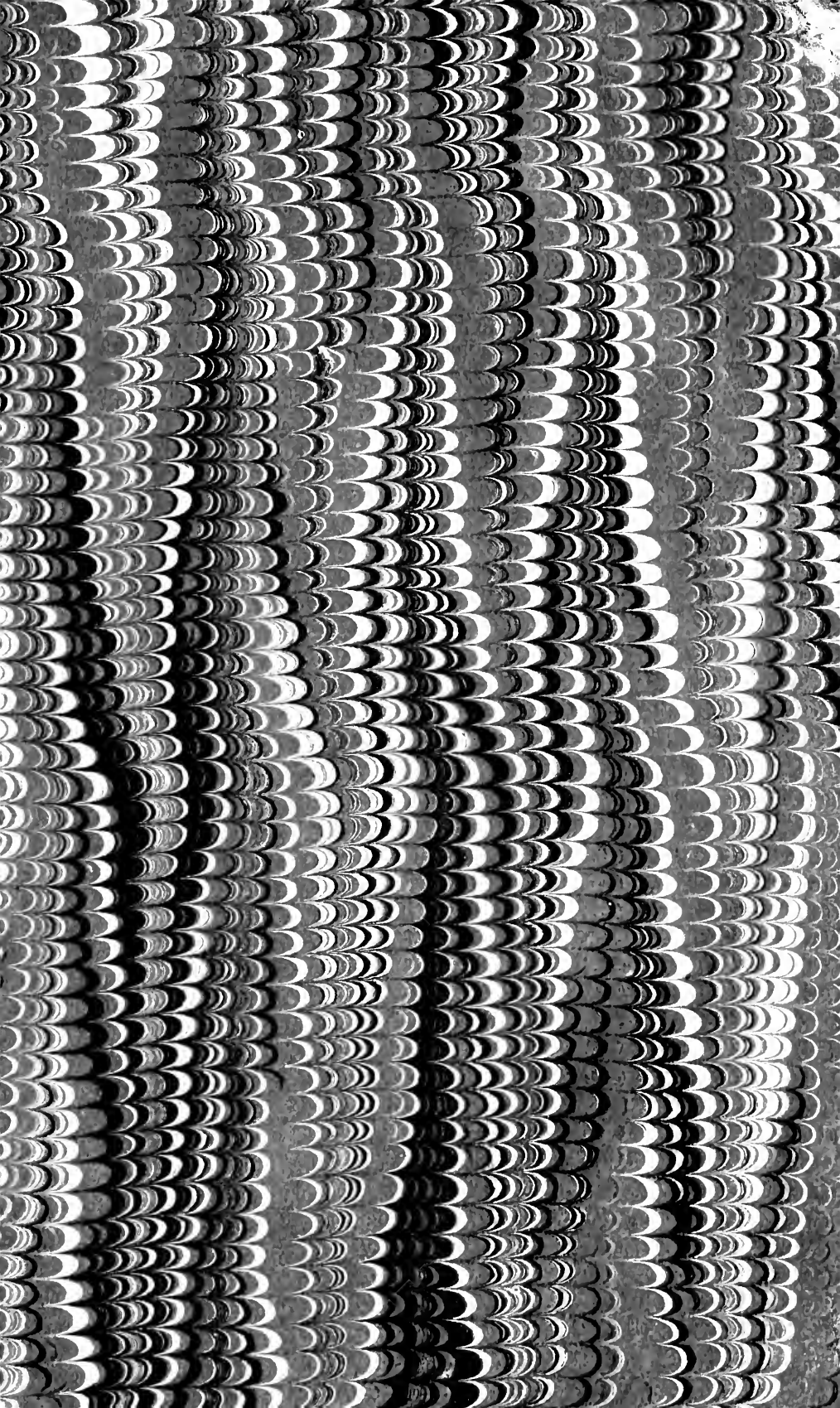




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# AN ADDRESS

CONTAINING THE

## History of Boone County,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT,

DELIVERED BY

STEPHEN NEAL,

At Lebanon, Indiana, July 4, 1876.

—AND—

## A SERMON

—ON THE—

## History and Growth of Presbyterianism

IN BOONE COUNTY, INDIANA,

DELIVERED BY

REV. J. M. BISHOP,

In the Presbyterian Church at Lebanon, Ind., July 2, 1876.

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LEBANON, IND.:  
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1876.

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# Boone County.

—o—  
A BRIEF HISTORICAL COMPENDIUM OF ITS EARLY HISTORY  
TO JULY 4, 1876.  
—o—

BY STEPHEN NEAL.  
—o—

FELLOW CITIZENS: Being assembled here to commemorate the centennial anniversary of our National Independence, let us hope, that without regard to denominations, class, party, or distinctive orders, you all can cheerfully and heartily participate in so common a purpose.

Pursuant to the task to me assigned by your committee, and in conformity to a resolution of Congress and the recommendation of the President of the United States and the Governor of your State, it has been made my duty, on this occasion, to present you a brief historical sketch of Boone county.

The limits allotted for this, will admit of nothing more than a mere outline historical compendium. You can hardly expect or desire anything more. I shall be compelled to omit many events and incidents and much of the facts and details which should properly be included in a complete history of your county.

From the great amount of materials constituting the history of the county, I shall aim to select such portions only, as may seem most appropriate for the occasion, expecting you to make due allowance for the

omission of much that is of interest.

While the history of pioneer life, the varied, rough hewed events attending the first settlements, as well as the growth and subsequent prosperity of any country, must ever be attractive and entertaining, that of our own county lies so near us, and is so modern and homely, that around it is thrown no false glory, calculated to lend any fanciful enchantment to the view, or robe the story in romantic hue. Our theme bears us over no unvoyagable space, nor yet does it lie within the star dust realm of inventive imagination. It is real and substantial, and as homely as home itself. It pertains to a subject positively palpable, to real *terra firma*; or, if you object to that, we will say, it pertains to what was once a humid wilderness of deep forests, wild Indians, wild animals, and much wet marshy land, which subsequently became the abode of civilization, accompanied with great improvements, and has been the scene of much toil, great industry, many hardships and great achievements.

Such is our theme; it is a plain unpathetic story, unadorned by any foreign romance or brilliant fiction.

You should, however, esteem it none the less on this account. It is worthy of being perpetuated among the annals of your county. It is an enduring monument to the industry, the perseverance, and the labor of yourselves and the hardy pioneers who here first made settlement. There are among us here to-day, some, who if they were not the first, were among the first, who made settlement in this county, and who can well remember the early events and incidents attendant thereupon, as well as the then condition of the country.

And although here, there blew no "Sabeian odors from the spicy shore of Araby the blest," still this land was more richly dowered than any ancient and modern Arabian realm: for there extend the arid, torrid wastes of burning sand, where passing, blew the deadly Harmattan winds, and scorch and consume all vital force of vegetable life: but not so here, where in rich luxuriance, grew the deep umbrageous shades and shelterings cool; nor were there wanting scenes to attract and engage the attention of the comers among these primeval groves, where the undergrowth of shrubs and tangling bushes perplexed all path of man or beast that here would pass.

The first immigrants can well recall their solitary journeyings through the almost unbroken wilderness, following as best they could, the tree-marked ways, often encountering and passing through or swamping down as the case might be, in the soft yielding, porous sloughs or marshy lands, meanwhile encompassed on every hand, or rather on every shore, by the almost impenetrable wild woods where many of the trees grew an hundred feet in height, and beneath and among all these, the weeds, wild grass, and the luxuriant wild pea vine, altogether forming a growth so dense that it was impervious to the sun's rays at noon-day.

The scene was sad, the wilderness a wild  
And man no hermit then, for woman smiled.

Yes: your industrious and economical mothers patiently and cheerfully endured their share of the toil, the privations, and the hardships of pioneer life, and side by side with your fathers, contributed to build up the cheerful and comfortable homes which you to-day enjoy. But many of them have ceased from their labors and have passed away. And these awful groves have not been without their solemn worship.

"For mercy, from her golden urn,"  
Poured a rich stream to them that mourned;  
Behold, she bound, with tender care,  
The bleeding bosoms of despair."

Yet some of you who are here can well remember those early hardships, privations, toils and discouragements which you had to encounter; but in your determined resolutions, you never seemed once to have anticipated a failure. You pressed onward in the line of duty, never asking, "Is the route practicable?" You took it for granted that it was possible to make homes and a living for yourselves and families, though encompassed on every hand by such a wilderness: and your determined resolutions crowned your success; and you have lived to see the glory of your hard earned achievements.

You have lived to see the wilderness transformed into one of the finest and most productive agricultural counties in the State. The vast forests have mostly been cleared away, the lands nearly all enclosed with fencing, drained and set in grass or reduced to tillage; towns and villages in many places, and fine or comfortable homes and improvements everywhere appear. As you recall the condition of things here fifty years ago, you must say, what a change! so much surpassing our expectations, that it seems almost like romance.

But let us still recall the past; how that here amidst the once wild woods and unbroken coverts, and thickets overgrown, then grotesque

and wild, during many dreary untold ages gone, there had existed the original red men, the tameless sons of the forest, occupied in their primeval pursuits, the chase of the deer, bear and the wild fowls of the wilderness which was then also the abode of numerous reptiles, snakes, frogs, lizards, wild "varments," and insects numerous, and clouds upon clouds of predatory mosquitos, scarce less numerous than the ancient locusts which in Egypt's evil day, darkened all the land of Nile. And when the pioneer recalls these early scenes, he well may have some sharp reminiscences and affecting thoughts. At early morn and dewy eve, his camp fires were built to repell his fierce assailants. He had to encounter many real and severe realities. To make settlement in such a country; to clear away the heavy forests, and build improvements amidst such surroundings, required courage, perseverance and immense labor, no less than that which carried the first Napoleon and his unconquerable army over the frowning, snow clad Alps. Their labor, their achievements were greater than his, and far more worthy of historic celebrity. He wrought in the interest of an unhalloved ambition and in the pursuit of an empty fame: while our immigrants here labored to subdue and remove a wilderness, and develop and build up an empire of wealth; and what they have accomplished is greater than the achievement of leveling down the Alpine heights. And shall not history accord these noble toilers a just meed of praise?

It has been only 46 years since the Territory now included within Boone county, was in the possession and the home and hunting ground of roving Indian bands.

The Eel River tribe of the Miami Indians, which was one of the many tribes that constituted the powerful Confederacy of the Miami's, whose capital was at or near the site of Post Miami, (since Fort Wayne) had neld and occupied the country now

included within the limits of this county, as their special hunting ground. Here before them, their fathers had pursued the chase, had died and been buried on the banks of the many silent streams, with no other requiem but the soft music of the sougling winds and rustling leaves.

In the year 1828, the United States government by purchase and by treaty, extinguished forever the Miami Reservation, in which the limits of Boone county had been included. In the year 1819, these Indians and a few French traders had a town with a population of about 400 inhabitant at the location where Thorntown now stands. Yet, notwithstanding, the Indian reservation was extinguished in 1828, many of these Indians loth to give up and leave the home and hunting grounds of their fathers, remained here, following their old pursuit, the chase, up to the year 1835, some five years after the organization of the county.

In their various wanderings, they encamped within the limits of the town of Lebanon as late as 1833. But that mighty Indian Confederacy has vanished; even the graves of their chieftans are unknown; you look in vain for the monumental column; there remains no enduring monument to tell that here they ever had an existence; the rude bark huts and the grove-encompassed wigwams are no more; they have disappeared, and like the baseless fabric of a vision, left no trace to tell that they ever existed, save some rude marks on the old forest trees of their encampment.

And now after the lapse of forty-six years, what a grand transformation appears; transcending in realities the inventions of the imagination in the story of the Arabian Nights.

The story seems like an old day dream. Our children can scarcely believe it true; it seems so passing strange; such a great change in so

short a time. We who have been here all the while, can hardly realize the wonderful transformation; little by little, day after day, and year after year, the changes have been produced.

During the winter of the year 1829, the State Legislature enacted a law providing for the organization of Boone county, and naming it in honor of Daniel Boone, one of the celebrated pioneer settlers of Kentucky; and in pursuence to the law aforesaid, the county was organized in the year 1830, at which time the population of the county, Indians excepted, was only 622 persons.

Up to this time there had been but little improvement made. A few log cabins had been built, and a few small "patches" partly cleared. The interior portion of the county contained numerous sloughs and much swampy land, varying in size from one to five hundred acres, each. The sloughs were overgrown with a tall growth of rough grass and flags, upon which the water during the wet seasons of the year, stood varying from one inch to three feet in depth. The soil in these sloughs consists of a decomposed vegetable mould, the result of vegetable decomposition during untold ages, which soil is a dark loam very fertile. Such was the condition of the county at the time of its organization. It was a wilderness.

The southeastern portion of the county, through which flows Eagle creek and its tributaries, has an undulating surface more or less rolling.

The northern part of the county, through which flows Sugar Creek, from east to west, also has an uneven surface though not hilly. The western part of the county has partly an uneven surface.

The interior or central portions of the county contain the highest land between the Wabash and White river, and is what might be called the summit level—and though it is such it is very level land, with not suf-

ficient slope for the water to run off, without artificial drains.

Considering the levelness of the surface, the unparalleled fertility of the soil and the humidity of the climate, supplied by frequent and copious rains at all seasons of the year, and also the fact that everywhere beneath the surface at a depth varying from ten to eighteen feet, can be found an abundant supply of excellent water for all purposes during the year, it is not surprising that the first settlers found here such a deep wilderness of timber, undergrowth, flags, weeds, wild grasses, and wild vines. And although from the central part of the county the streams flow thence to nearly every point of the compass, still in many respects this land was unlike the Eden, which "stretched her line from Auran eastward to the royal towers of great Seleucia;" nevertheless its groves were as deep and dense as those of old, that overshadowed Vallambrosia's ancient vale. The forest trees were sugar maple, oak, ash, walnut, poplar, cottonwood, elm, beech, linden, and many other kinds. And in fertility of soil and in capacity for productiveness, it might well be compared to that of the famous land of the Nile, which in the days of Rome, was said to have been the granary of that great city and from which it obtained its supply of bread.

Such would seem to be naturally the productive capacity of the soil of this county, provided it should be thoroughly drained by artificial drainage and improved to its highest degree of tillage.

And here amidst the advantages and disadvantages, scarcely fifty-six years ago, came the first settlers, who were, however, soon followed by others, who after having selected their locations, cleared away the brush and logs, and erected their log cabins: and year after year, little by little, they chopped away the underbrush and felled the heavy forest trees, chopped them into logs and

rolled and burned them. Such were the small beginnings in the building up and developing of what is now Boone county. But who can estimate the amount of labor that presented itself and lay before these determined immigrants. We shall aim to take a glance at what has been accomplished. But if these pioneers had their cares and toils, they also had their enjoyments amidst these primeval scenes.

"They saw by the smoke that so gracefully curled  
Above the green elms, that a cottage was near.  
And they thought, if there is peace to be found in  
the world,  
A heart that is humble might hope for it here."

Here they found in the forests an abundant supply of wild honey, and the most delicious venison.

The first settlement by our people was commenced in what is now Eagle township, in the year 1823.

#### EAGLE TOWNSHIP.

In this township was made (so far as we have learned) the first settlement in the county, by our people; though the Indians and a few French traders, prior to this, had an Indian town and trading post at the site where Thorntown now stands. In the year 1823, Patrick H. Sullivan, who is still living and who is here to-day, and who yet resides in Eagle township, came, he being the first pioneer settler in this township, and probably the first in the county. He came seven years before the county was organized, while it was a part of the Miami Indian Reservation. But soon after he settled here other immigrants came; among whom were David Hoover, Jacob Sheets, John Sheets and William Smith. We can fancy that we see their small rough log cabins, surrounded by the thick tall forests, near the place where Zionsville now stands.

Eagle township and Boone county were not then known in *name*. The widow Cross, who is a daughter of David Hoover, is yet living and is a resident in Eagle township at Zionsville. They came in 1824. The Lane and Lowe families came in the

year 1826. In this township, in a rough log house, was held the first Circuit Court ever held in the county. David Hoover was the first clerk of the Circuit Court. So far as the population was concerned, the people of Eagle township was then the county or nearly so. When P. H. Sullivan came, and for some time after, there was neither a white nor a black man between where he lived and Thorntown. Austin Davenport was the first sheriff of the county, and Jacob Sheets was the first justice of the peace; and William Smith was the first constable. These were all of Old Eagle! But from then till now what a change! Today, Eagle township has a population of about three thousand persons. The wilderness has disappeared. Zionsville is the largest town in the township; it has a population of about 1,200. It has one graded school. All the land in the township has been enclosed with fencing and mostly well improved.

#### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

John Gibson, Jacob Tipton, John Galvin and Samuel Hughes were among the first settlers in this township. John Gibson settled there in the year 1829, and John Galvin in the year 1831. They located at or near the present site of Jamestown. Jamestown is the principal town in the township; it has a population of about 1,000 persons. The whole population of the township is about 3,650 persons. There are ten school houses in this township; one of these is occupied by the graded school in Jamestown.

The I. B. & W. railway passes through Jamestown and a part of the township. The southern portion of the township is much the best improved, containing many desirable, nicely undulating farms. One branch of Eel River and Raccoon Creek passes through this township.

#### SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP.

The names of the first settlers in this township were George Harness, who

was the first, afterwards, James Scott, James Vaneaton, Joshua Burnham, Nehemiah and George McKinsey, Isaac Morgan, David Daily, Zachariah Gopen, William Kenworthy and Cornelius Westfall. George Harness lived to the ripe old age of 108 years, and departed this life on the 27th day of February, 1876, in Deer Creek township, in the county of Cass, in this State. The aforesaid Cornelius Westfall was the original proprietor of the town of Thorntown, which town was laid off and platted in 1830.

The settlers above named settled in said township during the year 1827, and thence forward to the year 1831. The first child born in said township was Mary Sweeney, in the year 1827: the first marriage was John Pauley and Emily Sweeney, in the year 1828; the first death was that of Mary Ann Westfall, in the year 1829.

The first school house was built in 1833, the first church (Presbyterian) was set in order in the year 1831, Claiborn Young, minister, including twelve members; the first Sunday School was organized in April, 1834, with fifteen scholars, Linsey McConnell, superintendent: the first church edifice was erected by the Presbyterians in 1836.

The first merchant who set up in Thorntown was C. H. Baldrige: he exchanged his goods for money, furs, venison and ginseng. The first postoffice was held by Robert Hammil, the first justice of the peace was Benjamin Sweeney, the first minister of the gospel was Robert Hall, the first lawyer was Rufus A. Lockwood, the first tavern keeper was Isaac Morgan, the first physician was Dr. Farmer, and first hatter was Sam Daily.

This township now has a population of about 4,400 persons. Thorntown is its capital: it has a population of about 2,000; it has one graded school, and eleven school houses in the township. Formerly the

town was the most business town in the county.

#### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The first settlers in this township so far as we know, were John Whitchel, in the year 1829, and also John Slocum, Thomas McCann and others about the year 1830. The town of Mechanicsburg was surveyed and platted in the year 1835, Isaac Snow being the original proprietor of the same.

This township has a population of 2,430 inhabitants: it has ten school houses. The farms in this township are mostly well improved: the land is mostly rolling. Sugar Creek runs through this township.

#### PERRY TOWNSHIP.

I learn of no settlement in this township earlier than the year 1835 or 1836. Among the first settlers were William Turner, Eli Smith, Edmond Shirley, John Doyle, Phillip Neal, Isaac Smith, Isaac Pennington, Sen. and John Howard.

The population of this township is 2,200; it has seven school houses. Fayette, or White Lick post office, is the principal village: the land is level and the soil very fertile. White Lick creek rises in this township and flows south.

#### WORTH TOWNSHIP.

This township was the last civil township organized in the county: it has a population of 2,200: it has eight school houses. Whitestown is the principal village.

#### CLINTON TOWNSHIP.

The first settlement in this township was made in the northwest corner thereof, in the year 1832-33. The names of the first settlers were William Nelson, Isaac Cassidy and James Downing. In the year 1834 and 1835, Robert Stephenson, A. B. Clark, James H. Sample and Hugh Wiley, Sen. and John Evans settled on the banks of Mnd Creek in said township. The first church set in order was in 1837, under the name of Associate Reformed, now as the



United Presbyterians.

This township has a population of about 1,552 inhabitants, with ten school houses. Elizaville is the principal vantage. Sugar Creek, Mud Creek and Brown's Wonder flow through the township. Hugh Wiley, Sr., was the original proprietor of Elizaville.

#### JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

This township has a population of 2,200; it has twelve school houses. Wolf Creek heads in this township, and flows northwardly into Sugar Creek; the land is mostly level or slightly undulating.

#### UNION TOWNSHIP.

This township has a population of 1,180; it has eight school houses. Eagle Creek flows southwardly through the township. Northfield is its principal village; a portion of its lands are undulating, but not too much so for farming purposes.

#### MARION TOWNSHIP.

This township has 12 school houses; its population is 2,750. Eagle Creek heads in this township; and also the south branch of Sugar Creek heads in the north part of the township and flows northwardly.

#### HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

The population of this township is 1,403; it has eight school houses. Its villages are New Brunswick and Milledgeville. The head waters of Eel River flow south-westwardly through this township; the surface is mostly level, and the soil rich.

#### CENTER TOWNSHIP.

This township includes the central portion of the county; it has now a population of near 6,600 inhabitants. Lebanon, the capital of the county, is situated near the center of the township, and very near the exact center of the county. The original plat of the town, (now city) was laid out by Messrs. Drake & Kinnard, who were the original proprietors of the same. They donated to the county one third of the town lots, and 40 acres of land near the town,

and also brick and shingles to be applied in building the former court house. The town was laid out by them in 1830, soon after the location had been selected. Col. Kinnard had been chosen one of the commissioners to select a site for the county seat. The rival points claiming this honor were Thorntown, Eagle Village and Northfield. The commissioners examined and considered the different localities, and after passing from place to place, they found themselves at the spot where Lebanon now stands. Col. Kinnard drove a stake into the ground and announced to the other commissioners that here should be the county seat. For a while the others objected, but being defeated in argument by the Colonel, they finally yielded, and here the capital of Boone county was fixed. The town as yet was no town—that is, there was not a man to till the ground or to erect a shanty. The first settler in the original town plat of the town of Lebanon, was Abner H. Longley. He says in his first visit here in 1832, his wagon became "swamped" south east of Lebanon, and he had to leave it to seek assistance. That a man by the name of Benjamin Dun who then resided about 3 miles north-west from Lebanon, yoked "Buck" and "Bright," and accompanied him, and that they brought the wagon into the "port of Lebanon, without steam or sail." (See appendix No. 1.) This first log cabin was erected on the corner lot at south-west corner of the public square, where the marble front building now stands. In that rough log house was held the first Circuit Court in Lebanon; present, Judge Morris, Wm. Quarles and Calvin Fletcher, Esqs. The court was held partly underneath an arbor in front of it, which had been made of green forest brushes. This court house was also used for kitchen, dining room and parlor. It is said that when the judge and the two attorneys first came to Lebanon, they remarked, "Here is Lebanon. but

where are the houses?" As the log tavern had a sufficient supply of boarders, one of the side or associate judges, who had to come many miles, brought feed for his horse and his own dinner with him, and at noon ate his dinner under the shade of the trees. John Patterson was the second settler, and built the second log cabin in Lebanon. In the year 1833, Wm. M. Smith and family came and erected the third log cabin in the town. He made the first log rolling on the town plat, in 1833. He relates that the Indians encamped on the town plat after he settled here; and it surely was a rather favorable place to camp, since Mr. Smith says that he killed twenty-two deer within the limits of the town plat, during the first year. Among the other early settlers were S. S. Brown, J. S. Forsythe, J. C. Lane and others of the Lane family, also Jonathan H. Rose. During the winter of 1835, the trees on the public square were felled, and in the spring of the year of 1836, the logs were rolled and burned. Lebanon now contains a population of near 3,000 people. It has a fine court house, to build which cost about \$40,000. Besides, it has numerous manufacturing establishments, fine church edifices, and one excellent graded school. It has also two banks; and though it has made no rapid growth at any time, it has been steadily on the increase both in numbers and in improvements.

As it may be of some interest, we here give you a list of the names of those who have been elected in the county to the more important offices:

Members of the Lower House of the State Legislature—Austin Davenport, elected in 1832 and in 1833, being the first. Robert H. Hannaman in 1834 and 1835. Abner H. Longley in 1836. Joseph E. Hacker in 1837. John H. Nelson in 1838 and 1839. John Christman in 1840 and 1841. John Christman and Jonathan H. Rose in 1842. Benjamin Boone in 1843. John Dazan

and H. G. Hazelrigg in 1844. H. G. Hazelrigg in 1845. Stephen Neal in 1846. Stephen Neal and Hiram Blackstone in 1847. L. C. Dougherty in 1848 and 1849. John H. Nelson and H. M. Marvin in 1850. Wm. B. Beach in 1851. Up to this time the sessions of the legislature had been held annually; afterward every two years. Wm. P. Jones in 1853. Wm. G. Gordon in 1855. E. D. Herod and H. M. Marvin in 1857. Clark Devoil in 1859, Nelson Fordice in 1861. Sherman Hostetter in 1863. Thomas M. Stringer in 1865. T. J. Cason in 1865, Joint Representative. A. E. Gordon in 1867, 1869 and 1871. O. S. Hamilton, 1859, Joint Representative. C. S. Wesner in 1873, for Boone county alone. John Higgins in 1873, Joint Representative. H. M. Marvin in 1875.

Senators of State Legislature from Boone county—L. C. Dougherty in 1850. Thomas J. Cason in 1864. A. J. Boone in 1873.

Sheriffs—Austin Davenport in 1830. Jacob Tipton in 1832 and 1834. Wm. Zion in 1836 and 1838. John Forsythe in 1840 and 1842. Samuel Daily in 1844. Fielding Utterback in 1846. Wm. Staton in 1848. John Hazlett in 1850. A. W. Larimore in 1852 and 1854. John H. Rodman in 1856. Riley Colgrove in 1858 and 1860. John Kenworthy in 1862 and 1864. L. B. Edwards in 1866. Wm. R. Simpkins in 1868. R. S. Camplin in 1870. Wm. R. Simpkins in 1872; he died, and R. S. Camplin held over. Edward Reynolds in 1874.

Delegates to revise the constitution—M. Duzan and Wm. McLean, in 1851.

Treasurers—The first Treasurer after it was made a separate office, was J. T. McLaughlin in 1841, and he held the office 9 years. J. J. Nesbit in 1850. J. C. Daily in 1852 and 1854. A. H. Shephard in 1856. David Kenworthy in 1857 and 1860. F. M. Busby in 1862 and 1864. J. H. Dooley in 1866 and 1868. Sann-

uel S. Daily in 1870 and 1872. Wm. D. Hudson in 1874.

Clerks of Circuit Court—David Hoover, the first, S. S. Brown, John Christman, Levi Lane, Wm. C. Kise, two terms, H. Shannon, A. C. Daily, S. A. Lee, A. O. Miller, and Jesse Neff.

Auditors—A. J. Boone, S. A. Gilmore, J. A. Nunn, Joseph B. Pitzer, A. C. Daily, R. W. Matthews, J. M. Ball, and J. W. Hedges.

Recorders of the county—James McCann, Thomas P. Miller, Sanford Peters, John Thomas, F. M. Davis, J. W. Kise, and Wm. Morgan.

Judges elected in this county—L. C. Dougherty, Common Pleas. T. J. Cason, Common Pleas. W. B. Beach was elected of Supreme Court; T. J. Cason to Congress two terms.

Having now passed in rapid review the several townships of the county, and given the primitive condition of the county, together with a list of the names of those who have been elected in the county to the more important offices, let us now take a general view of the county and its resources.

The county is 24 miles long from east to west, and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide, containing 420 square miles or 268,800 square acres. The total assessed valuation of all the real estate in the county is about \$10,000,000; this is far less than its actual value. The total taxable valuation of all the personal property is \$3,257,720, total actual value of all the property, both real and personal, is not less than \$20,000,000. The total annual value of all farm products is placed at \$4,000,000. The county has within its limits not less than 150 manufacturing establishments, such as grist mills, woolen mills, saw mills, stave and heading factories, wagon and carriage shops, hub and spoke factories, tile factories and many others. There are about sixty steam engines and about six water wheels in the county. The manufacturing interest affords employment for more

than 1,000 persons; which work up annually near \$600,000 worth of raw material, producing annually about \$1,000,000 worth of manufactured goods. About 40 miles of railway traverses the county from south-east to north-west, besides another railway running from east to west is nearly completed, thus affording the county the facilities of three railways. The county contains in the aggregate about 30,000 people. There are now about 6,000 voters in the county. Owing to heavy timber, thick underbrush, level surface, and wet, swampy porous soil, this county was not very attractive to the agriculturist at its first settlement, and hence the pursuit of wild game and the collection of the skins of wild animals, wild honey, ginseng and furs were considered far more remunerative than the pursuit of farming. These articles of traffic supplied in great measure the place of a currency. At that early period of the county's history, the only real necessities for the support of a family, were considered to be two rifle guns, a supply of lead and powder, a barrel of salt, a camp kettle, and a couple of dogs. The deer, bears, wild turkeys and wolves were abundant. The people then had need for but little money; they could pay most of their taxes in the pelts of the coon, the deer and the mink.

The first election held in the county, was on the first Monday of August, 1832, at which the whole vote polled in the county, was only 365, being the exact number of days in a year, a singular coincidence.

In an early day, this county had the unenviable reputation of being afflicted with ague, chills, and malarial fever, as well as with corduroy roads, swamps, frogs, mosquitoes, and other odious proclivities. Some outside "barbarians" called it the "State of Boone," and reported that some of the inhabitants were "web-footed," "moss-legged," and even "amphibious." But those same babarians have lived long enough to see

the county take her place as the 13th county in the State in population, and excluding the large cities in the other 12 counties, and but very few counties in the State to-day, will equal this, either in population or in agricultural resources. There are but few acres of waste land in the county, and there is no quarter section wanting in the capacity to make a good farm. And yet more than half remains untold. Look at the thriving towns and villages in different parts of the county. Look at the well-improved farms, farm houses, fruit orchards, and the graveled and ungraveled public highways; and in some places fine iron bridges spanning the larger streams. Look at your public buildings—113 school houses, either brick or frame; also many fine church edifices, and besides, many excellent lodge buildings for the different charitable or benevolent orders. And then consider the vast amount of artificial ditching and draining that has been made. There are to-day not less than 300 miles of large artificial drains, open ditches cut in the county, much of this averaging ten feet in depth, and from ten to fifteen feet in width. Besides these larger drains, there are probably not less than 2,000 miles of smaller artificial drains, made of wood or burnt tile. Some may consider this an over estimate. Let us see. There are about 4,000 farms, large and small, in the county: suppose 2,000 of these are more or less ditched, so as to have one mile of ditching on each, this would give 2,000 miles of artificial drainage in the county. The lands of the county now rate at the price ranging from \$20 to \$100 per acre. I know of no tract of land in the county, rating below \$20 per acre. If you will encompass in one view the whole county including the 4,000 farms, the farm buildings and other improvements on these farms, and the public highways—graveled and ungraveled—and also the three railways, and the towns and villages, and the many

manufacturing establishments, and also the vast quantity of artificial drainage which has been made, and then try to estimate the amount of labor which has been required in the accomplishment of all this, I think you will agree with me that the same amount of labor and toil would have leveled the Alpine heights, and that it is greater than the labor endured by the army of Darius of Persia, in its campaign, when it crossed the Danube, and invaded the cold, barren country of the invincible Scythians. And who will say that the pioneer army of this country, who have cleared away a wilderness, and improved it to what it is, are entitled to less praise, or deserve less fame than that mighty Persian army? But your pioneer army needs no sculptured marble column or storied urn to perpetuate their peace achievements. They have constructed a more valuable and enduring monument than that erected by the Amphion builders of old, who in their day, through the ages of ancient Theban story, toiled well and fast. They wrought in the interest of an empty vanity; while the work of your hands has been for the practical and the useful; and yet not devoid of the Beautiful, for in its many excellencies, your county to-day surpasses old Sharon's rose-clad vale in all its ancient glory; though its beauties have been painted by masterly skill. Yet notwithstanding all that these our industrious pioneers and their co-workers have achieved, the county may be said yet to be only in its infancy, compared to what it should be fifty years hence, when it shall all be thoroughly drained with sufficient artificial drainage, and tilled to its highest capacity.

The little republic of San Marino, containing a superficial area of only 21 square miles, has a population of 8,100; while the kingdom of Saxony with a superficial area of 5,705 square miles, has a population of 1,757,800 persons; and according to the same ratio per square mile, our county

would have a population of 135,215 inhabitants. It can be rendered capable of furnishing the needful supplies of life for this number of peo-

ple. This is no extravagant prediction.

The view of the past lends a mystical lore,  
"And coming events cast their shadows before."

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# Presbyterianism.

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## THE GERM AND GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IN LEBANON.

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BY REV. J. M. BISHOP.

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ISAIAH ix-7—"Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end."

JOHN iii-30—"He must increase, but I must decrease."

I select these passages as a motto for a discourse on Presbyterianism in Lebanon, Boone county, Indiana.

I. On the texts. Isaiah here gives one of the most minutely accurate descriptions of Christ to be found in the Old Testament, and because of its minute accuracy it surely was hard to be understood before its wonderful fulfillment. We may imagine the perplexed prophet "searching what, or what manner of time, the spirit of Christ which was in him did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glory which should follow." But it perplexing to the writer B. C. 740, how plain to the reader A. D. 1876.

The text from the Evangelist is an utterance from John the Baptist, the last and the chief of the O. T. forerunners of the Savior. As he was less than the least in the kingdom of the new dispensation, we may suppose he, too, very imperfectly comprehended the character of the One he was introducing. But we now understand in the light of history, what could not in the nature of the case, be understood as it existed only in prophecy. From the combined passages I would draw this theme:

THE GROWTH OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM ON  
THE EARTH,

And will consider the subject under three heads: First, The fact of growth; Second, Its elements; Third, the agents.

1. THE FACT OF GROWTH.—Some have very despondent views on this point.—Does the kingdom advance? Some invariably say, it does not; all occasionally feel that the cause is at a standstill, or going backward. Let us consider this question.

There is a God who is the Creator of all existences, not sinful, besides Himself. All beings, sinful as well as holy, are under impulses of development, according to the respective nature and circumstances of each. To be, is to develop; to develop is to grow.

Now, the church is not an exception, but the most wonderful of all illustrations of this law. In all pertaining to it we see the unfolding of the vital germ. The new nature divinely given in regeneration grows, and complete sanctification in heaven gives a more suitable field for growth than can be found on earth. You may trace the growth of the Bible. How little it was once! Only a few verses; then a few chapters; then the Old Testament stood, as some think finished, for 400 years, from Malachi to Matthew. But what would the Old Testament have been as THE BIBLE with-

out the growth of the New Testament? So with reference to the formulated theology as it comes forth from the word of God, as pious and profound students bring forth from these pages things new and old, placing them in a better adjusted system. What progress!

If there is this vital growth in and out of God's word, much more so, both in constancy and value is there growth in and out of God's people. There is no gap here between Malachi and Matthew. From Abel until now every regenerated soul is growing and helping on the kingdom. In members the kingdom grows, and in methods of work there is development. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.

2. The ELEMENTS of growth. We are limited by the text to two, viz: government and peace. Other parts of the Bible much enlarge this elemental catalogue—(See Gal. v-22, Eph. v-9.) But it is in harmony with a practical and philosophical study of Presbyterianism, local or general, to emphasize these two, or, uniting them, to notice the growth of Christ's kingdom in peaceful government. Uncomplaining—nay, hearty submission to law; not merely submission, but co-operative obedience. Peaceful government implies social life, almost as different from individual life as instinct is different from reason. And yet in the individual Christian we see the germ of this peaceful government. An unrenewed man or woman is a rebel. The will has never yielded to God. In regeneration Christ begins to rule in and over us.

But a Christian after the manner of a converted Saul "assays to join himself to the disciples." He no longer lives to or for himself. He weeps with those that weep, rejoicing with those that rejoice. He enters with fellow workers the vineyard; he returns with his sheaves to the common garner. The will of the church, looking at it from the human standpoint, is the result of a fair majority vote. Secession is sin, and should be conquered at immense cost. This is our one chief glory as Presbyterians, as compared with other evangelical denominations, peaceful government. The grandest Epluribus unum the world has ever seen. Our own national unity, is largely an outgrowth of Presbyterianism.

3 THE AGENTS of GROWTH.—Here our Calvinistic doctrine is prominent, as under the head just considered our discipline was prominent. There are two agents of church growth, the Divine and

the human. Each of them is most distinctly brought out in the Bible. We believe in God, the Father, Almighty, and in Jesus Christ, his only son, and in the Holy Ghost. And this one God is the supreme and essential agent of church growth. Our religion has God in it. One like the Son of man, sent from the Father, abides, by the Holy Ghost, with the elect in their trials and triumphs. Hence the church grows.—"God ordinarily making use of means, is yet free to work without, above, and against them, at His pleasure." As He appears in providence and grace, the human instrument disappears. The lantern is not needed after sunrise.—"None but God is great." And yet it is the practical excellency of our theology that the instrumental agent merely takes a subordinate place in church growth, compared and contrasted with the Head. It is not annihilated or absorbed. Our agency, after regeneration, becomes more and more parallel with God's activity—never under-valued. A cup of cold water is of use, and its giver remembered and rewarded. Nor are these human agents in each other's way, if they could but know it. (1 Cor. 12).—When John the Baptist decreased until he suffered martyrdom, the disciples took up the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

II. Under the influence of these principles pertaining to the great fact, the elements and the agents of church growth, I would put in order the history of this church. Only one-third of a century do we go backward, and yet the wave of oblivion makes it difficult to satisfy curiosity. Our predecessors were modest men. Perhaps they under-valued the field they were cultivating. They could no more see the moral, than the first settlers could see the natural, value of Boone county, especially of this site of Lebanon.

This Presbyterian Church was organized January 3, 1840, by Rev. William F. Furgerson, D.D. Of this worthy man I have been able to obtain few statistics. He was educated at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and for several years he was Principal of the Grammar School in that institution. He served the O. S. Presbyterian Church of Thorntown from 1838 to 1847, a longer time than any Presbyterian minister, of either branch of the church, has been able to live in Thorntown. I have the names of 23 ministers who have served that church since 1833,

Dr. Furgerson removed from Indiana to Illinois, and died a number of years ago, in the office of President of Maccomb College. Rev. S. N. Evans assisted Dr. Furgerson at the organization of this church.

Our church records are minute and unquestionable as to the date of our organization, and yet several living witnesses testify to the existence of a Presbyterian Church several years previous to 1840, and much faithful labor had been given to this field by ministers and laymen not mentioned on our records.

Probably, the first Presbyterian preacher officiating in Lebanon was Rev. Moody Chase, then residing at Danville, Hendricks county. His visit was in the year 1834 or '5. His special object, he says, was to visit a sick man, "Mr. Burns, a former acquaintance at Orleans, Orange county, and perhaps a member of that church." He remained over the Sabbath and preached in the old log court house (lot 7, block 8) to a congregation "respectable in size and appearance." Some months after he again came to Lebanon, at an urgent call of a former Danville friend, then living here. He speaks of the difficulty of finding his way to this place—riding seven miles without seeing a house.

Rev. Moody Chase was born in Cornish, New Hampshire, February 25, 1802; fitted for college at Kimbal Union Academy; graduated at Dartmouth College in 1829; was in Andover Theological Seminary three years; was licensed by the Andover Congregational Association; removed immediately to Indiana, and was ordained by Salem Presbytery, June 7, 1833. He has labored faithfully and successfully in Orange, Hendricks and Montgomery counties, and now resides in comfortable circumstances near Parkersburgh, Indiana.

Elder J. H. Benefiel, of Crawfordsville, is about a cotemporaneous witness. He came to Lebanon in the winter of 1835-6, a young man not a professor of religion, but of Presbyterian parents and baptism. He came here, as a clerk, in a dry goods store, opened by Rose & Harris. He says, "the Rev. Claiborn Young preached a number of times in the old log court house in 1835. Mr. Benefiel led the singing of that early congregation. He says, "there was a very small amount of the Presbyterian element here, and little prospect for several years of any increase, but since the waters have abated, and the dry land

appeared, (of excellent quality) things have here greatly changed."

Rev. Claiborn Young was born in Hawkins county, Tennessee, October 27, 1800; received his literary education at Maryville College, and was a student of theology under Isaac Anderson, D. D.; ordained by the Presbytery of Union in 1828; the same year he removed to Edgar county, Illinois. In 1829 he removed to Vigo county, Indiana. He came to Boone county in 1830. His is the first name on the long list of Presbyterian preachers at Thorntown, where he was supply 1833-4835. He died at his farm near Thorntown September 9, 1866.—Mr. Young or the Rev. Samuel G. Lowry, or perhaps both of them, probably organized the first Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, before the division in 1837.

Rev. Samuel Gardener Lowry was born in Washington county, Tennessee, March 26, 1800. His mother's father was the Rev. Samuel Doak, D. D.—Young Lowry was educated in Dr. Doak's school, first called Martin Academy, afterwards Washington College. He was taken under the care of West Lexington Presbytery in 1819. My father was received at the same meeting into the Presbyterian Church as a minister, from the Associate Reformed Church. Mr. Lowry was licensed by Ebenezer Presbytery, October, 1821, and ordained in December, the same year; preached at Cabin Creek, Ky; was settled 1822-1825 in Richmond, O. Removed to Indiana in 1825; was installed in Decatur county 1825-1832.—John Finley Crowe, D. D., preached the sermon. In 1832 he united with the Crawfordsville Presbytery, and labored faithfully in Parke, Montgomery and Hendricks counties. In 1847 he moved to Sumner, Minne-ota.

Elder T. J. McCorkle, of Thorntown, writes: "There was a New School Presbyterian Church in Lebanon before the Old School was organized." He mentions the names of the Elders and members. Samuel Craig and Jeremiah Cory were Elders—the wives of the Elders and a son and two daughters of Craig, Robert Olive, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown and one other lady were the members—ten persons in all.

Rev. Daniel Jones, the second named minister on the Thorntown list, 1839-40—and of whom I learn nothing additional—preached a few times in Lebanon, and possibly had a part in the organization of the first church.

Rev. Thompson Bird, who was settled

as stated supply of the Thorntown Presbyterian Church (New School) from 1840 to 1847; did considerable ministerial work in Lebanon. He was born in Caswell county, North Carolina, January 7, 1804; was graduated at the University of North Carolina in 1827; was a tutor in the University; studied theology in the full course at Andover, Massachusetts. After a few years of service in his native State and Virginia, he settled in Thorntown, through the influence of his class-mate, Prof. C. Mills. He removed from Indiana to Iowa and settled in Des Moines at its first location as a town, where he died January 5, 1869. His funeral sermon was preached by Rev. J. A. Nash, of the Baptist Church. This was at the request of Mr. Bird. Mr. Nash says: "January 3, 1851, I came to Des Moines, and hence for eighteen years our work has crossed and overlapped all the time."

The last name which I will mention, as connected with this period and organization, is Elder Isaac Cory. He was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, May 1796—now is an old man of 80, living near Bloomington, in this State. He moved to this county in August, 1841. He, his wife and three daughters connected with the New School Presbyterian Church in Lebanon. His brother, Jeremiah Cory, was the only Elder at the time. Shortly after he came to this county, Mr. Bird held a communion meeting here, and Isaac Cory and Robert Olive were chosen and ordained Elders. In the fall of 1852 Mr. Cory removed from the county; the Presbytery of Indianapolis disbanded the church, and dismissed the remaining members to connect with the church in Thorntown, rather than with the O. S. Church in Lebanon. That was the fashion in those days. Thank God, the fashion has changed.

We turn now to our own records. On the 3rd of January, 1840, this church was organized with twelve members, whose names you have on our printed roll.

1. Rev. Jno. C. Eastman is the first minister mentioned as serving the church. It could only have been an occasional supply rendered, as he was in charge of the first church of Crawfordsville from 1840 to 1849. He was born March 17, 1813, in Bradford, Massachusetts, was educated at Phillips Academy, and Amherst College, studied theology, and was licensed by Chillicothe Presbytery September 19, 1834. He was first

settled in Ohio. His last earthly labor was as financial agent for Hanover College.

2. Of Rev. N. P. Charlot I only learn that he was a member of Crawfordsville Presbytery, and removed many years ago to Texas, leaving the Presbyterian Church. He united with the Episcopal Church, and returning to Indiana, was for a short time Rector of the Episcopal Church in Crawfordsville. He and Eastman were at the same meetings in Lebanon.

3. Rev. Samuel Newel Evans was born in Pulaski county, Kentucky, November 12, 1812, was removed by his parents to Owen county, Indiana. He was educated in his college course at Bloomington and Hanover, graduating at the latter college, studied theology at New Albany, was licensed and ordained by Salem Presbytery, labored in Missouri and Mississippi, returned to Indiana, supplied at Bedford, came to Thorntown in 1847, removed to Waveland in 1855, then awhile in Minnesota, which he left with the intention of returning to Lebanon, but was providentially led to Lane, Illinois, (now Rochelle) where on the day after a meeting of Presbytery in his church (a new building was dedicated on the previous Sabbath) he was killed by lightning as he was walking in a field.

4. Rev. Joseph Platt preached in Lebanon in 1853, and now lives in Bardolph, Illinois.

5. Rev. Henry W. Biggs was born in Frankford, Pennsylvania, March 15, 1828. He was graduated from Cincinnati College, of which his father, Rev. Thomas J. Biggs, D. D., was President in 1845. He spent three years in theological study at Princeton, New Jersey, and was licensed in 1851, and came to Lebanon in the summer of that year. He was ordained by Crawfordsville, Presbytery in 1852. In March, 1853, he settled in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. His next field of labor was Morgantown, Virginia, from 1855 to 1864, when he removed to Chillicothe, Ohio, where he has labored since as pastor of the 1st Church.

6. Rev. Peter Rulfson Vanata was born April 10, 1814, near Flemington, New Jersey, graduated at Princeton in the college in 1840, and from the seminary in 1843, was licensed by the Presbytery of Newton in 1842, ordained by the Presbytery of Marion in 1845, and was pastor at Marion, Ohio, and in 1847, was pastor at Logansport. For sixteen



years he has been employed by the American Bible Society, very successfully. He only preached occasionally in Lebanon.

7. Rev. J. L. Hawkins, was in Lebanon in 1857, and this is all I can learn of him.

8. Rev. John B. Logan was born in Washington county, Virginia, of Scotch-Irish parents, July 23, 1818. He received his education mainly in the common schools, with one year in the High School at Abingdom, Virginia, and his theological course was pursued privately. He has labored in the ministry eight years in Virginia, ten years in Tennessee, and fifteen years in Indiana. He supplied this pulpit from January 2, 1859, to March 13, 1859. At this time he is pastor in Seymour.

9. Rev. Charles K. Thompson was born six miles north-east from Vincennes, Indiana, January 31, 1811. He was graduated at Hanover College in 1834, in the first graduating class, was a student of theology under Dr. John Mathews at the Hanover Seminary, was licensed by the Presbytery of Madison, April, 1837. His first settlement was at Carlisle, Sullivan county, Indiana, where he was ordained and installed pastor September 1839. He remained there nine years, and removed to Covington March 1848, to Crawfordsville, in 1850, to Darlington October 1854, to Thorntown, April, 1859, supplied Lebanon two years while living in Thorntown; removing here January 1, 1862. In November 1867 he moved to Elizabethtown, which was his home until his death, which occurred at Carlisle, February 8, 1872. His labors in Boone county were of inestimable value. And his life, as a whole, was one of remarkable success. His last labors were the most fruitful.

10. Francis Marion Symmes was born November 18, 1827, graduated at Hanover College in 1852, and at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1855. His ministry has been entirely in Indiana. First in the Presbytery of Madison 1855 to 1864, in the Presbytery of New Albany 1865 to 1867, in the Presbytery of Crawfordsville from 1867 to the present time.

11. John Mason Bishop was born in Lexington, Kentucky, April 2, 1819, graduated at Miami University in 1841, was licensed by Cincinnati Presbytery in 1843, and ordained by La Porte Presbytery in 1845.

Many other ministers, some of them of national reputation have visited this

congregation, and are affectionately remembered for their work's sake. Jno. S. Craig, son of the first Elder, has preached here, John Mitchell, R. H. Allen, D. D., Levi Hughes, D. R. Colmery, I. W. Montfort, Daniel Rice, D. D., A. C. Allen, H. Little, D. D., W. T. Allen, J. L. Witherow, D. D., J. T. Tuttle, D. D., and many others, who, giving valuable aid to the regular supplies, have ministered to this congregation, for which privilege the hearers, I trust, will give account with joy and not with grief.

These regular ministers, with diverse gifts or lack of gifts, have each contributed somewhat to the present position of this church—each as the General for the time being, of this little detachment of the sacramental army, has been praised or blamed for apparent victory or defeat. This is the law of social life and organization that can not be avoided. "Like priest-like people," is the inspired expression. But, while we reverence the Divine appointment of the ministry, most emphatically do we say, the general is for the army, and the army for the country and the cause. A history of this church fully and suitably given, would add to these ministers many names of men and women and children, elders, deacons, trustees, building committees, Sabbath School superintendents and teachers, and working and praying women, not a few. Among these were Craig and Cory Richey and James Hamilton, and others who have gone from us to their final rest and reward. There are also men now living, such as J. M. Coyner, who with the dead, were, or are, the peers of any ministers on our roll in piety and usefulness. Especially do I wish to mention with honor the names of loyal ladies, living and dead, who have been faithful in times of trial, and modest in times of triumph; who in the various circles for work and prayer have encouraged the minister and pleased the Master. But the list is too long and our information and power of description too small for the task. This is all I can say: Their record is on high, and the foundation of the Lord standeth sure, having this seal. The Lord knoweth them that are his—we do not forget them. These forty odd years since the germ of Presbyterianism appeared in Lebanon may be studied in chapters and epochs. As e. g. when Presbyteries met here, when protracted meetings were held and revivals were enjoyed. There were

days of discipline—dark and trying days, enough, we hope, for many years to come. The educational work of Presbyterianism in this community, as initiated and directed by C. K. Thompson and J. M. Coyner, is worthy of grateful study. And house building, our present task, has pressed us hard on other shoulders. The 132 psalms, 4 and 5, has been

the motto of other hearts than ours. How the past would instruct and encourage, could we only learn and profit by its lessons! But this church has grown and will grow, in peaceful government, by the Divinely appointed agent. If we decrease, He will increase, and to Him be the glory, now and ever, Amen!

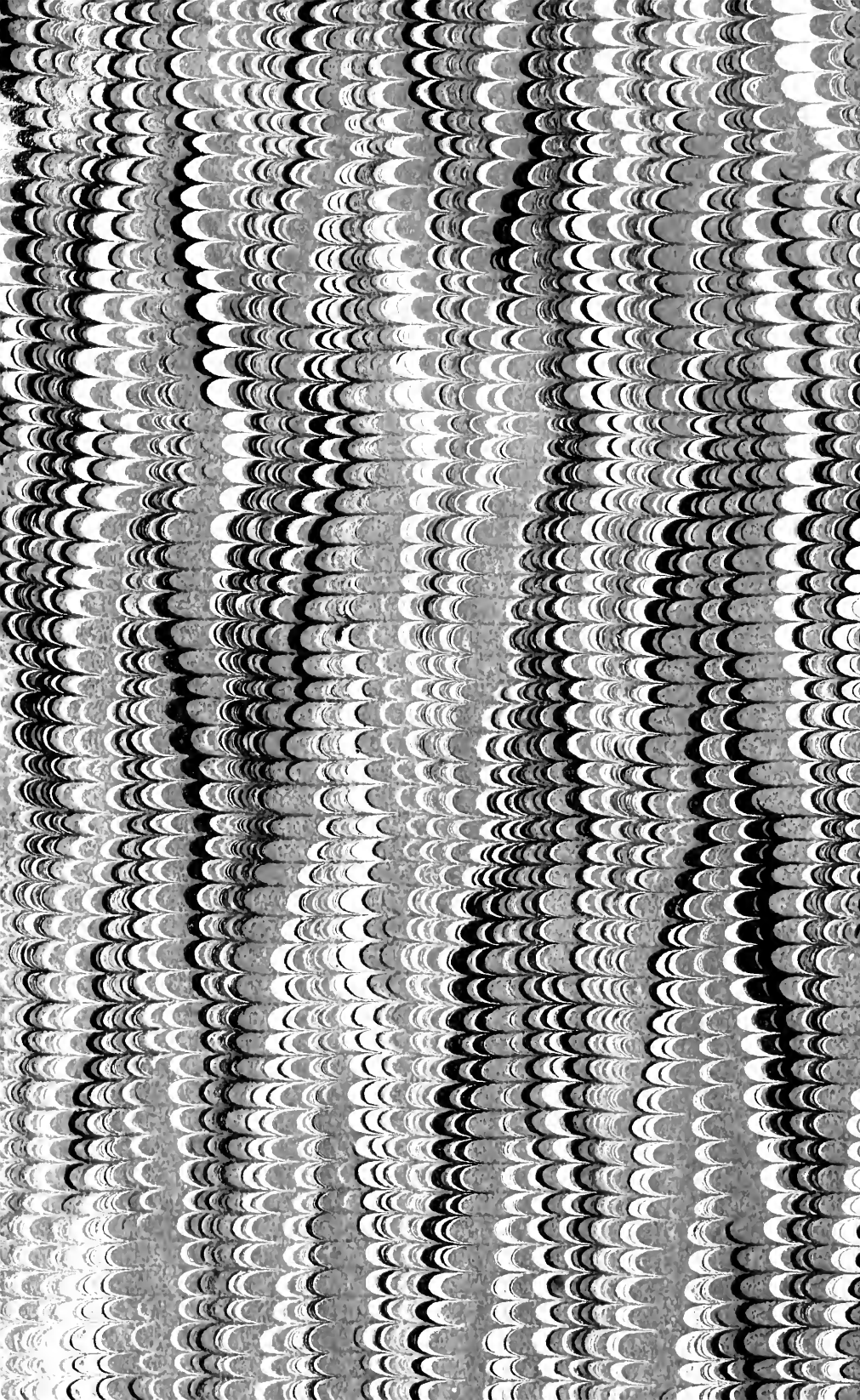




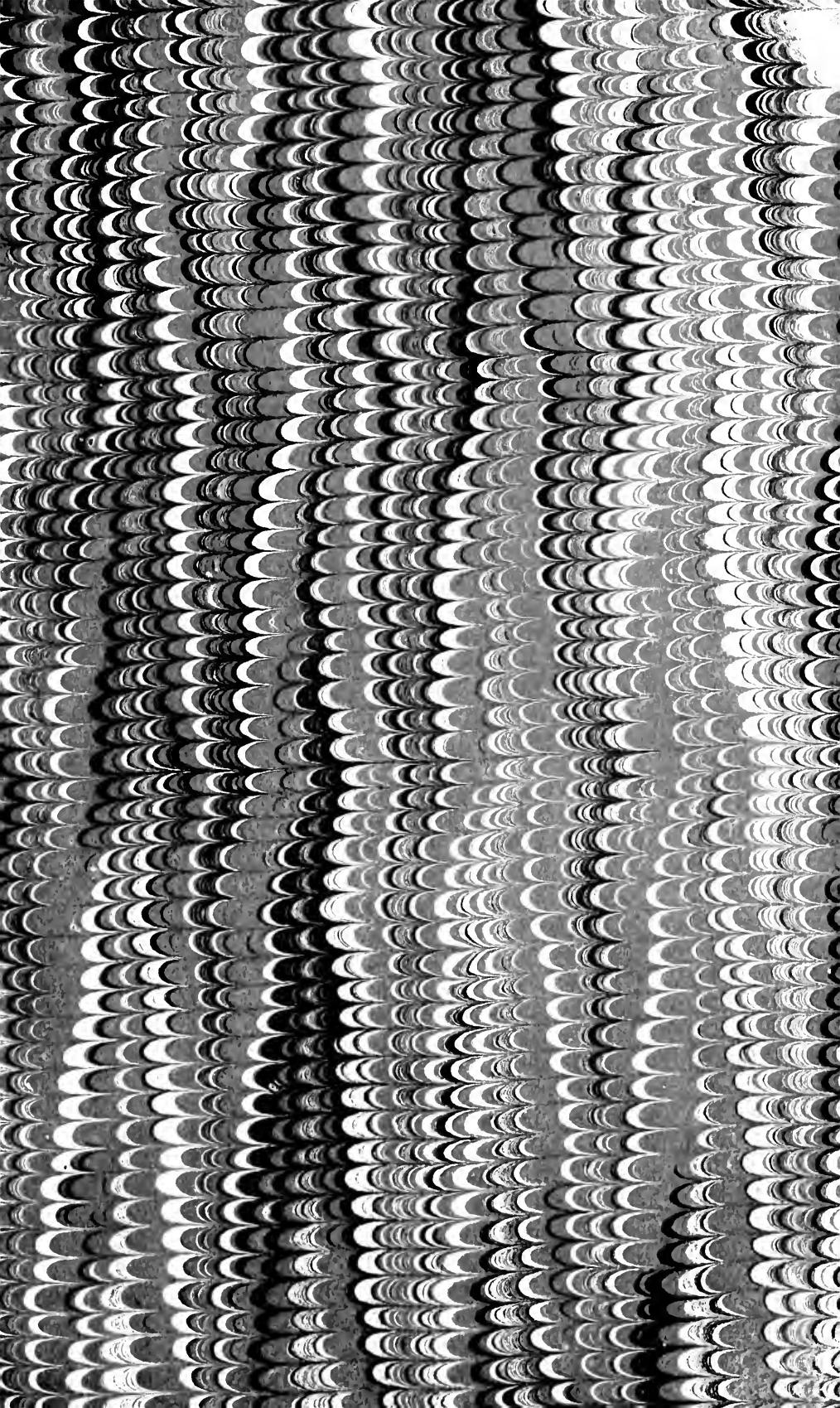












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