daughter of one of the old settlers of Noble County. Their five sons are William, Abraham, John, Marion and George. After his marriage, Mr. Favinger purchased forty acres, and started in the woods. After clearing three acres, he sold it and purchased forty acres of his present farm, which now consists of eighty acres. He and his wife started out in married life with little, but now have a pleasant home and surroundings. In politics, Mr. Favinger is Independent, and is now serving his fourth term as Township Constable.

JAMES GRAWCOCK is a native of Lincolnshire, England, born January 21, 1833. (A sketch of his parents will be found in the biography of William Grawcock.) He was raised in Lincolnshire, receiving a common school education. April 21, 1853, he started from Liverpool for America, and after a voyage of four weeks arrived in New York, \$13 in debt. He came to Toledo *via* Albany and Buffalo, and from there to Fort Wayne, Ind., then to



Swan Township, where he engaged in ditching. In 1854, he had \$150 of his earnings which he paid on a farm of forty acres—a part of his present place. By hard labor he has cleared it of all indebtedness and has added eighty acres. Mr. Grawcock was married March 8, 1861, to Mariah C. Fulk, and to their union was born nine children—Solomon, William H., Emma J., Oliver P., Mary E., Margaret A. (deceased), John, Noah and Eliza E. After his marriage, Mr. Grawcock moved on his then unimproved place, but is now a well improved farm of 120 acres. He and wife are members of the Church of God; are enterprising and respected people, and Mr. Grawcock is a Democrat.

WILLIAM GRAWCOCK was born in Willoughby, Lincolnshire, England, September 29, 1831, the eldest of four children born to Isaac and Ann (Cox) Grawcock. His mother died and his father married Elizabeth Tow, by whom he had eight children. This lady is yet living in England, but the father died in 1873. He was a farmer and moved to Billanghay, where the family still reside. William Grawcock, at the age of twenty, came to the United States, starting on the voyage to Quebec, Canada, in March, 1852, thence to Cleveland, Ohio, and soon afterward went to Richland County, Ohio. He then came to Swan Township. In 1853, he purchased 100 acres of his present farm, having but \$5 to make the first payment. After this he worked some time on the railroad. In March, 1855, he and his brother James commenced clearing together, "baching it." The farm has been increased until it consists of 200 acres. On the 8th of January, 1856, he married Miss Martha, daughter of John and Anna (Wyatt) Bennett, of Allen County, Ind. This lady's people were early settlers in Eel River Township, while she enjoys the distinction of having been the first child born in the township, her birth occurring June 5, 1835. Their children number ten, as follows: James B., Isaac C., Rosanna (wife of George Fulk), Elizabeth A. (wife of Noah Whirlledge), Jesse J. (deceased), George F. (deceased), Noah W. (deceased), Charles W., Oscar D. and Susan E. (deceased). James B. married Sarah Fulk, and lives in Churubusco. Mr. Grawcock is one of the most extensive and enterprising stock-raisers in Noble County. In 1880, his son Isaac went to England and purchased a noble draught horse, at great expense, which unfortunately died on the journey; he also purchased a magnificent Clydesdale stallion. Mr. Grawcock has a fine herd of full-blooded short-horn cattle, in which he takes great pride. He is an excellent neighbor, and is a leading member of the Church of God, near his place.

GEORGE HUNTSMAN was born in Morrow County, Ohio, October 27, 1839. He is one of nine children born to Jeremiah and Mary (Painter) Huntsman, who were also natives of Ohio. Jeremiah Huntsman was a farmer and pursued that vocation through life. In 1864, he came to Noble County with his family, locating on the old Huntsman farm in Green Township. He died in March, 1872. He was a Democrat and an enterprising citizen. His widow survives him and resides on the old place. George Huntsman was reared in Morrow County, Ohio, receiving a common school education. He came to Green Township in 1864, and by frugality and labor has earned a fine home of 105 acres. He was married in May, 1861, to Susann Hostler. Their children were Flora, Amanda, Vileta M., Ida C., E. M., Alice and William H. The four oldest are dead. Mr. Huntsman is a Democrat, and the family are honored and respected members of society.

HIRAM LINDSEY is a native of Knox County, Ohio, where his birth occurred March 8, 1826. His parents were Jacob and Sarah (Craven) Lind-

sey, to whom were born five children, four yet living. The father was a follower of the plow, and came from Pennsylvania, while the mother traced her nativity to New Jersey. In April, 1839, Mr. Lindsey and family appeared in Green Township, and settled on the farm now owned by his son Hiram. Mr. Lindsey died during the autumn of 1839. Mrs. Lindsey is yet living in Morrow County, Ohio. After the death of the father, great hardships were endured. The eldest son was drowned, and Hiram was called upon to assume many duties which he successfully mastered. In the year 1866, Mr. Lindsey opened a store in Noblesville, where he sold goods until 1869, when he moved to the farm now owned by Mr. Conkling, and there continued his store four years, when he abandoned the occupation and went to farming again. In 1855, he was united in marriage with Barbara Lock, and by her had six children, as follows: John W., George W., Mary J., Jacob F., Nancy E. and Oscar W.; John W. and Nancy are dead. Mr. Lindsey is a Democrat and while at Noblesville he served as Postmaster. He owns 80 acres of nice land, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. He is an honorable man, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

JESSE LOCK was born in Preble County, Ohio, April 7, 1847. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Link) Lock, and one of ten children, four of whom are living, viz., Barbara, wife of Hiram Lindsey; Lucina, wife of David Clouse, of Albion; Elizabeth, who is also living in Albion; and Jesse, the subject of this sketch. The parents of these were married in Preble County, Ohio, and came to Noble County in 1849, locating in Green Township, on the farm now owned by Jesse Lock. They erected a little log cabin, and began clearing the land. Mr. Lock was a Democrat, and a member of the Baptist Church. He died June 12, 1855, and his widow April 2, 1874. Jesse Lock was raised a farmer. At the age of twenty-one, he commenced for himself, and in June, 1872, married Miss Anna Moore. To them were born two children—Corella and Barbara J. The mother died May 6, 1875, and, January 7, 1877, he was united in marriage with his present wife, Mrs. Christina Miller, widow of Francis Miller, and daughter of Henry Wead. To them was born one son—Charles. By her first husband Mrs. Lock had two children—Jasper and George. After his first marriage, Mr. Lock continued farming, and now owns 100 acres of good land. Himself and wife are members of the Christian Church.

JOHN P. MCWILLIAMS is one of the thrifty men of Green Township, born in Pennsylvania December 20, 1823; one of five children born to Oliver and Elizabeth (Renesten) McWilliams. His grandfather was John McWilliams, a native of Ireland, who, after coming to America, settled in Pennsylvania, and where, in after years, he died. In 1829, Oliver McWilliams and family emigrated to Indiana. After residing thirteen years in Wayne County, he purchased eighty acres of the farm now owned by our subject, and here resided until November, 1858, when he died. His widow survived him until 1864, when she died. On their arrival in Noble County, the country was one vast forest. Mr. McWilliams was a Democrat, and at one time filled the office of County Coroner, besides having filled various township offices. John P. McWilliams assisted in the improvement of the home farm, upon which he was raised. He was married in 1850 to Miss Josephine White, daughter of Ira B. and Sophia (Culver) White, who were pioneers of York Township. To their union there were born nine children—Isaac and Oliver R., deceased; Alma E. (now wife of O. Frederick, of Jefferson Township), Frank W., William H.,

John H. (deceased), Alta S., Walter P. and Charles A. Mrs. McWilliams was born in Union County, Ohio, March 25, 1833. In 1856, Mr. McWilliams was elected, by the Democratic party, to the office of County Recorder, and served four years, making his home in Albion. When he had served his term, he returned to his home in Green Township, where he still lives. Mr. McWilliams has also held the office of County Commissioner, and various township offices, in all of which he has served with satisfaction to his constituents. He owns 175 acres of land well improved, and enjoys a comfortable and prosperous home.

WILLIAM McDANIEL was born in York District, South Carolina, June 17, 1812. Soon after his birth, his parents moved to Wilkes Co., N. C., where he remained until 1832, when he went to Wayne County, Ind., living there two years, and one year in Whitley County, and on the 3d of January, 1835, coming to his present farm, which was then covered with heavy timber. On the 14th of August, 1834, he married Parmelia Martin, and by her had eight children—Charles, Elizabeth, John, Jane, Robert, James, Thomas and George. Charles and Thomas are dead. Mrs. McDaniel was overcome by hardships, and died in 1855, and some time afterward Mr. McDaniel married Christina (Yates) Weirich, widow of Franklin Weirich, whose melancholy death is recorded in the chapter on Green Township. Mr. McDaniel's second wife has borne him two children—Almeda and Alvadore. The parents are members of the Christian Church. They have a fine farm of two hundred acres. Mr. McDaniel is well known, universally respected, and one of Green's best citizens.

SILAS MOORE was born in Washington County, Penn., May 24, 1823. He is a son of Russell and Elizabeth (Scott) Moore, who were of Scotch descent, and the parents of four children. The father was three times married; first to Mary Cool, who bore him one son; second, to the mother of Silas Moore, and his last wife was Elizabeth Cunningham, who bore him three children. Mr. Moore was a farmer, and a member of the Presbyterian Church, having been a Ruling Elder in that denomination for forty years. He died in 1880, aged eighty-four, on the farm where he was born, and where he had always lived. Our subject's time was passed on the home farm until he was twenty-one. He then commenced working at the carpenter's trade and wagon making. In 1856, he went to Jefferson County, Ohio, where he worked at his trade eight years. He started for Illinois in April, 1864, and on his way stopped in Noble County and purchased his present farm—eighty acres—near Green Center, where he farmed a few years. Since then he has erected a wagon shop and works at his trade, and also carries on undertaking. Through the influence of Mr. Moore, a post office was established at Green Center, in 1870, and he was appointed Postmaster, a position he has since held. He was married, Mary 8, 1851, to Margaret Lester, of Pennsylvania, and to them were born four children—Leslie, Melissa (deceased), Mary E. and Nancy B. Mrs. Moore was born April 30, 1830, and she and Mr. Moore are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Moore is a Republican.

GEORGE OTT, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Preble County, Ohio, September 25, 1817; is one of six children born to John and Mary Magdalene (Lock) Ott. Their children were Abraham, George, Jacob, John and Jesse. All are now living in Indiana, except John. The father came from Virginia to Ohio in 1812, and lived and died there. The parents were of Germanic descent, and members of the Lutheran Church, the father being a Whig, and later a Republican. George Ott was reared on a farm, and, in

1840, was married to Mary Brown, whose parents were from North Carolina. To Mr. and Mrs. Ott have been born ten children, as follows: Sarah E., Mary A., John F., Matilda, Ellen, Hetta, Louisa J., Daniel P., Olive and Martha A., all living, except John F., who died in infancy. In 1842, Mr. Ott came to Green Township, where his father had purchased land. There were only about fourteen other families in the township at that time. No improvements had been made on Mr. Ott's quarter section. He erected a small log cabin, and planted some corn, and then returned to Ohio. The same year he came to Indiana, bringing his family. Here they have labored, and a fine farm of about seven hundred acres proves that their labor has not been in vain. This land, except 140 acres, has been given to their children. Mr. Ott and wife are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Ott, besides filling all the township offices, has been County Commissioner, serving his constituency with honesty and fidelity. Noble County cannot boast of a citizen of greater excellence or a man of truer nobility than George Ott. His heart and mind are filled with progressive ideas, which lead him to the commission of charitable deeds and to the performance of Christian duty.

JESSE OTT was born in Preble County, Ohio, December 1, 1822, the youngest of five sons born to John and Mary Magdaline (Lock) Ott. Jesse Ott passed his youth in Preble County, receiving a common school education. When twenty-one years of age, he started for himself, and when about twenty-two, his father made him a present of 160 acres in Perry Township, Noble County, which he traded for the southwest quarter of Section 29 in Green Township, it at that time being a body of woods; the only evidence that there were ever whites on it was occasionally a tree cut down by some hunter for honey or coons. Mr. Ott was married October 19, 1848, to Docia Brown. To them were born eight children—Cornelius, Amanda, John, George, Frederick, Abraham, Eli and Alpha. Mr. and Mrs. Ott are hard-working, thrifty people. They now have 320 acres of land, and are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Ott is a Republican, and is an enterprising and intelligent citizen.

WILLIAM RAY (deceased) was born in Ohio County, Va., October 31, 1822. He was the second child of ten born to Thomas and Martha (Gibson) Ray. His father was a native of the Emerald Isle, and came to the United States when five years of age. William Ray was reared on a farm, receiving but a common-school education. In about 1828, he came to Guernsey County, Ohio, with his parents, and later was active in the development of that county. April 3, 1845, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Carr, her people also coming from Ireland and settling in Guernsey County, Ohio. Miss Carr was born November 10, 1828, and to their union were born four children—Thomas (deceased), Martha, Edward P. and David W. Martha is the wife of J. R. Cole, of York Township. Edward married Martha Black, of Jefferson Township. David married Sarah Bailey, of Allen Township, and resides on the old place. Mr. and Mrs. Ray lived in Guernsey County, Ohio, until 1864, then he moved to Noble County, where he resided until his death, which occurred January 27, 1877. Mr. Ray was an honored and respected citizen. His political faith was with the Democratic party, and at the time of his death he was a Deacon in the Baptist Church. Mr. Ray was a first cousin to the celebrated author of Ray's Arithmetic. David Ray, the son who resides on the old place—120 acres—is a teacher of considerable experience, and an intelligent and enterprising citizen.



HON. H. C. STANLEY is a representative citizen, and a sturdy, substantial farmer. The family of which he is a member traces its origin back to "Bonnie Scotland," whence, many years before the Revolutionary war, members of the family came across the waters to seek their fortunes in the New World. They became followers of Roger Williams, but some generations later renounced the religion of their fathers, and altered their belief to suit their consciences. The father of H. C. Stanley, an honest, industrious man, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was a native of North Carolina, and moved to Ohio when about twenty years old, where he married Miss Mary Cuppy, a native of Kentucky. In 1821, they moved to Union County, Ind. They had a family of eleven children, five of whom are living. The mother died in 1849, and the father subsequently moved to Richmond, Ind., where he died in 1867. The representative of this sketch was born in Clermont County, Ohio, January 22, 1818. His education, limited to the advantages of the common school, was obtained in Union County, Ind., where he was inured to farm labor. In 1839, he was united in marriage with Miss Hannah L. Hunt, who died in 1841, leaving an infant son, Aaron, now married and a farmer of this county. In 1847, Mr. Stanley married for his second wife, Miss Sophronia Beeson, a native of Indiana. By this lady he became the father of nine children—J. Frank, Mary H., Milton D., Henry L., R. Allie, Perry A. (deceased), Cyrus H., Charles M. and Emma (deceased). In 1849, he came to Green Township, and settled on his present farm, which was then covered with heavy forest trees, and without improvement, excepting a cabin of the rudest kind, which had probably been put up by some squatter or trapper. The family took possession of this, and began to carve for themselves a home. In this, after years of hardship and unceasing toil, they realized their hopes and bright anticipations. Truly, the wilderness has been made to "blossom as the rose." The log cabin gave way to a fine residence with pleasant surroundings. To the original 160 acres additions have been made until the farm comprises over 500 acres, the most of which has been brought under subjection. The fine fields and broad pastures attest the high state of cultivation. The commodious barns, granaries, etc., give evidence of the substantial character of the improvements. All this stands as a monument to the years of labor and judicious management of its owner. But Mr. Stanley's fame is not confined to the accumulation of wealth; his influence has been felt in the direction of public affairs. He has filled the office of Trustee, in 1853 was elected County Commissioner, and in 1858 was elected to the Lower House of the State Legislature as a Democrat, where he served with such fidelity that he was afterward twice re-elected. He is a clear, correct and practical thinker, and is a credit to the county where he has lived and labored so long.

OLIVER STRONG was born in Knox County, Ohio, February 20, 1826. He is a son of Philander A. and Ruth (Leech) Strong, who were parents of two children. When about two years old, his father died, and his mother married Samuel Gray. She had by him thirteen children. From Knox County they moved to Madison County, Ohio, and remained until the fall of 1835, when they moved to Green Township. Here he commenced clearing and improving a place entered from the Government. For a number of years, in order to successfully carry on farming and stock-raising, he was obliged to house the stock to keep them from the wild beasts. Oliver Strong was reared on the farm, receiving the common education of those days. He was married, June 29, 1846, to Miss Eva Fulk, of Swan Township, her parents being among the oldest

settlers of that locality. They have had eight children—Melissa, born March 13, 1847, now Mrs. Gilbert McDague; Thomas J., born March 11, 1848, died November 10, 1850; Philander A., born August 15, 1849, died November 21, 1850; George W., born August 19, 1850; Henry C., January 23, 1852, married Magdalene Treese; Franklin P., born May 3, 1853; James W., May 12, 1854, died July 21, 1854; and John C., born October 26, 1856. Mr. Strong is a Democrat; has held several Township offices, and has been a successful school teacher.

JOHN H. WARD was born in Knox County, Ohio, April 5, 1837. He is one of thirteen children, five only known to be living, born to James and Mary Ward. The father of these was a native of Maryland and the mother of Pennsylvania. Mr. Ward was a farmer, and a good man in every respect. He died in 1842, and his widow in 1870. Mrs. Ward was twice married; her second husband, who has since died, was Stephen A. Woodruff. Up to the age of eleven years, John H. Ward lived with his mother; he then apprenticed himself for three years, at shoe-making. Subsequently moved to Fredericktown, and worked at his trade until he came to Albion, in 1856, where he worked for his old Fredericktown preceptor until his death. In 1863, he purchased a part of his present farm, which now numbers 160 acres. They moved on the place soon after, and began a life of hard labor, which has been crowned with success, having increased the 160 acres to 240 acres. Mr. Ward has given liberally to the support of all laudable enterprises. He is Democratic, also an active worker against intemperance. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are highly esteemed people. Mr. Ward's wife was Comfort Edwards, daughter of Alexis Edwards, to whom he was married January 19, 1859. They have had eight children—Marion, Anna, Hattie and Homer E., living; and Alsie A., Mary, Charlie and one unnamed, deceased.

C. J. WEEKS was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1826. Thomas Weeks, his father, is yet living on the Weeks family homestead, in Green Township. His mother, Eliza (Henderson) Weeks, died November 18, 1878, beloved by a large circle of friends. Thomas Weeks, in 1829, left the Buckeye State and emigrated to Allen County, Ind., on the Maumee River, near Fort Wayne. The State of Indiana, at that time, was but a partially settled country. Mr. Weeks and family resided in Wayne County until their removal to Noble County, in 1844, since when they have been identified with that county's history. C. J. Weeks was reared in Indiana principally, his education chiefly consisting of hard labor. During his earlier manhood, he worked at the carpenter's trade, but has since confined his attention to farming. He was married, January 15, 1854, to Miss Alma White, and to them were born five children, viz.: Josephine (deceased), Eunice, Thomas, Dillie and Perry. He now owns the old farm, which consists of eighty acres of good land. He is a Democrat, and an honest, upright citizen. His grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was taken prisoner at Detroit, the time of Hull's surrender. The Weeks family is descended from Irish and English ancestors.

HENRY WINEBRENNER is the only child of Jacob and Catharine (Alabaugh) Winebrenner; he was born in Blair County, Penn., July 4, 1817. When but eight days old his mother died, and he went to live with his grandparents. His father was a shoemaker, and shortly after his wife's death moved to Liberty, Montgomery Co., Ohio. He here married Elizabeth Shively in 1827, who bore him five children. Mr. Winebrenner also kept

tavern, and being a veteran of the war of 1812 and of a military turn of mind, raised a company of militia and was chosen First Lieutenant. Soon after his father's second marriage, Henry Winebrenner went to live with them; and at age of fourteen was apprenticed to the tailor's trade. After serving four years, he commenced business for himself. In May, 1837, he married Lucy Edsall of Darke County, Ohio, and in 1850 came to Noble County and located on his present farm of 80 acres, which was devoid of clearing, and its present improved condition was accomplished by hard manual labor. They are the parents of nine children—Lewis, James, John, William, Norris, Howard, Oscar, Juliann and Elizabeth. Of these John and Elizabeth are dead. John enlisted in the Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served his country faithfully. At the battle of Petersburg he was wounded, taken prisoner and never heard of afterward. James served in Company C, Eighty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. While out foraging, he was taken prisoner by the rebel Gen. Morgan. Being pressed by pursuers, Gen. Morgan paroled his prisoners, and they were sent back until exchanged. Mr. Winebrenner is an industrious, enterprising man, and a Republican. He and wife are members of the Christian Church, and are esteemed citizens.

### SWAN TOWNSHIP.

THOMAS A. ANDERSON was born in Beaver County, Penn., April 15, 1813; the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Patton) Anderson, and grandson of William Anderson, who came from Ireland previous to the Revolutionary war, and settled in Beaver County, Penn. While living here, they were attacked by the Indians. Mr. Anderson was severely wounded, some of the family killed and others taken captive. Our subject's parents were married in the Keystone State, and always made their home in Beaver County, where they raised three sons and eight daughters. Thomas A. Anderson was raised upon his father's farm, and married Miss Jane Cooley, June 1, 1839. From this union there were eight children, viz.: Thomas, Jane, Mary J., Sarah A., Robert, Elizabeth, William, and one that died in infancy. William and Robert were soldiers in the late war; William died while in the service. Mr. Anderson, in 1854, came to this county and purchased his present farm. His wife died in 1859. He was married to Miss Annie McCoy in 1868. She was born in Beaver County, Penn., October 25, 1828. Mr. Anderson began life as a poor boy; he now owns 295 acres of land well improved. He is a Republican, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

CONRAD BRICKER, a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, born December 12, 1807, is the son of Henry and Eve (Worman) Bricker, both natives of Maryland. Soon after their marriage, the parents moved to Little Beaver, Penn., where, the fall and winter of 1804, Mr. Bricker worked at his trade of blacksmithing. In the spring of 1805, he removed to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he raised a family of eight children, and where he and wife passed the remainder of their days. Conrad Bricker was brought up on a farm, receiving a limited education. He married Miss Susanna Hawn March 22, 1829. She was born in Frederick County, Md., November 23, 1808. They had twelve children—Jeremiah, Jehu, Conrad, Rebecca, Catharine, Cordelia, David, Samuel and Henry B., living; Jonathan, Elizabeth and Lydia,

deceased. Mr. Bricker remained in his native county engaged in farming until 1843, when he came to this county, where he has since resided. He owns 161 acres of land nicely improved. He is a staunch Republican, and himself and wife are members of the M. E. Church, and are progressive, intelligent people.

**SAMUEL BROUGHTON**, son of Amos and Nancy (Zimmerman) Broughton, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., August 4, 1819. His parents, in 1834, moved to Clark County, Ohio, thence to Champaign County, where the father died in 1838, at which time three of his ten children were married. Under the lead of Samuel, the oldest son at home, the family departed for this township, arriving in the fall of 1838. They had but little money and no food, but all went to work, receiving provisions of any kind as pay, and weathered through the winter. In 1839, Samuel returned to Ohio, and November 7 married Miss Almira Cummings, born in Logan County, Ohio, February 28, 1820. Returning with his wife, he engaged for some years in brick-making, and assisted, also, in the construction of the Lima Plank Road, and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad through Western Ohio, and the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad through Noble County. He afterward engaged in mercantile pursuits at Swan, but has latterly devoted himself to farming, stock-raising, and saw-milling. His farm consists of 120 acres of good land adjoining the village. He and two sons served during the late war, and the latter were in several fierce engagements. Mr. B. is a Republican, and has held several offices. His Christian mother died February 27, 1876. His children numbered seven—Delmer, Bela, Lucy A., Lois O., Samuel and Oliver P. M., living, and William, deceased.

**MATTHEW CLARK** is a native of Orleans County, N. Y., born April 3, 1827. His father, Jonathan Clark, was a native of the Bay State, and his mother, whose maiden name was Eliza Stevens, was a native of Vermont. They were married in New York State, and located on a farm in Orleans County, where they spent their entire lives, and reared a family of eight children. The father died October 2, 1866, and was followed by his wife June 24, 1875. In early life, Mr. Clark was a common seaman, visited a number of foreign countries, and became a man of extended information. During the war of 1812, his vessel was for a long time blockaded at the port of Valparaiso, South America. Matthew Clark was reared on a farm, and was married in his native State, March 29, 1846, to Miss Mary A. Shaw, who was born July 5, 1824, in Windsor County, Vt. In 1848, Mr. Clark and wife moved upon 100 acres of land in Swan Township. They were industrious, and in a few years found themselves surrounded with life's comforts. Five children have been born to them, viz.: Harvey E., Charley A. and Nellie E., living; Ellen A. and an infant son, deceased. Mr. Clark owns 188 acres of nicely-improved land, is a Republican, and a self-made man.

**ROBERT S. COOLEY** is a native of Beaver County, Penn., born December 12, 1822, one of ten children born to Robert and Jane (Smith) Cooley, who were natives of the Keystone State. The father was a farmer and blacksmith; both were industrious, and passed almost their entire married life in Beaver County. Our subject was raised upon a farm, receiving the usual education of that early day. He married Miss Martha J. Moore February 10, 1848. She was born in Washington County, Penn., August 10, 1824. Of the children from this union three are living, viz., Elizabeth E., Frank and Calvin. Those deceased are Russell M., William P., James L. and Martha J.



Mr. Cooley remained in his native county until 1852, when he moved to Jefferson County, Ohio, and in 1864 came to his present location and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 220 acres of good land, upon which he has comfortable buildings. All this he has accumulated by hard work and strict economy. He liberally contributes to all worthy enterprises. From an Old-Line Whig and anti-slavery man he became a Republican. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and have the respect of all who know them.

EPHRAIM CRAMER is a native of Jefferson County, N. Y., born March 18, 1822, one of five children born to Conrad and Elizabeth (Rickard) Cramer; both natives of the Empire State, where they were married, and resided until 1834, when they came to Swan Township. Here the mother died in 1835 and the father in 1878. Ephraim Cramer was brought up to hard work, receiving but a limited education. Soon after reaching his majority, he began for himself as a farmer and shoemaker, which he followed until about 1851. He then for three years engaged in saw-milling, after which he embarked in mercantile business at Swan, where for most part he has since resided. In 1846, he married Miss Cordelia A. Broughton, who was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1824. Their children were Miles E., Mary A., Arthur and Edwin, living; Eugene, Merritt, William and Ida, deceased. Mr. Cramer is a Republican, and has been village Postmaster for over twenty-five years, besides filling other positions. He has carved his own fortune and bears an honored reputation.

NATHAN B. CROTHERS was born in Ontario County, N. Y., December 15, 1821, the son of William B. and Melinda (Barton) Crothers, the former being a New Yorker and the latter a native of the Bay State. They were married in New York, and removed from there to Geauga County, Ohio, in 1830, where they raised a family of seven children, and where the father died in 1846 and the mother in 1851. Nathan B. was brought up on a farm and to hard work. When about twenty years of age he began working by the month as a farm-hand in the neighborhood. In 1845, he came to this county, and purchased eighty acres of land in Green Township, upon which he lived six years, and then bought his present place in Swan Township, where he has since resided. He was married January 7, 1847, to Miss Rebecca Strous, born in Allegheny County, Penn., October 27, 1825. Six children have been born to them, viz.: Melinda A., Mary E., Edwin E., Rebecca A. and Frank, living; Charles A., deceased. Mr. Crothers began life as a poor boy, and is a self-made man. He owns 174 acres of land, which is well improved. He is a Republican, and a member of the Lutheran Church.

JOHN DRAKE was born in Northumberland County, Penn., December 17, 1815. At the age of eight years, he was left an orphan. When about seventeen years of age, he began working at the carpenter trade in his native county. Soon after reaching his majority, he went to Erie County, Penn., where he worked at his trade until he came to this county in 1844. He built one of the first saw-mills in Swan Township, and worked at milling and his trade until the close of the late war, since which time he has been engaged in farming, stock-raising and lumbering. He was united in marriage to Miss Maryetta Bauce in 1839, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1813. Five children have been born to them, viz.: Rollin W., Susan A., Mary A., Newton O. and Frank. Rollin W. served his country during the late war. He was taken prisoner, and was in Andersonville some five months. Mr. Drake owns 220

acres of land, well improved. He is a self-made and self-educated man; was a Whig, and is now a Republican, and has been an active antagonist of the great social evil—intemperance.

REV. F. X. EGE is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born January 6, 1849, and son of Francis X. and Mary A. (Steinhouser) Ege, who were the parents of six children, and natives of Wurtemberg. The father was in the service of the Government as forester. His son, the subject of this sketch, was sent to school at the age of six years, continuing in the parish until fourteen, when for three years he attended a higher school, and then went to Austria, where he took a three years' course at the Gymnasium at Feldkirch. In 1869, he came to the United States, proceeding to Milwaukee, Wis., where for seven years he attended the Seminary of St. Francis. June 10, 1876, he was ordained a minister of the Catholic Church, by Bishop Dwenger, at Fort Wayne, and was given charge of St. Anthony's Church at Earl Park, Benton County, Ind. In 1878, he came to Swan Township, and took charge of the Immaculate Conception Church, B. M. V., and also assumed the ministration of the Sacred Heart Church (Catholic) at Albion. Mr. Ege is a man of fine mental and moral attainments, and under his ministration the church has increased in numbers and wealth. His admirable qualities of mind and heart render him of incalculable usefulness to the Catholic Church and an ornament to society.

GEORGE FULK was born in Licking County, Ohio, in 1815, the son of Adam and Mary M. (Dispeny) Fulk, both of whom were natives of the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia. In 1806, they moved to Licking County, Ohio, and, in 1836, came to this county and settled in Swan Township, entering 2,320 acres of land. In the family were five sons and six daughters, and to each of them he gave a quarter-section. Mr. Fulk brought considerable money to the country with him, and his poorer neighbors found in him a never-failing friend. He was a man of great physical power, correct habits, and lived to be nearly one hundred and five years of age, and was buried on the home farm. George Fulk was reared on a farm, receiving a limited education. He always remained at home, and has cared for his aged parents; and he is spoken of as an industrious and honest gentleman. He lives with his sister upon the old homestead, which consists of 295 acres of well-improved land. He has always been a Democrat, though not active in political matters.

JOHN C. GAUS was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 20, 1815, the son of John G. and Annie M. (Staudenmier) Gaus, both natives of Wurtemberg. The father was a weaver and died when John C. was about twenty years of age. The latter, in 1839, came with the family to the United States; some found employment in New York City, the others came to Massillon, Ohio. In 1843, John C. came West and purchased land in Swan Township, where he located permanently in 1845. He was married in Massillon, Ohio, August 22, 1843, to Miss Anna M. Barth, born in Germany December 16, 1816. They had ten children, five of whom are living, viz., John G., John C., Anna M., Catharine and Phillip M.; five sons died in infancy. In 1849, Mr. Gaus took a contract to build two and a quarter miles of the Lima Plank road. He also had a contract on the Eel River Railroad, but the company broke up and Mr. Gaus lost about \$1,500. He helped to build the P., Ft. W. & C. R. R. through a portion of Ohio, and, in 1856, took a contract to build twenty-five miles of fence on the Lake Shore road. He is a thorough business man, and has been reasonably successful. He owns 220 acres of land which is nicely improved and well stocked, and is a Democrat.

JOHN S. HOOPER was born in Allegheny County, Penn., November 30, 1835, the son of William and Susan (Springer) Hooper, who were natives of the Keystone State. They raised five sons and one daughter, and removed to their present location in 1857, where they have since lived. Mr. Hooper is a quiet, unassuming man, never aspiring to any political prominence, but devoting his entire time to the improvement of his farm and the development of his neighborhood morally, intellectually, and otherwise. John S. Hooper was raised upon a farm, receiving a common-school education. He was married to Miss Jane King April 19, 1866. This lady is the daughter of Hiram King, Esq., one of the first settlers of Swan Township, and was born in Portage County, Ohio, October 17, 1833. Mr. Hooper owns 275 acres of good land in Swan Township. He is a successful farmer and stock-grower, and has some of the best cattle, sheep and hogs in the township. He is a staunch Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and an intelligent, reading man.

IRA M. KING was born September 18, 1828, in Portage County, Ohio, one of six children born to Hiram and Catherine (Low) King, natives of the Empire State, where they were married, and from where, in 1820, they moved to Painesville, Ohio, and from there in about six years to Portage County, and thence to Carroll County. In 1836, Mr. King came to Swan Township, entered about a section of land, erected a log cabin, made a small clearing, and the next year brought out his family in a buggy, and household goods in wagons. This is said to have been the first buggy in the township. He also brought considerable money and a stock of goods, selling the latter on his home place. He was a strong anti-slavery man, and a member of the Old School Presbyterian Church. He died April 16, 1866. His wife survives him at an advanced age. Ira M. King was educated in the schools of the early day. January 2, 1854, he married Miss Jane Perry, daughter of Oliver L. Perry, and was born in the Empire State May 8, 1834. Their children are Imogene, Oliver P. and John E. Mrs. King died July 24, 1860. On the 14th of February, 1861, Mr. King was married to Miss Catharine Haynes, born October 2, 1834, in Pennsylvania. They had seven children—Arthur L., Milton E., Frank E., Lily C., Elton J., Alfred H. and Lloyd E. Mr. King owns a farm of 225 acres, raises good stock and is successful in his calling. He is a Republican.

JAMES H. KNISS was born August 13, 1839, in Shelby County, Ohio, and was the only child of Samuel and Nancy (Hathaway) Kniss. When James H. was about one year of age, his mother died, and he lived for some time with her people. In about 1850, Samuel Kniss, with his son, came to Allen County, Ind. Here the latter was raised upon a farm, receiving a common-school education. In April of 1861, he enlisted for one year in Company F, Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after serving his time was discharged. In the fall of 1862, he again enlisted in Company E, Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He saw much active service, and well and faithfully served his country for about five years. He married Miss Sophia Snyder February 21, 1867. She was born in Allen County, Ind., September 13, 1851. Six children were born to them—Alnora, Alberta, Samuel O., Dessa M., and two that died in infancy. Mr. Kniss engaged in agricultural pursuits in Allen County, where he remained until 1876, when he came to La Otto, which has since been his home. He was elected Justice of the Peace soon after coming to La Otto, and has made an efficient and popular official. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Lu-

theran Church ; owns 100 acres of land in Swan Township and nicely-improved home property in La Otto, and is one of the leading men of the township.

ARCHIBALD MILLER, born July 24, 1824, in County Derry, Ireland, is a son of John and Elizabeth (Scott) Miller, natives of the Emerald Isle, where they were married, and where were born to them four sons and five daughters. They were members of the Presbyterian Church. The father died in 1836, and eight years later the widow, with seven of the children, came to this country, and after living about a year in Allegheny County, Penn., moved to Beaver County. Here the mother died in 1866, and here a number of her descendants yet live. Archibald assisted in the care of the family until he was about twenty-two years of age, when he went to Pittsburgh, and was employed in a commission house. He was then overseer of Lock No. 1 on the Monongahela River two years, and then ran a saw-mill until 1856, when he went by way of the Isthmus to California, and was engaged in mining until 1862, returning to Pittsburgh, where for two years he ran a saw-mill. In 1864, he came to this county and purchased his present farm ; he owns 145 acres. Mr. Miller married his first wife, Miss Margaret Hains, in 1851 ; she died in 1855, leaving two children—Mary and John. In 1862, he married Miss Matilda Mateere. She was born in Beaver County, Penn., March 20, 1842 ; they had seven children, viz.: Stephen T., John M., James S., Robert C., Joseph, Sarah E. and Anna M. Mr. Miller is a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

JOHN MILLER was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 14, 1827, the only child of John and Gertrude Miller. When about four years of age his father died, and his mother married George Gutermuth. In 1837, they emigrated to the United States, and located at Canal Fulton, Ohio, where they remained about nine years, then moved to Adams County, Ind., young Miller accompanying them. In 1847, he came to Noble County, and for one year worked at any honest employment he could find ; subsequently worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1851, he went to Columbiana County, Ohio, and from there to Mahoning County, where he worked at cabinet making. In 1852, he returned to Indiana, and for two years worked at his trade in De Kalb County. He then purchased ten acres of land in Swan Township, where he followed cabinet-making until 1872, when he came to La Otto, and erected a bedstead factory, saw and planing-mill, which he has since successfully operated. Mr. Miller married Miss Mary, daughter of Jonathan Simon, Esq., October 5, 1854. She was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, October 10, 1837. They have had nine children, viz.: Rebecca J., Rachel G., Mary E., John W. and Arvilla I., living ; Josiah, George, David and Louisa, deceased. Mr. Miller is a self-made man, a Republican, and an earnest advocate of the temperance cause.

REV. JOSEPH P. MOORE, born August 5, 1820, in Washington County, Penn., is the son of Russell and Elizabeth (Scott) Moore, both natives of the Keystone State. The father was a farmer, and was born upon the place he afterward owned, and where he resided during his entire lifetime. He died in 1880, at an advanced age. His wife died in 1837. Joseph P. assisted upon the farm until seventeen years of age, when he entered Jefferson College, of Cannonsburgh, Penn., and graduated in 1843. He taught in various places until 1850, when he accepted the principalship of the Collegiate Institute of Pittsburgh, remaining at the head of this institution until his health failed. He moved to this county in 1865, and purchased ninety-five acres of land in



Swan Township, upon which he has since resided. He married Miss Mary Bigger March 28, 1844. She was born in Beaver County, Penn., May 14, 1823. They had six children, viz.: Mary E., Martha J., Melissa E., Joseph H., William C. and Annie L. Mrs. Moore died November 28, 1872. She was a faithful wife, a kind mother, and a consistent Christian. Mr. Moore was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian Church in 1860, and since coming to Indiana, has had charge of congregations at Albion, Avilla and other points. Probably the leading characteristic of Mr. Moore as an educator, was his skill in directing young minds, and he was particularly successful in influencing the wayward.

OLIVER L. PERRY, deceased, was born in the "Empire State," where he married Miss Mary Frances, a native of Litchfield County, Conn. In 1836, they came with ox-teams through Canada to Steuben County, Ind., where, finding the tract of land he wanted already taken, he left his family, went to Fort Wayne, and entered 160 acres in Section 36, this township, to which he moved his family in 1836. Mr. Perry helped to organize Swan Township, and was one of its first officers, and also served as County Commissioner, and during his entire official career acquitted himself with credit. They had the following children—Isabel J., Jane, George, Irene, Caroline, Mary P., Annis L. and Jay F. Mr. Perry died in 1860, and his wife December 17, 1876. Mrs. Perry was a zealous Christian. George Perry was born in Swan Township, March 21, 1839, and raised on the farm with a common education. He married Miss Rose Nickey May 2, 1869. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, October 20, 1836. He and wife are earnest advocates of the temperance cause and other reforms. Jay F. Perry was born in Swan Township March 23, 1852, and has always remained on the old homestead. He was married to Miss Ella R. Rundles June 29, 1875. She was born in Allen County, Ind., October 30, 1848. They have had three children—Thaddeus R. and Oliver Z., living; Jay F., deceased. Mr. Perry owns 215 acres of land. Is a Republican and an enterprising gentleman.

RUSSELL A. PRESTON, born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., January 5, 1821, one of thirteen children born to Lucius and Elizabeth (Wiley) Preston, both natives of the Empire State. In 1834, they removed to Medina County, Ohio, where they remained until 1845, when they came to Swan Township, this county. The father was an intelligent, public-spirited man, and during his lifetime filled many positions of honor and trust. Russell A. was brought up on a farm, receiving a common-school education. Soon after coming to this county, he began working at iron making, which he followed fifteen years, also engaging in farming and stock raising. He was married to Miss Abigail Bishop April 8, 1841. She was born in Washington County, N. Y., July 16, 1824. They had seven children, three yet living viz.: Leonard Z., Russell E. and John W.; Mary L., Jane E., Alveretta B. and Joseph L., deceased. Leonard Z. and Russell E. served in the late war. Mr. Preston is a Republican, and an intelligent citizen. He owns 106 acres of land, and what he now possesses was acquired by his own exertions.

JOHN B. RENKENBERGER was born March 1, 1831, in Mahoning County, Ohio, one of ten children born to Christopher and Barbara (Schnarenberger) Renkenberger, who were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They were married in Columbiana County, Ohio, and have passed their entire married life in the same neighborhood upon a farm. They are yet living, as are their ten children. The father is a farmer and carpenter, and he and wife are

Christians. John B., when fourteen years of age, was apprenticed to the harness and saddle maker's trade, which he followed about six years. He was married to Miss Lydia Renkenberger April 1, 1848, born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 1, 1830. In 1852, they came to their present place in Swan Township, which at the time consisted of eighty acres of unimproved land. They now own two hundred and fifteen acres, well improved. They have had born to them eight children, seven of whom are now living, viz.: Horace O., Thomas C., Hiram A., Tryphena M., Ida B., Free D. and Nettie; the deceased was James D. Mr. Renkenberger is a Democrat, and has held the offices of Township Trustee and Assessor, and other positions.

ANDREW RICHARDS' father, Joseph Richards, was born in Baltimore County, Md., March 23, 1812. His parents, Andrew and Rebecca (Merriman) Richards, moved from Maryland to Licking County, Ohio, in 1824, where they died. Joseph Richards was married, December 18, 1834, to Miss Catharine Fulk, born in Virginia in 1811. In 1836, Mr. Richards, in company with Adam Fulk and family, came to this township, where he entered land and lived until 1873, when he moved to Churubusco, Whitley County, and engaged in mercantile trade. In his family were seven children, viz.: Andrew, George, Charles, Sarah E., Mary J. and two that died in infancy. Andrew Richards was born upon the old homestead, in Swan Township, in 1837. He was reared a farmer. After reaching his majority, he began taking contracts to clear land and working at any available employment. By industry and economy, he was enabled, in a few years, to purchase a piece of land, which he lost after partly improving. He then bought another tract in Allen County, which he improved and lived upon until he purchased his present place, about eight years ago. He was married to Miss Sarah Crow April 12, 1861. She was born in Whitley County, Ind., in 1844. They had three children, viz.: Eliza E., Charles and James. Mr. Richards is a Democrat and owns 160 acres of improved land, plentifully stocked.

JONATHAN SIMON was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, August 6, 1811, the son of George and Elizabeth (Hewitt) Simon, both natives of Washington County, Penn., where they were married and resided until 1810, when they moved to Columbiana County, Ohio. Here, until the time of their demise, they lived and reared eleven children. The father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and was noted for his sterling integrity and goodness of heart. Jonathan Simon was brought up on a farm and to hard labor. He received but a limited education. He married Miss Rachel Yarian March 1, 1836. She was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, December 16, 1818. In 1837, they came to Indiana and entered the land they now own in Butler Township, De Kalb County, and where they are now situated to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Mr. Simon has worked at carpentering at intervals, though principally his time has been devoted to farm work. He owns 160 acres of land in De Kalb County, besides valuable property in Noble County. He helped lay out the village of La Otto, and has contributed largely toward building up the churches, schools and moral status of the community in which he lives. In his family were ten children—David, Benjamin, Jacob, Jonas, Joseph, Polly, Mary A., Olive, Alice M. and Catharine. Mr. Simon is a Republican and is known by his good works.

SAMUEL E. SMITH was born in Juniata County, Penn., May 18, 1829, the son of Joseph and Susan (Garehart) Smith, natives of Union County, Penn. Joseph Smith, grandfather of Samuel E., was one of the first set-

tlers of Union County, and during the early times there was attacked by Indians and severely wounded, some of the family killed and others taken into captivity. Our subject's parents were married in their native county, and shortly after went to Juniata County, where they raised six sons and four daughters. The father was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was a prominent contractor on the Pennsylvania Canal and other public improvements. He died in 1834, and his wife in 1879. Samuel E. Smith was reared a farmer, and received limited advantages. He was married to Miss Mary Bucher October 31, 1854, daughter of Col. Joseph Bucher, who was a gallant soldier of the war of 1812. She was born in Lancaster County, Penn., April 2, 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had nine children, viz.: Lucinda J., David J., Deborah J., Abraham L., John S., George W., Harry B. and Blanche M., living; Amelia A., deceased. Mr. Smith, in 1865, came to Swan Township. He owns 112 acres of fine farm land, raises good stock, and is a practical farmer. He is a Republican, and a member of the Order of Odd Fellows.

ROBERT STROUSS was born December 14, 1836, in Swan Township, the son of Jonas and Anna (McCartney) Strouss. The father was born in Northampton County, Penn., October 9, 1800, where he was married January 16, 1823. Mrs. Strouss was a native of Huntingdon County, Penn., born November 22, 1803. Jonas Strouss assisted his father in a mill and upon the farm. After his marriage he engaged in farming until 1836; then came to Swan Township and entered land on Section 13, subsequently purchasing a farm on Section 7, where he lived until a short time ago, when he leased his farm and moved to Avilla. In his family were eleven children, viz.: John, Rebecca, Mary, Eliza, Simon, William, Robert, Martha, Lydia A., Sarah and Julia. Mr. Strouss, by hard work and economy, has accumulated considerable property. He has served in official positions in Swan and Allen Townships, and is one of the pioneers of the county. Robert Strouss was the first white child born in Swan Township. He was raised upon his father's farm, and was married to Miss Elizabeth McCartney April 5, 1860. She was born in Beaver County, Penn., February 9, 1844. Four children have been born, viz., Emma, William, Allen and Robert A. Mr. Strouss owns 80 acres of well-improved land, and is a liberal Democrat.

JOHN STROUS is a native of Northampton County, Penn., born March 15, 1803. His parents, John and Mary (Snipp) Strous, were natives of Germany, but came while yet children with their parents to the United States. They were married in the Quaker City, and soon after removed to Northampton County, where Mr. Strous found employment as a millwright, and which he followed, in connection with farming, all his life. In his family were twelve children, eight living. His father, David Strous, served under Washington through the Revolutionary war. Our subject was raised upon a farm and in a mill. He married Rebecca Dean July 6, 1826; she was born in Washington County, Penn., June 13, 1805. In October, 1836, Mr. Strous and family came to Swan Township, where he had entered 160 acres of land, and erected a log cabin, into which they moved, and where they endured many privations and hardships. In their family were eight children, viz., Mary J., David, Nancy, Martin, James D., Elizabeth A., Margaret A. and Catharine. Martin and James D. served in the war of the rebellion; Martin was severely wounded at the battle of Murfreesboro and also at Chickamauga; James D. was wounded at Mission Ridge. Mr. Strous is a Republican and was a firm Union man during the war. He cleared two large farms, but some eight years ago

sold them and purchased a comfortable home in Swan. He was one of the first Trustees of the township and has held other positions. His wife departed this life August 27, 1873.

JOHN WHAN was born in Harrison County, Ohio, September 29, 1820, the oldest of five children born to Joseph and Jane (Barton) Whan. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of the North of Ireland, and came with her parents to Washington County, Penn., when a child. Here she married Mr. Whan. About 1818, they moved to Harrison County, Ohio, returning to Washington County at the end of seven years, where the father died in 1838. John was then about eighteen years old, but assumed the greater part of the care of the family. He worked out, seldom receiving more than \$8 per month. In 1843, he came to Indiana and purchased a portion of the place he now owns, and then returned to Pennsylvania. The next year he returned with his brother William. They began the improvement of the place and kept "bach." In 1845, the remainder of the family came out, and for some time they found it hard to obtain a livelihood. John Whan married Miss Isabell J. Perry February 8, 1848. She was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., October 14, 1828. They had eleven children—Olive, Franklin, Theresa, Oliver L., William, Mary J., Elizabeth I., John, James and George P., living; Martha J., deceased. Mr. Whan has held the office of County Commissioner two terms, and was one of the first men in Swan Township to advocate the new school system. He owns 460 acres of land in Swan Township, and eighty in Green Township. He is a Republican and influential in the party.

DAVID YARIAN is the son of Isaac Yarian, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, November 20, 1814, and is the son of Conrad and Eve (Ruperd) Yarian, natives of the Keystone State. They were married in Columbiana County, Ohio, and were the parents of thirteen children. Mr. Yarian was of German descent; his ancestors came to this country during Colonial times, and some of them served in the Revolutionary war. Conrad Yarian held a Lieutenant's commission, and served with distinction during the war of 1812. Isaac Yarian was married, in 1837, to Miss Elizabeth Harrold, who was born December 4, 1818, in Columbiana County, Ohio. By this union there were thirteen children, viz., Samuel, David, Paul, Elijah, Mary A., Rebecca, Moses, John, Isaac N., Elizabeth, Henry, Reuben and Zachariah. In 1838, Mr. Yarian moved to Wyandot County, Ohio; in 1850, he came to his present location in this county. Mr. Yarian has always followed farming and carpentering. He owns 280 acres of land; is a Democrat, and a respected and influential citizen. His wife died January 5, 1881. David Yarian was born in Wyandot County, Ohio, December 11, 1839. He was married to Miss Mary M. Simon March 29, 1859. She was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1831. From this union there were four children, viz., Flora L. and Lorena I. (living), Mary E. and Iona (deceased). Mr. Yarian has always followed farming and carpentering. He owns a well-improved farm of 140 acres; has held the office of Township Assessor, besides other public positions. He is a Republican, and a member of the Lutheran Church.



**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.**

**JACOB BAKER** is a native of Mercer County, Ohio, born November 25, 1827, and the son of William and Mercy (Bevington) Baker. They remained in Ohio until 1834; then came to Indiana, locating in Perry Township, this county; lived there one year, then moved to Sparta Township, where William Baker died. Mrs. Mercy Baker died while on a visit to Ohio. Jacob Baker was about seven years old when he came to Indiana, and until his father's death remained at home, assisting on the farm. Then, for about ten years, he was employed in clearing land, and soon earned enough to buy a small farm where Cromwell now stands, where he lived until 1877, when he sold his property and came to his present location; in Section 19, Mr. Baker has 160 acres, and 160 in Section 21. While in Sparta Township, he served three terms as Trustee, and was married, in 1853, to Miss Mary A. Smith, a native of Licking County, Ohio. Her parents, William H. and Sarah (Hessey) Smith, natives of Virginia, came from Delaware County, Ohio, to Indiana in about 1851, locating in Sparta Township, where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have five children living—George W., Henry E., Lewis T., Julia and Clarence Sherman. Mr. Baker is a good Republican citizen.

**MICHAEL BOUSE**, born February 23d, 1819, in Union County, Penn., was raised on a farm. When about nineteen years old, he learned the carpenter trade, which he continued for ten years. In January, 1842, he was married to Sophia Rocky, and in 1844 moved from Pennsylvania to Noble County, in wagon, and was one month on the road. Since he settled on his farm, he has cleared about ninety acres of land. In July, 1851, his wife died, leaving six children—Mary E., John F., Henry E., Aaron E., Simon P. and Michael E. He was married a second time, September 27, 1852, to Miss Melinda S. Swengel; this lady has presented him with four children—Newton A., George S., Benjamin F. and Melinda S. Mr. Bouse and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Bouse holds a commission given him August 3, 1842, as First Lieutenant of Third Company of the Seventh Regiment of the Pennsylvania State Militia; he also holds one from Gov. Porter, of Indiana, as Justice of the Peace. He owns 290 acres of land, and is quite a prominent farmer.

**CHRISTIAN DEARDORFF**, one of fifteen children in the family of Isaac and Eve (Zigler) Deardorff, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, January 29, 1814. Isaac Deardorff was a farmer, German, and his wife French. The subject has always lived on a farm, and in 1840 moved with the rest of the family to Richland County, Ohio, and lived there until he located in Indiana in 1851, having previously visited the country in 1838. He owned eighty acres of land in Tuscarawas County which he sold and then bought forty acres in Richland County. Upon coming to this State, purchased eighty acres in Whitley County, where he lived eight years, then came to his farm of eighty-five acres in this township, where he has since lived in comfortable circumstances. As he never desired to become rich, he is well contented and fitted to enjoy life. September 24, 1837, he was married to Miss Sarah Kennel. They had ten children—three infants deceased—Jonas, Jane (deceased), James G., Enos S., Christian G., William J. and Rose

Ann. After his wife's death, April 2, 1870, he married July 2, 1871, Mrs. Catharine (Berkey) McChloughan, a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Deardorff is a Republican and a member of the Christian Church.

PETER HOWENSTINE was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 20, 1813. His father, Peter Howenstine, was one of Napoleon's soldiers; was in the battle of Waterloo, and was with the army when they retreated from Moscow. The family sailed from Bremen May 14, 1819, and after a long and perilous voyage of eighteen weeks landed in this country. They settled in Westmoreland County, Penn., where Peter Howenstine was raised to manhood. At the age of twenty-one he commenced the cooper's trade and continued at the business for sixteen years, making barrels for distillers. In 1836, he was married to Lydia Weimer, and in 1848 moved to Stark County, Ohio, where he followed his trade as cooper until he commenced farming. In 1854, he moved to Noble County, and in 1864 settled on the farm where he now lives, and for which he paid \$2,200 cash. Shortly after paying for the land, he found that the man of whom he bought it was not the rightful owner, and suit was commenced against him to recover the land, and after seven years' litigation he was compelled to pay a second time for it; this time the land cost him \$2,000. In 1849, his wife died and left him with a family, so the following year he was married a second time. He has now living three of his first wife's children, and four of the second. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church; was a volunteer in the Mexican war, but was not in good health, so was excused from serving. He has always voted with the Democratic party; has been Justice in his township for four years.

FERDINAND KNAPPE was the third child of August and Mary (Wetzel) Knappe, born in Pike County, Penn., March 9, 1838; moved from Pennsylvania with parents to Sussex County, N. J., and in the spring of 1850 to Noble County. In 1861, Ferdinand Knappe was married to Miss Eliza A. Long. They now have one child living—Sarah Ann. Mr. Knappe taught school every winter from 1858 until 1880; is a strong Republican, having been twice elected Justice. He has a nice farm of 100 acres, and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

DAVID S. LONGFELLOW, born April 16, 1832, in Ohio. His father, Joseph Longfellow, lived when a boy in Delaware, and remembers of hearing the cannon-firing during the Revolutionary war. David S. was raised on a farm, and was educated at the Ohio Wesleyan University. He has taught school for seventeen winters in Ohio and Indiana. He was married August 16, 1855, to Miss Barbara Geiter, and, in 1856, moved to Noble County. In 1858, his wife died and left two small children—Martha E. and Barbara M. October 8, 1860, he was married to Miss Sarah E. Hindbaugh, and by his second wife had seven children, viz., Ida M., Sarah V., Grace O., Howard C., Washington H., Hadley K. and Matthew L. February, 1865, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry; he attained the rank of First Lieutenant, and was discharged in August, 1865. He is a Republican, and has served the party as Justice of the Peace in that township; he has also been Postmaster at Wilmot Post Office for four years. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. He is a well-to-do farmer, and owns 160 acres of land.

ROBERT LUCKEY, born January 30, 1824, in Buckingham County, Va.; moved with his parents to Fayette County, Penn., in 1828, and, in 1836, moved to Elkhart County, Ind., where he remained until November, 1863, when

he moved to Noble County. He is the first child of James and Sophia (Furvis) Luckey. His father, James Luckey, was a graduate of Jefferson College, and for a number of years after coming to this country taught school. Robert Luckey when a boy, would go ten miles to mill and remain all day to get three bushels of corn ground. He can remember one time they were so short of provisions that his mother had to dig up potatoes that had been planted, to keep the family from starving; he also remembers when his mother cut up blankets to make clothing for the children. Mr. Luckey learned the brick-maker's trade when twenty-three years of age, and followed it for twelve years. He was married, April 28, 1859, to Miss Abigail Adair. Miss Adair was the second white child born in Washington Township. They have seven children—Annie M., Lida S., Ida M., Jennie M., James E., Thomas A. and Joseph E. In 1863, Mr. Luckey was drafted in the army but sent a substitute. He is a Democrat, and cast his first vote for James K. Polk. He owns 140 acres of land, and is a member of the Methodist Church. His father fought in the war of 1812, and his mother had Pocahontas blood in her veins.

JOHN C. REED was born near Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, September 30, 1814; was the eldest child of James and Nancy Reed. The family moved from Knox to Huron County, when John was three years old. When he was twenty-one, he moved to Seneca County, where he learned the trade of cooper. In 1850, he came to Noble County, where he purchased 160 acres of land. In the summer, he worked on his farm, and in the fall and winter worked at his trade. He married, 24th of March, 1836, Sarah Jackson. The fruits of this union have been twelve children, seven boys and five girls; nine are now living; eight of the children are married. Mr. Reed has been almost an invalid for several years. He voted with the Democratic party until John Brown was hung, and since that time has been a true Republican.

CAPT. W. N. VORIS was born in Mercer County, Ohio, March 21, 1832, the eighth child of John and Hannah (Price) Voris, who, with their family, moved to Noble County in the spring of 1835. Shortly after his arrival, John Voris laid out a graveyard on his farm, and in the fall was taken sick and died, and was the first to be buried in it. Capt. Voris commenced to learn the carpenter's trade in 1850, and continued it until the war broke out. He was the first man in Noble County to enlist, and went out in the Ninth Indiana Infantry, Company A, under the command of Capt. Hannum. During three months, was in the battles of Philippi, Laurel Hill (where he was one of 200 who captured a rebel battery), and Carrick's Ford. At the end of that time, he came back to his home, and assisted to raise Company F, of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry, of which he was elected Captain. After serving for a time, he returned home again, and raised Company B, of the Eighty-eighth Indiana Infantry. He remained with this regiment until the close of the war, and was in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and others, and marched with Sherman to Atlanta. Capt. Voris, during the war, was under fire between thirty-five and forty times. At the battle of Chickamauga, he was struck between the shoulders with a fragment of a shell, and left for dead on the field; but he recovered and returned to his command. He has never fully recovered from the wound. He was commissioned as Major about the close of the war, but on account of the small number of soldiers, was not mustered in command. He was discharged June 14, 1865. He lost two brothers in the service. He was married, May 6, 1866, to Elizabeth Robinson. They are the parents of four children, two girls and two boys—Mary E., William N., John C. and

Maud M. Capt. Voris is a Republican of the Stalwart kind; since the war, has lived on a fine farm of 168 acres; is a thrifty and honorable citizen.

JACOB WEIGEL, born October 6, 1832, in Cumberland County, Penn., a son of Jacob and Katharine (Rasler) Weigel. In 1847, he moved with his parents to Noble County, and when about eighteen years old, commenced to dig wells, and followed this occupation until 1874. In all, he dug 101 wells; the deepest one being fifty-four feet, and the shallowest nine feet, averaging twenty-seven feet to each well. In 1853, he was married to Susan Peppers, by whom he has three children—Margaret C., John Wesley and Marion Sylvester. He is a hard-working man, and a prominent member of the Salem E. Lutheran Church. He owns forty acres of land, all under cultivation, and is a strong Democrat.











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