





Class F497

Book S4B9





1  
HISTORY

OF

450  
3189

SENECA COUNTY:

CONTAINING

(Ohio)

A DETAILED NARRATIVE

OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE ITS FIRST  
SETTLEMENT DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME;

A HISTORY OF THE INDIANS

THAT FORMERLY RESIDED WITHIN ITS LIMITS;

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTIONS,

EARLY CUSTOMS,

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, &c. &c.

WITH AN

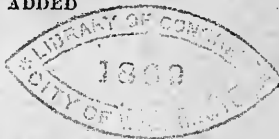
INTRODUCTION,

CONTAINING A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE STATE, FROM THE DISCOVERY  
OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER DOWN TO THE YEAR 1817,  
TO THE WHOLE OF WHICH IS ADDED

AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

Tabular Views, &c.



~~~~~  
BY CONSUL W. BUTTERFIELD.  
~~~~~

SANDUSKY:

D. CAMPBELL & SONS, WATER STREET.

1848.

T. W.

F 497  
S 4 B 9

DEDICATION.

---

TO

ROBERT G. PENNINGTON, ESQ.,

THESE UNPRETENDING PAGES

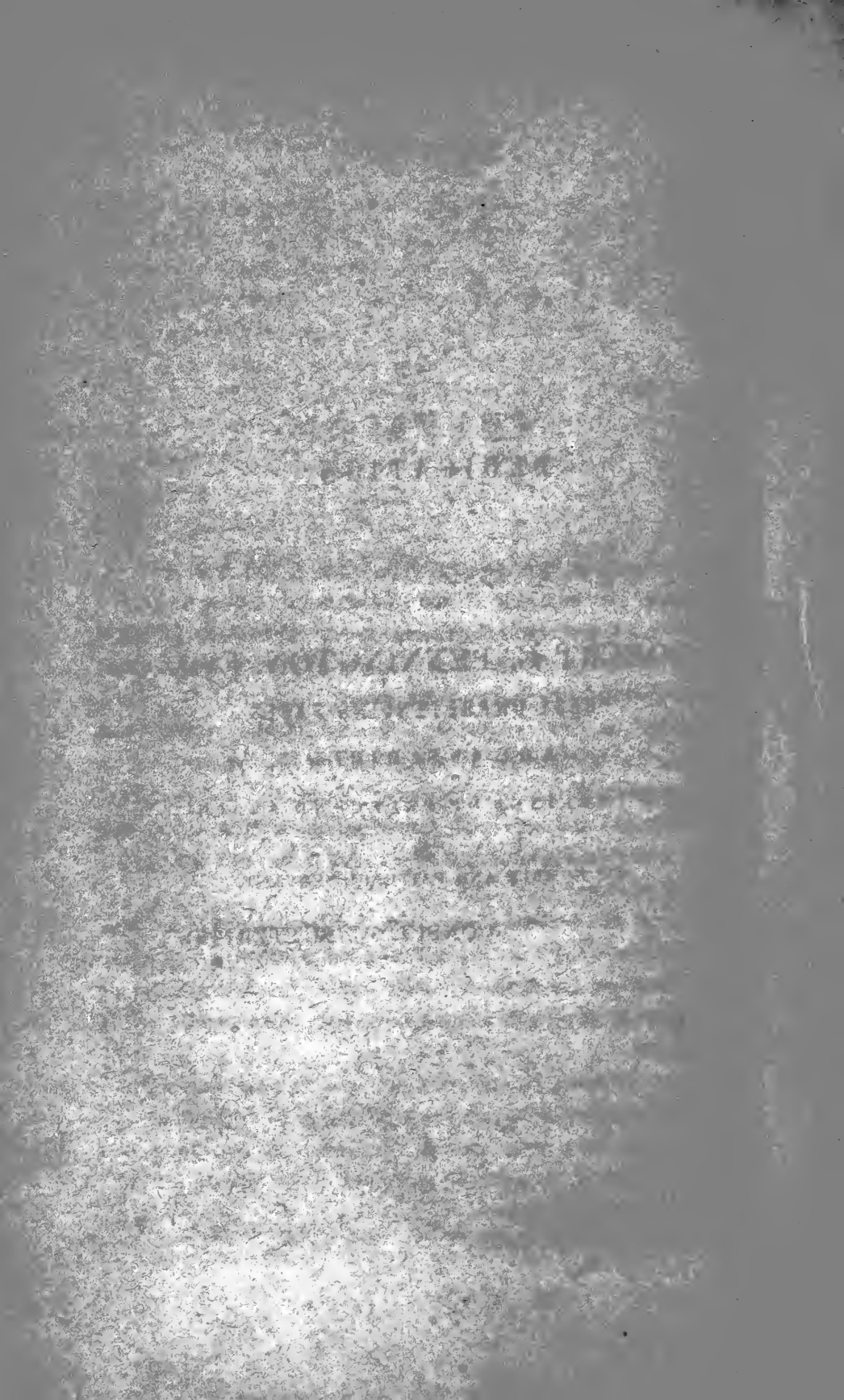
ARE INSCRIBED

WITH FEELINGS OF PROFOUND RESPECT,

BY

HIS HUMBLE AND FAITHFUL SERVANT,

CONSUL W. BUTTERFIELD.





## P R E F A C E .

---

The object in writing the following pages has been to perpetuate the memory of our oldest settlers, and to rescue from oblivion such as is of interest to our citizens, by giving a faithful narrative of the most important events which have occurred within the limits of the county.

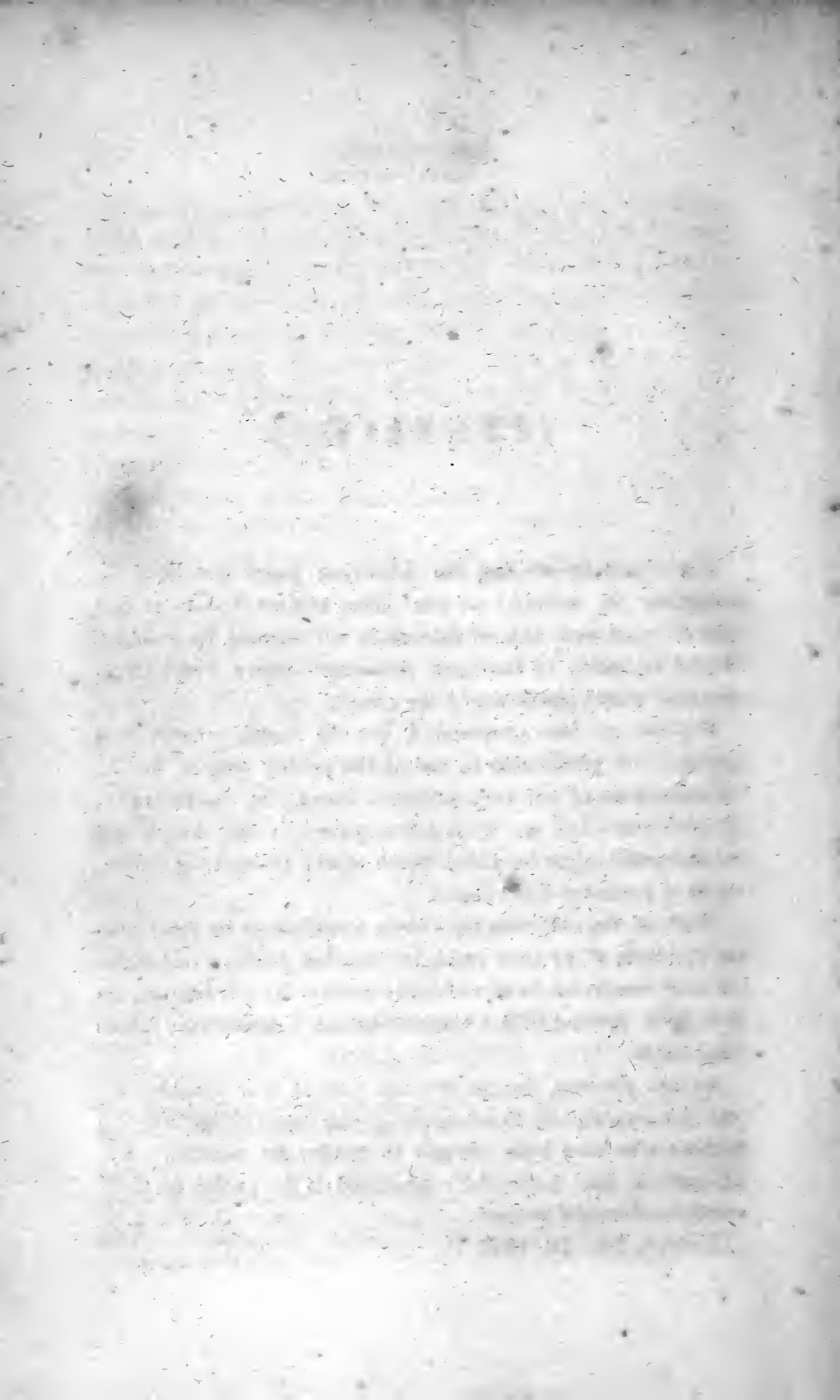
We had at first prepared a limited sketch, which was intended for publication in one of the county papers; but at the suggestion of our very esteemed friend, Mr. JAMES GRAY, of Melmore—and as, upon investigation, it was found that much matter might be added which would interest the public, we have produced this volume.

Much of the materials have been furnished us by those who are residents of, or have resided within the county; and while we have sought the homes of early settlers for information, we have been greeted with a frank welcome, characteristic of its inhabitants.

As our pleasant, though arduous task is now finished, we take this opportunity to acknowledge the many obligations due to those who have been pleased to render us assistance, and the work is now respectfully submitted to the public, for their careful and candid perusal.

C. W. B.

TIFFIN, Dec. 1st, 1847.



## INTRODUCTION.

---

Ohio\* derives its name from the river which washes nearly all of its eastern and southern boundary. The name is of Indian origin; and some writers have imagined it to signify *handsome river*; as, about the middle of the eighteenth century, some French explorers of the country, who found the stream a pleasant one to sail upon, and fine lands along its borders, called it, "*la-belle-riviere*," or the beautiful river. But that circumstance could have had no influence with the Indians, at an earlier period, in inducing them to give it a name of that signification. Another, and more probable meaning of the word *Ohio*, is *bloody*. This was applied by the Indians to the river, from the circumstance of numerous bloody battles having been fought along the shore, by different tribes, in centuries past. This signification is corroborated by the *white woman* whose history has been given to the world, and which would seem to establish the fact beyond a doubt.

\* The Shawanese called the Ohio river, KIS, KE, PI, LA SEPE—i. e., Eagle river. The Wyandots were in the country generations before the Shawanese, and consequently their name of the river is the primitive one, and should stand in preference to all others. Ohio may be called an improvement on the expression, O, HE, ZUH, and was, no doubt, adopted by the early French voyagers in their boat songs, and is substantially the same word as used by the Wyandots; the meaning applied by the French, fair and beautiful, "*LA BELLE RIVIERE*," being precisely the same as meant by the Indians—great, grand and fair to look upon.

COL. JOHN JOHNSTON.

The present state of Ohio, is a part of that vast region, formerly claimed by France, between the Alleghany and Rocky mountains, and first known by the general name of Louisiana. The earliest civilized inhabitants were Frenchmen. As early as the year 1673, two French missionaries penetrated from Canada to the Mississippi, and they may be regarded as the discoverers of that mighty river. Their names were Marquette and Joliet. They commenced their journey of discovery from Quebec, with five men; traversed the rivers, forests and immense inland seas, and arrived at last at Green Bay. From Green Bay, they pursued their course up Fox river, crossed the Portage from its head to that of the Wisconsin; when, with no companions but the two, they embarked upon its bosom and followed its course, unknown whither it would lead them. Solitary they floated along till in seven days they entered, with inexpressible joy, the broad Mississippi. Sailing on their solitary way, the discoverers heard afar, a rush of waters from the west—and soon the vast Missouri came down with its fiercer current, to hasten on the more sluggish Mississippi. They discovered and passed the mouth of the *Ohio*; nor did they stop till they had descended the river a thousand miles, to its confluence with the Arkansas; and ascertained, as well from its general course as from the information of the Indians, that its mouth must be far west of the English colonies on the Atlantic coast.

The day of the discovery of the Mississippi river, an era which should be so memorable to this country, was June 15th, 1673. We can imagine the sensations of these explorers, when they first beheld that broad and beautiful river. We can fancy how their imaginations kindled at the view of the romantic bluffs, the grand forests, the flowering prairies, the tangled grape vines on the trees, the beautiful birds that fluttered among the branches, the swans, sailing in their stateliness on

the stream, and, as yet, unterrified by the sight of man; the fishes darting in the pellucid wave, and nature in her array of June!

Marquette and Joliet now retraced their course to the the Illinois; entered and ascended that river and beheld the beautiful fertility of its summer prairies, abounding in game. They visited Chicago, and in September were again at Green Bay. The next year, Marquette retired for devotion, from the company with which he was journeying, to pray by a rude altar of stones beneath the silent shade. There, half an hour afterwards, his dead body was found. He was buried on the shore of the lake, and the Indians fancy that his spirit still controls the storms.

On the return, Joliet found at Frontenac, M. de la Salle, who was then commandant of the Fort. It may be expected that he did not undervalue their discovery or underrate the beauty of the river and country which he had explored. La Salle at once gave up his imagination and his thoughts to this discovery. He was a man of standing, courage and talent, and well fitted for the enterprise. At the close of the summer of 1679, he had, by the greatest exertions, equipped a small vessel, called the *Griffin*, at the lower end of Lake Erie, and launched it upon its waters. This was the first vessel that ever navigated lake Erie. On his journey across the lakes he was accompanied by father Hennepin, a Jesuit, and forty men. He marked Detroit as a suitable place for a colony; gave name to Lake St. Clair, planted a trading house at Mackinaw, and finally cast anchor in Green Bay. At length, through many discouragements by disaster, treachery and defeat, they reached the great Illinois. Here La Salle sent out a party, under Hennepin, to explore the sources of the Mississippi; while he returned on foot to Frontenac. The next year, having returned to the Illinois, he built a small vessel and sailed down the Mississippi

until he reached its mouth. He also erected forts and established settlements at various points. Fully satisfied of the vast importance of prosecuting the system of colonization thus commenced, he proceeded to France and communicated his ideas to the French government. The minister of the French king readily entered into a scheme, which not only promised an immense accession of valuable territory, but seemed likely to create a permanent and efficient barrier to the western extension of the English colonies. An expedition was fitted out for the purpose of planting a colony at the mouth of the Mississippi river, and command given to La Salle. This expedition failed, and its illustrious but unfortunate commander perished, a victim to the treachery of his own men.

This expedition did not, however, quench or abate the ardor of the French in the prosecution of their great plan. A second expedition sailed from France, under the command of M. D'Iberville. This officer explored the Mississippi river for several hundred miles, and permanent settlements were made at different points; and from this time, the French colony west of the Alleghanies, though occasionally harassed by the English and the Spaniards, steadily increased in numbers and in strength.

Before the completion of the first quarter of the eighteenth century the colony had been divided into quarters, each having its local governor or commandant and judge; but all were subject to the superior council-general of Louisiana. One of these quarters was established north-west of the Ohio. Forts had also been erected on the Mississippi, on the Illinois, on the Maumee and on the lakes. Still, however, the communication with Canada was through Lake Michigan, as the nearer route through the Ohio river and Lake Erie had not yet been discovered. This discovery was, however, made soon afterwards. Before the year 1750, a French fort had been fortified at the

effectually obeyed. Both flanks of the Indian position were immediately turned, and a rapid and threatening movement upon their front, quickly compelled them to give way. Crawford now took possession of the wood, but scarcely had he done so, when the main body of the enemy hurried up to the assistance of their van, and, out-flanking Crawford, in turn opened a heavy and galling fire upon his men, from which they found it very difficult to obtain shelter.

The action now became sharp and serious; Crawford maintaining his ground, and the enemy, (who were hourly increasing in number,) making the most strenuous efforts to regain the wood. From four in the evening until dusk, the firing was very heavy, and the loss considerable. During the whole of this time scarcely an Indian was visible, unless for a moment when shifting his position. Their number could only be ascertained from the many wreaths of smoke which arose from every bush, tree, or tuft of grass within view. At night the enemy drew off, and Crawford's party slept upon their arms upon the field of battle. On the next day the attack was renewed, but at more respectful distance. The Indians had apparently sustained some loss on the close firing of the preceding evening, and seemed now determined to await the arrival of additional reinforcements. Occasional shots were fired through the day, on both sides, but without much injury to either. As soon as it was dark, the field officers assembled in council; and, as the numbers of the enemy were evidently increasing every moment, it was unanimously determined to retreat by night, as rapidly as was consistent with order and preservation of the wounded. The resolution was quickly announced to the troops, and the necessary dispositions made for carrying it into effect. The out-posts were silently withdrawn from the vicinity of the enemy, and as fast as they came in, the troops were formed in three parallel lines, with the

wounded borne upon biers in the centre. By nine o'clock at night, all necessary arrangements had been made, and the retreat began in good order.

Unfortunately, they had scarcely moved a hundred paces, when the report of several rifles were heard in the rear, in the direction of the Indian encampment. The troops soon became very unsteady. At length, a solitary voice, in the front rank, called out that their design was discovered and that the Indians would soon be upon them. Nothing more was necessary. The cavalry were instantly broken; and, as usual, each man endeavored to save himself as best he could. A prodigious uproar ensued, which quickly communicated to the enemy that the white men had routed themselves and that they had nothing to do but pick up stragglers. The miserable wounded, notwithstanding the piercing cries with which they supplicated to be taken with them, were abandoned to the mercy of the enemy, and soon put out of pain.

Dr. Knight, the surgeon of the detachment, was in the rear when the fight commenced, but seeing the necessity of dispatch, he put spurs to his horse and galloped through the woods as fast as the darkness of the night would permit. He had not advanced three hundred yards, when he heard the voice of Colonel Crawford, a short distance in front, calling aloud for his son, John Crawford, his son-in-law, Major Harrison, and his two nephews, Major Rose and William Crawford. Dr. Knight replied, in the same loud tone, that he believed the young men were in front. "Is that you, Doctor?" asked Crawford, eagerly; for no features could be recognized in the darkness. "Yes, Colonel; I am the hindmost man, I believe." "No, no!" replied Crawford, anxiously; "my son is in the rear yet: I have not been able to hear of him in front! Do not leave me, Doctor; my horse has almost given out; I can-



not keep up with the troops, and I wish a few of my best friends to stay with me !”

Knight assured him that he might rely upon his support in any extremity, and drew up his horse by his side. Colonel Crawford still remained upon the same spot, calling loudly for his son, until the last straggler had passed. He then, in strong language, reprobated the conduct of the militia, in breaking their ranks and abandoning the wounded, but quickly returned to the subject of his son, and appeared deeply agitated at the uncertainty of his fate. Perceiving, however, that further delay must terminate in death or captivity, the party set spurs to their horses and followed the route of the troops. Presently an old man and a lad joined them. Crawford eagerly asked if they had seen his son or nephews? They assured him that they had not; upon which he sighed deeply, but made no reply.

At this instant, a heavy fire was heard at the distance of a mile in front, accompanied by yells, screams, and all the usual attendants of battle. Not a doubt was entertained but that the Indians had intercepted the retreat of the main body, and were now engaged with them. Having lost all confidence in his men, Crawford did not choose to unite his fortune to theirs, and changed his course to the northward, in such a manner as to leave the combatants upon the right. He continued in this direction for nearly an hour, until he supposed himself out of the immediate line of the enemy's operations, when he again changed his course to the eastward, moving as rapidly as possible, with an interval of twenty paces between them, and steadily regulating their route by the north star. The boy who accompanied them was brisk and active, but the old man constantly lagged behind, and as constantly shouted aloud for them to wait for him. They often remonstrated with him upon the impropriety of making so much noise, at a time when all

their lives depended upon secrecy and celerity; and he repeatedly promised to do so no more.

At length, upon crossing Sandusky creek, the old man found himself once more considerably in the rear, and once more shouted aloud for them to wait, until he could come up. Before they could reply, a halloo was heard in the rear of their left, and apparently not more than one hundred paces from the spot where the old man stood. Supposing it to be the cry of an Indian, they remained still and silent for several minutes, looking keenly around them in the expectation of beholding an enemy. Every thing, however, remained silent. The old man was heard no more, and whether he escaped, or was killed, could never be ascertained. The party continued their flight until day-break, when Colonel Crawford's horse and that of the boy, sunk under their riders and were abandoned.

Continuing their journey on foot, they quickly fell in with Captain Biggs, an expert woodman and gallant officer, who, in the universal scattering, had generously brought off a wounded officer, Lieutenant Ashley, upon his own horse, and was now composedly walking by his side, with a rifle in his hand and a knapsack upon his shoulders. This casual meeting was gratifying to both parties, and they continued their journey with renewed spirits. At three o'clock in the afternoon, a heavy fall of rain compelled them to encamp. A temporary shelter was quickly formed by barking several trees, after the manner of the Indians, and spreading the bark over poles so as to form a roof. A fire was then kindled, and the rain continued to pour down in torrents. They remained here through the night without any accident.

Continuing their route on the following morning, at the distance of three miles from the camp, they found a deer, which had recently been killed and skinned. The meat was neatly sliced and bundled up in the skin, and a tomahawk lay near—

giving room for suspicion that Indians were in the neighborhood. As the whole party had fasted for thirty-six hours, this was a very acceptable treat, and lifting the skin, with the meat enclosed, from the ground, they carried it with them until they had leisure to cook it. Having advanced a mile farther, they observed a smoke in the woods before them. The party instantly halted, while Colonel Crawford and Dr. Knight went forward to reconnoiter.

Cautiously approaching the fire, they found it burning brightly, but abandoned, from which they inferred that a party had encamped there the preceding night, and had retired a few minutes before their approach. Having carefully examined the bushes around, and discovered no Indian signs, they directed their friends in the rear to come up, and quickly set about preparing breakfast. In a few minutes, they observed a white man, skulking in the rear, examining the trail and apparently very shy of approaching them. Calling out to him in a friendly tone, they invited him to approach without fear, assuring him that they were countrymen and friends. The man instantly complied, and informed them that he had killed the deer which they were cooking, but hearing them approach, he had taken them for enemies, and had fled into the bushes for concealment.

Highly pleased at the accession to their strength, the party breakfasted heartily upon the deer and continued their march. By noon, they had reached the path by which the army had marched, a few days before, in their advance upon the Indian towns, and some discussion took place as to the propriety of taking that road homeward. Biggs and the doctor strenuously insisted upon continuing their course through the woods, and avoiding all paths; but Crawford overruled them, assuring them that the Indians would not urge their pursuit beyond the plains which were already far behind. Unfortunately, the colone

prevailed; and, abandoning their due eastern course, the party pursued the beaten path. Crawford and Knight moved one hundred and fifty yards in front, Biggs and his wounded friend, Ashley, were in the center, both on horseback, the doctor having lent Biggs his horse, and the two men on foot brought up the rear.

They soon had reason to repent their temerity. Scarcely had they advanced a mile, when several Indians sprung up within twenty yards of Knight and Crawford, presenting their guns, and in good English ordered them to stop. Knight instantly sprung behind a large black oak, cocked his gun and began to take aim at the foremost. Crawford, however, did not attempt to conceal himself, but calling hastily to Knight, ordered him twice not to fire.

Instantly, the Indian at whom Knight had taken aim, ran up to the colonel with every demonstration of friendship, shook his hand cordially, and asked him how he did. Knight still maintaining a hostile attitude behind the tree, Crawford called to him again, and ordered him to put down his gun, which the doctor very reluctantly obeyed.

Biggs and Ashley, seeing the condition of their friends, halted, while the two men in the rear very prudently took to their heels and escaped. One of the Indians then told Crawford to order Biggs to come up and surrender, or they would kill him. The colonel complied, but Biggs feeling no inclination to obey his commander in the present instance, very coolly cocked his rifle, took deliberate aim at one of the Indians, and fired, although without effect. He and Ashley then put spurs to their horses, and for the time escaped. The two prisoners were then taken to the Indian camp, which stood within a few miles of the place where they were taken; and on the next evening, five Delawares came in with the scalps and horses of

Biggs and Ashley, who, it appeared, had returned to the road, and were intercepted a few miles farther on.

On the morning, which was the 10th of June, Crawford and Knight, together with nine prisoners, were conducted by their captors, seventeen in number, to the old town of Sandusky, about thirty-three miles distant. The main body halted at night, within eight miles of the village, but as Colonel Crawford expressed great anxiety to speak with Simon Girty, who was then at Sandusky, he was permitted to go on that evening, under the care of two Indians. On Tuesday morning, the 11th of June, Colonel Crawford was brought back from Sandusky on purpose to march into town with the other prisoners. Knight eagerly accosted him, and asked if he had seen Girty? The colonel replied in the affirmative; and added that Girty had promised to use his utmost influence for his (the colonel's) safety, but was fearful of the consequences, as the Indians generally, and particularly Captain Pipe, one of the Delaware chiefs, were much incensed against the prisoners, and were endeavoring to have them all burned. The colonel added, that he had heard of his son-in-law, Colonel Harrison, and his nephew, William Crawford, both of whom had been taken by the Shawanese, and admitted to mercy. Shortly after this communication, their capital enemy, Captain Pipe, appeared. His appearance was by no means unprepossessing, and he exhibited none of the ferocity which Knight, from Girty's account, had been led to expect.

On the contrary, his language was flattering and his manners bland. But one ominous circumstance attended his visit. With his own hand he *painted every prisoner black!* While in the act of painting the doctor, he was as polite as a French valet, assuring him that he should soon go to the Shawanee town and see his friends; and while painting the colonel he told him that his head should be shaved—i. e., he should be

adopted—as soon as he arrived at Wyandot town. As soon as the prisoners were painted, they were conducted towards the town, Captain Pipe walking by the side of Crawford, and treating him with the utmost kindness, while the prisoners, with the exception of Dr. Knight, were pushed on ahead of him. As they advanced, they were shocked at observing the bodies of four of their friends, who had just left them, tomahawked and scalped, with an interval of nearly a mile between each. They had evidently perished in running the gauntlet. This spectacle was regarded as a sad presage of their own fate. In a short time they overtook the five prisoners who remained alive. They were seated on the ground, and appeared much dejected. Nearly seventy squaws and Indian boys surrounded them, menacing them with knives and tomahawks, and exhausting upon them every abusive epithet which their language afforded. Crawford and Knight were compelled to sit down apart from the rest, and immediately afterwards the doctor was given to a Shawanee warrior to be conducted to their town, while the colonel remained stationary.

The boys and squaws then fell upon the other prisoners and tomahawked them in a moment. Among them was Captain McKinley, who had served with reputation throughout the Revolutionary War until the capture of Cornwallis. An old squaw, approaching him and brandishing a long knife, seized him by the hair, instantly cut off his head and kicked it near the spot where Crawford sat in momentary expectation of a similar fate. Another destiny, however, was reserved for him. After having sufficiently exhausted their rage upon the lifeless bodies of the five prisoners, the whole party started up, and driving Crawford before them, marched towards the village.

Presently, Girty appeared on horseback, coming from Sandusky. He stopped for a few moments, and spoke to Crawford, then, passing to the rear of the party, addressed Knight—"Is

this the doctor?" inquired he with an insulting smile. "Yes! Mr. Girty, I am glad to see you!" replied poor Knight, advancing towards him, and anxiously extending his hand. But Girty cursed him in a savage tone, ordered him to be gone, and not to suppose that he would give his hand to such a — rascal. Upon this the Shawanee warrior who had him in custody, dragged him along by a rope. Girty followed on horseback, and informed him that he was to go to Chillicothe. Presently they came to a spot where there was a large fire, around which about thirty warriors, and more than double that number of squaws and boys were collected.

As soon as the colonel arrived, they surrounded him, stripped him naked, and compelled him to sit on the ground near the fire. They then fell upon him and beat him severely with sticks and their fists. In a few minutes, a large stake was fixed in the ground, and piles of hickory poles, rather thicker than a man's thumb, and about twelve feet in length, were spread around it. Colonel Crawford's hands were then tied behind his back; a strong rope was produced, one end of which was fastened to the ligature between his wrists and the other tied to the bottom of the stake. The rope was long enough to permit him to walk around the stake several times and then return. Fire was then applied to the hickory poles, which lay in piles at the distance of six or seven yards from the stake.

The colonel, observing these terrible preparations, called to Girty, who sat on horseback at the distance of a few yards from the fire, and asked if the Indians were going to burn him. Girty very coolly replied in the affirmative. The colonel heard the intelligence with firmness, merely observing that he would bear it with fortitude. When the hickory poles had been burnt asunder in the middle, Captain Pipe arose and addressed the crowd, in a tone of great energy, and with animated gestures, pointing frequently at the colonel, who regarded

him with an appearance of unruffled composure. As soon as he had ended, a loud whoop burst from the assembled throng, and they all rushed at once upon the unfortunate Crawford. For several seconds the crowd was so great that Knight could not see what they were doing; but in a short time, they had dispersed sufficiently to give him a view of the colonel.

His ears had been cut off, and the blood was streaming down each side of his face. A terrible scene of torture now commenced. The warriors shot charges of powder into his naked body, commencing with the calves of his legs and continuing to his neck. The boys snatched the burning hickory poles and applied them to his flesh. As fast as he ran round the stake, to avoid one party of tormentors, he was promptly met at every turn by others, with burning poles, red hot irons, and rifles loaded with powder only; so that in a few minutes nearly one hundred charges of powder had been shot into his body, which had become black and blistered in a terrible manner. The squaws would take a quantity of coals and hot ashes and throw them upon his body, so that in a few minutes he had nothing but fire to walk upon. In the extremity of his agony, the unhappy colonel called aloud upon Girty, in tones which rang through Knight's brain with maddening effect—"Girty! Girty!! Shoot me through the heart! Quick!—Quick!! Do not refuse me!!" "Don't you see I have no gun, colonel?" replied the monster, bursting into a loud laugh, and then turning to an Indian beside him, he uttered some brutal jests upon the naked and miserable appearance of the prisoner.

The terrible scene had now lasted nearly two hours, and Crawford had become much exhausted. He walked slowly around the stake, spoke in a low tone, and earnestly besought God to look with compassion upon him and pardon his sins. His nerves had lost much of their sensibility and he no longer shrunk from the fire-brands with which they incessantly touched



him. At length he sunk in a fainting fit upon his face and lay motionless. Instantly an Indian sprung upon his back, knelt lightly upon one knee, made a circular incision with his knife upon the crown of his head, and clapping the knife between his teeth, tore the scalp off with both hands! Scarcely had this been done, when a withered hag approached with a board full of burning embers, and poured them upon the crown of his head, now laid bare to the bone! The colonel groaned deeply, arose, and again walked slowly around the stake!! Nature at length could do no more, and at a late hour of the night, death released him from the hand of his cruel tormentors.

The awful torture which Crawford had undergone, made a deep impression upon the mind of Knight. He resolved, if possible, to make his escape, and this he did in a most wonderful manner, before reaching Shawanee town. The particulars of his last adventure, are omitted for want of room. Thus ended the lamented expedition of Colonel William Crawford; rashly undertaken, injudiciously prosecuted, and terminating with almost unprecedented calamity.

Soon after this, a treaty was concluded with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas and Ottawas, when the United States acquired the title of those tribes to all the land east, west and south of a line drawn from the mouth of Cuyahoga up that river to the Tuscarawas portage, and to the forks of the Tuscarawas above Fort Lawrence; thence to Loramies, thence to the Maumee, and thence with that river to Lake Erie. The territory thus ceded, included about three-fourths of the present state of Ohio. In May, 1785, Congress proceeded to provide by ordinance for the future survey and sale of the public domain in the west. The land was directed to be divided into townships of six miles square, by lines running north and south and intersected by other lines at right angles. These townships

were subdivided into sections, each containing a square mile, or six hundred and forty acres; and each range was to be numbered from south to north, commencing on the Ohio river. The ranges were to be distinguished by progressive numbers westward, the first resting upon the western boundary of Pennsylvania as a base-line.

In 1786, a company, called the "*Ohio Company*," was organized in New England; and entered into a contract with Congress for the purchase of a million and a half acres, lying on the Ohio and including the mouth of the Muskingum and the Hockhocking, at the price of one million of dollars. The members of the company were most of them officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary army, who proposed to seek in the western wilderness, the means of retrieving their shattered fortunes—or at least, a home and a subsistence. The purchase money they intended to pay in continental certificates, with which many of them had been paid for their military services, and which were then much depreciated in value. The contract was executed in November, 1787. The next year, 1788, the first permanent settlement in Ohio was made at *Marietta*, at the mouth of the Muskingum. Congress then proceeded to form the first territorial government, and General Arthur St. Clair, a citizen of Pennsylvania, who had been a distinguished officer of the Revolutionary army, and enjoyed the full confidence of Washington, was appointed governor and commander-in-chief. Samuel Holden Parsons, James Mitchel Varnum and John Armstrong, were appointed judges; and Winthrop Sargent, secretary of the territory. The first acts of territorial legislation were passed at *Marietta*, the only American settlement north-west of the Ohio.

In October, 1788, John Cleves Symmes, in behalf of himself and his associates, contracted with Congress for the purchase of a million of acres of land adjoining the Ohio and between the Great

and Little Miami; but, in consequence of his failure to make due payments, the greater part of this tract afterwards reverted to Congress. Only 248,540 acres became the property of the contractors. Not long after the completion of his contract, Symmes sold the site of Cincinnati to Matthias Denman, of New Jersey, who entered into a contract with Colonel Patterson and Mr. Filson, of Kentucky, for laying out a town. Filson, however, was killed by the Indians before he entitled himself to any proprietary right under the agreement, and his interest in the contract was transferred to Israel Ludlow.

On the 26th of December, 1788, Patterson and Ludlow with a small party, arrived at the site of the projected settlement. In course of the winter, a town was surveyed and laid out by Colonel Ludlow; and the courses of the streets of the future city were marked on the trees of the primeval forest. The name first given to the place was *Losantiville*—a barbarous compound, intended to signify “*a town opposite the mouth of the Licking;*” but this name was soon after changed to Cincinnati. The site selected, was extremely beautiful. Seen in the summer, it presented a vast amphitheatre enclosed on all sides by hills, wooded to their summits. The Ohio—*la belle riviere* of the French—came into the valley from the north-east, and, sweeping gracefully around near its southern border, departed to the south-west. From the south, the Licking brought its moderate tribute just opposite to the selected site; and a little to the west, Mill creek flowed silently from the inland country to its confluence with the Ohio. The unaccustomed luxuriance of the vegetation, and the majestic size of the forest trees, covered with the thickest foliage, with which the wild grape-vine was frequently intermingled, astonished and delighted the eye of the eastern emigrant. Even in winter, when the settlement was made, the scene though divested of its summer glories, was far from being unattractive or uninteresting. The

climate, it is true, was inclement; but that very inclemency was a protection against savage incursions. Game of every description abounded in the woods, and the waters teemed with fish. The emigrants, therefore, had little experience of the hardships usually encountered in the first settlement of a wilderness.

On the first of June, 1789, Major Doughty arrived at Cincinnati, with one hundred and forty soldiers. A lot containing fifteen acres, sloping from the upper bank to the river, was selected, on which Fort Washington was built.

At the general pacification of 1783, between the United States and Great Britain, there were several stipulations upon both sides, which were not complied with. Great Britain had agreed, as speedily as possible, to evacuate all the north-western posts which lay within the boundaries of the United States; while on the other hand, Congress had stipulated that no *legal* impediments should be thrown in the way, in order to prevent the collection of debts due to British merchants before the declaration of war. Large importations had been made by American merchants, upon *credit*, in 1773 and 1774; and as civil intercourse between the two countries had ceased until the return of peace, the British creditors were unable to collect their dues. Upon the final ratification of the treaty, they naturally became desirous of recovering their property, while their debtors, as naturally, were desirous of avoiding payment. But when Congress recommended the payment of all debts to the legislatures, the legislatures determined that it was inexpedient to comply. The British creditor complained to his government; the government remonstrated with Congress upon so flagrant a breach of one of the articles of pacification; Congress appealed to the legislatures; the legislatures were deaf and obstinate, and there the matter rested. When the question was agitated as to the evacuation of the posts, the British in

turn became refractory, and determined to hold them until the acts of the legislatures, preventing the legal collection of debts, were repealed. In the meantime, the Indians were supplied, as usual, by the British agents, and if not openly encouraged, were undoubtedly secretly countenanced, in their repeated depredations upon the frontier inhabitants.

These at length became so serious as to demand the notice of government. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1790, General Harmar was detached, at the head of three hundred regular troops, and more than one thousand militia, with orders to march upon their towns bordering upon the lakes, and inflict upon them such signal chastisement as should deter them from future depredations.

On the 20th of September, the various troops designed for the expedition, rendezvoused at Fort Washington, now Cincinnati, and on the following day commenced their march to the Miami villages. The country was rough, swampy, and in many places almost impassable, so that seventeen days were consumed before the main body could come within striking distance of the enemy. In the meantime the great scarcity of provisions rendered it necessary for the general to sweep the forest with numerous small detachments, and as the woods swarmed with roving bands of Indians, most of these parties were cut off.

At length, the main body, considerably reduced by this petty warfare, came within a few miles of their towns. Here the general ordered Captain Armstrong, at the head of thirty regulars, and Colonel Hardin, of Kentucky, with one hundred and fifty militia, to advance and reconnoiter. In the execution of this order, they suddenly found themselves in the presence of a superior number of Indians, who suddenly arose from the bushes and opened a heavy fire upon them. The militia instantly gave way, while the regulars, accustomed to more orderly movements, attempted a regular retreat. The enemy

rushed upon them, tomahawk in hand, and completely surrounded them. The regulars attempted to open a passage with the bayonet, but in vain. They were all destroyed, with the exception of their captain and one lieutenant.

Captain Armstrong was remarkably stout and active, and succeeded in breaking through the enemy's line, although not without receiving several severe wounds. Finding himself hard pressed, he plunged into a deep and miry swamp, where he lay concealed during the whole night within two hundred yards of the Indian camp, and witnessed the dances and joyous festivity with which they celebrated their victory. The lieutenant (Hartshorn) escaped by accidentally stumbling over a log and falling into a pit, where he lay concealed by the rank grass which grew around him. The loss of the militia was very trifling. Notwithstanding this severe check, Harmar advanced with the main body upon their villages, which he found deserted and in flames, the Indians having fired them with their own hands.

Here he found several hundred acres of corn, which was completely destroyed. He then advanced upon the adjoining villages, which he found deserted and burned, as the first had been. Having destroyed all the corn which he found, the army commenced its retreat from the Indian country, supposing the enemy sufficiently intimidated.

After marching about ten miles on the homeward route, General Harmar received information which induced him to suppose that a body of Indians had returned and taken possession of the village which he had just left. He detached, therefore, eighty regular troops, under the orders of Major Wyllys, and nearly the whole of his militia, under Colonel Hardin, with orders to return to the village and destroy such of the enemy as presented themselves. The detachment accordingly countermarched, and proceeded with all possible dispatch to the appointed spot, fearful only that the enemy

might hear of their movements and escape before they could come up. The militia, in loose order, took the advance; the regulars, moving in a hollow square, brought up the rear. Upon the plain in front of the town a number of Indians were seen, between whom and the militia, a sharp action commenced. After a few rounds, with considerable effect upon both sides, the savages fled in disorder, and were eagerly and impetuously pursued by the militia, who, in the ardor of the chase, were drawn into the woods to a considerable distance from the regulars.

Suddenly, from the opposite quarter, several hundred Indians appeared, rushing with loud yells, upon the unsupported regulars. Major Wyllys, who was a brave and experienced officer, formed his men in a square, and endeavored to gain a more favorable spot of ground, but was prevented by the desperate impetuosity with which the enemy assailed him. Unchecked by the murderous fire which was poured upon them from the different sides of the square, they rushed in masses up to the points of the bayonets, hurled their tomahawks with fatal accuracy, and putting aside the bayonets with their hands, or clogging them with their bodies, they were quickly mingled with the troops, and handled their long knives with destructive effect. In two minutes, the bloody struggle was over. Major Wyllys fell, together with seventy-three privates, and one lieutenant. One captain, one ensign, and seven privates, three of whom were wounded, were the sole survivors of this short, but desperate encounter.

The Indian loss was nearly equal, as they sustained several heavy fires, which the closeness of their masses rendered very destructive, and as they rushed upon the bayonets of the troops with the most astonishing disregard to their own safety. Their object was to overwhelm the regulars, before the militia could return to their support, and it was as boldly executed as it had

been finely conceived. In a short time, the militia returned from the pursuit of the flying party, which had decoyed them to a distance—but it was now too late to retrieve the fortune of the day. After some short skirmishing, they effected their retreat to the main body, with the loss of one hundred and eight killed, and twenty-eight wounded. This dreadful slaughter, so reduced the strength and spirits of Harmar's army that he was happy in being permitted to retreat unmolested to Fort Washington, having totally failed in accomplishing the objects of the expedition.

The failure of Harmar made a deep impression upon the American nation, and was followed by a loud demand for a greater force, under the command of a more experienced general. ARTHUR ST. CLAIR was at that time governor of the North-western Territory, and had a claim to the command of such forces as should be employed within his own limits. This gentleman had uniformly ranked high as an officer of courage and patriotism, but had been more uniformly unsuccessful and unfortunate, than any other officer in the American Revolution. He had commanded at Ticonderoga in the spring of 1777, and had conducted one of the most disastrous retreats which occurred during the war. Notwithstanding his repeated misfortunes, he still commanded the respect of his brother officers and the undiminished confidence of Washington. He was now selected as the person most capable of restoring the American affairs in the north-west, and was placed at the head of a regular force, amounting to near fifteen hundred men, well furnished with artillery, and was empowered to call out such reinforcements of militia as might be necessary. Cincinnati, as usual, was the place of rendezvous.

In October, 1781, an army was assembled at that place, greatly superior in numbers, officers, and equipments, to any which had yet appeared in the west. The regular force was



composed of three complete regiments of infantry, two companies of artillery, and one of cavalry. - The militia who joined him at Fort Washington, amounted to upwards of six hundred men, most of whom had long been accustomed to Indian warfare. The general commenced his march from Cincinnati in October, and following the route of Harmar, arrived at Fort Jefferson without material loss. Shortly after leaving Fort Jefferson, one of the militia regiments, with their usual disregard to discipline, determined that it was inexpedient to proceed farther, and detaching themselves from the main body, returned rapidly to the fort, on their way home. This ill-timed mutiny, not only discouraged the remainder, but compelled the commander to detach the first regiment in pursuit of them, if not to bring them back, at least to prevent them from injuring the stores collected for the use of the army at the fort. With the remainder of the troops, amounting in all to about twelve hundred men, he continued his march to the Great Miami villages.

On the evening of the 3d of November, he encamped upon a very commanding piece of ground, upon the bank of one of the tributaries of the Wabash; where he determined to throw up some slight works for the purpose of protecting their knapsacks and baggage, having to move upon the Miami villages, supposed to be within twelve miles, as soon as the first regiment should rejoin them. The remainder of the evening was employed in concerting the plan of the proposed work with Major Ferguson, of the engineers; and when the sentries were posted at night, every thing was as quiet as could have been desired. The troops were encamped in two lines, with an interval of seventy yards between them, which was all that the nature of the ground would permit. The battalions of Majors Butler, Clarke, and Patterson, composed the front line, the whole under the orders of Major General Butler, an officer

of high and merited reputation. The front of the line was covered by a creek, its right flank by the river, and its left by a strong corps of infantry.

The second line was composed of the battalions of Majors Gaither and Bedinger, and the second regiment under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Darke. This line, like the other, was secured upon one flank by the river, and upon the other by the cavalry and pickets. The night passed away without alarm. The sentinels were vigilant, and the officers upon the alert.

A few hours before day, St. Clair caused the reveille to be beaten, and the troops to be paraded under arms, under the expectation that an attack would probably be made. In this situation they continued until day-light, when they were dismissed to their tents. Some were endeavoring to snatch a few minutes' sleep, others were preparing for the expected march, when suddenly the report of a rifle was heard from the militia a few hundred yards in front, which was quickly followed by a sharp, irregular volley in the same direction.

The drums instantly beat to arms, the officers flew in every direction, and in two minutes the troops were formed in order of battle. Presently the militia rushed into camp in the utmost disorder, closely pursued by swarms of Indians, who in many places were mingled with them and were cutting them down with their tomahawks.

Major Butler's battalion received the first shock, and was thrown into disorder by the tumultuous flight of the militia, who, in their eagerness to escape, bore down every thing before them. Here Major General Butler had stationed himself, and here St. Clair directed his attention, in order to remedy the confusion which began to spread rapidly through the whole line. The Indians pressed forward with great audacity, and many of them were mingled with the troops before their pro-

gress could be checked. Major General Butler was wounded at the first fire, and before his wound could be dressed, an Indian, who had penetrated the ranks of the regiment, ran up to the spot where he lay, and tomahawked him before his attendants could interpose. The desperate savage was instantly killed. By great exertions, Butler's battalion was restored to order, and the heavy and sustained fire of the first line, compelled the enemy to pause and shelter themselves.

This interval, however, endured but for a moment. An invisible, but tremendous fire quickly opened upon the whole front of the encampment, which rapidly extended to the rear, and encompassed the troops on both sides. St. Clair, who at that time was worn down by a fever, and unable to mount his horse, nevertheless, as is universally admitted, exerted himself with a courage and presence of mind worthy of a better fate. He instantly directed his litter to the right of the rear line, where the great weight of fire fell, and where the slaughter, particularly of the officers, was terrible. Here Darke commanded, an officer who had been trained to hard service during the Revolutionary War, and who was now gallantly exerting himself to check the consternation which was evidently beginning to prevail. St. Clair ordered him to make a rapid charge with the bayonet, and rouse the enemy from their covert.

The order was instantly obeyed, and at first, apparently with great effect. Swarms of dusky bodies arose from the high grass, and fled before the regiment with every mark of consternation. But as the troops were unable to overtake them, they quickly recovered their courage, and kept up so fatal a retreating fire that the exhausted regulars were compelled, in their turn, to give way. This charge, however, relieved that particular point, for some time; but the weight of the fire was transferred to the centre of the first line, where it threatened to annihilate

every thing within its range. There, in turn, the unfortunate general was borne by his attendants, and ordered a second appeal to the bayonet. This second charge was made with the same impetuosity as at first, and with the same momentary success. But the attack was instantly shifted to another point, where the same charge was made, and the same result followed. The Indians would retire before them, still keeping up the most fatal fire, and the continentals were uniformly compelled to retire in turn. St. Clair brought up the artillery in order to sweep the bushes with grape, but the horses and artillerymen were destroyed by the terrible fire of the enemy, before any effect could be produced. They were instantly manned afresh from the infantry, and again swept of defenders.

The slaughter had now become prodigious. Four-fifths of the officers and one-half of the men were either killed or wounded. The ground was covered with bodies, and the little ravine which led to the river, was running with blood. The fire of the enemy had not in the least slackened, and the troops were falling in heaps before it, in every part of the camp. To have attempted to maintain his position longer, could only have led to the total destruction of his force, without the possibility of annoying the enemy, who never showed themselves, unless when charged, and whose numbers (to judge from the weight and extent of the fire) must have equaled, if not exceeded his own. The men were evidently much disheartened, but the officers, who were chiefly veterans of the Revolution, still maintained a firm countenance, and exerted themselves with unavailing heroism to the last. Under these circumstances, St. Clair determined to save the lives of the survivors, if possible, and for that purpose collected the remnants of several battalions into one corps, at the head of which he ordered Lieutenant Colonel Darke to make an impetuous charge upon the enemy, in order to open a passage for the

remainder of the army. Darke executed his orders with great spirit, and drove the Indians before him, to the distance of a quarter of a mile. The remainder of the army instantly rushed through the opening, in order to gain the road! Major Clarke, with the remnant of his battalion, bringing up the rear, and endeavoring to keep the Indians in check. General St. Clair's horses were killed, as well as those of his aids. He was placed, by a few friends, upon an exhausted pack-horse that could not be urged out of a walk, and in this condition followed in the rear of his troops.

The retreat soon degenerated into a total rout. Officers who strove to arrest the panic, only sacrificed themselves. Clarke, the leader of the rear guard, soon fell in this dangerous service, and his corps were totally disorganized. Officers and soldiers were now mingled without the slightest regard to discipline, and "devil take the hindmost," was the order of the day. The pursuit, at first, was keen, but the temptation afforded by the plunder of the camp, soon brought them back, and the wearied, wounded, and disheartened fugitives, were permitted to retire from the field unmolested. The rout continued as far as Fort Jefferson, twenty-nine miles from the scene of action. The action lasted more than three hours, during the whole of which time, the fire was heavy and incessant.

The loss, in proportion to the number engaged, was enormous, and is unparalleled, except in the affair of Braddock.—Sixty-eight officers were killed upon the spot, and twenty-eight wounded. Out of nine hundred privates, who went into the action, five hundred and fifty were killed, and many were wounded. General St. Clair was untouched, although eight balls passed through his hat and clothes, and several horses were killed under him. The Indian loss was reported by themselves at fifty-eight killed and wounded, which was probably not underrated, as they were never visible after the first attack, until

charged with the bayonet. At Fort Jefferson, the fugitives were joined by the first regiment, who, as noticed before, had been detached in pursuit of the deserters. Here a council of war was called, which terminated in the unanimous opinion, that the junction with the first regiment did not justify an attempt upon the enemy in the present condition of affairs, and that the army should return to Fort Washington without delay. This was done; and thus ended the second campaign against the Indians.

There was an interval of more than a year between the defeat of St. Clair, and the appointment of his successor. The choice fell upon General Wayne of Pennsylvania, and he lost no time in proceeding to the head-quarters of the western army, and arrived at Fort Washington in the spring of 1793.—Reinforcements of regular troops were constantly arriving, and in addition to the usual complement of cavalry and artillery, a strong legionary corps was raised upon continental establishment, and placed under his command. In addition to this, he was authorized to call upon the governor of Kentucky, (Shelby,) for as many mounted militia as might be necessary. It was so late in the season, however, before all the various forces could be collected, and all the necessary supplies procured, that he judged it prudent to defer any offensive movement until the spring.

The mounted volunteers were accordingly dismissed, with some flattering encomiums upon their zeal and readiness, while the regular forces were placed in winter quarters. During the winter, Wayne remained at a fort which he had built upon a western fork of the Little Miami, and to which he had given the name of Greenville. By detachments from the regular troops, he was enabled to sweep the country lying between him and the Miami villages, and having taken possession of the ground upon which St. Clair was defeated, he erected a small

fort upon it, which he called "Recovery." His orders were positive, to endeavor if possible, to procure peace upon reasonable terms, without resorting to force, and he accordingly opened several conferences with the hostile tribes, during the winter. Many of their chiefs visited him in his camp, and examined his troops, artillery and equipments with great attention, and from time to time made ample professions of a disposition to bury the hatchet; but nothing definite could be drawn from them, and from the known partiality of Wayne to the decision of the sword, could it be supposed that he pressed the overtures with much eagerness. As the spring approached, the visits of the Indians became more rare, and their professions of friendship waxed fainter. In February, they threw aside the mask at once, and made a bold effort to carry the distant out-post at Fort Recovery, by a coup-de-main. In this, however, they were frustrated by the vigilance and energy of the garrison; and finding that Wayne was neither to be surprised nor deceived, they employed themselves in collecting their utmost strength with a determination to abide the brunt of battle.

In the spring, the general called upon the governor of Kentucky for a detachment of mounted men, who repaired with great alacrity, to his standard, in two brigades, under Todd and Barbee, the whole commanded by Major General Scott, amounting to more than fifteen hundred men, accustomed to Indian warfare. The regular force, including cavalry and artillery, amounted to about two thousand, so that the general found himself at the head of three thousand men, well provided with every thing, in high spirits, and eager for battle. The Indian force did not exceed two thousand, and was known to have assembled in the neighborhood of the British fort at the rapids of the Miami.

It was late in July, before Wayne was ready to march from Greenville, and from the nature of the country, as well as the

necessity of guarding against surprise, his progress was very leisurely. He continued his march, however, in order of battle until he arrived within view of the enemy. The regular force formed the centre column, one brigade of mounted volunteers moved upon the left under General Barbee, the other brought up the rear under Brigadier Todd. The right flank was covered by the river, and Major Price, with a select corps of mounted volunteers, was advanced about five miles in front, with orders to feel the enemy's position, and then fall back upon the main body. About noon, the advanced corps received so heavy a fire from a concealed enemy as to compel it to retire with precipitation. The heads of the columns soon reached the hostile ground and had a view of the enemy. The ground for miles was covered with a thick growth of timber; which rendered the operation of cavalry extremely difficult. The Indians occupied a thick wood in front, where an immense number of trees had been blown down by a hurricane, the branches of which were interlocked in such a manner as greatly to impede the exertions of the regulars.

The enemy were formed in three parallel lines, at right angles to the river, and displayed a front of more than two miles. Wayne rode forward to reconnoiter their positions, and perceiving from the weight and extent of the fire that they were in full force, he instantly made dispositions for the attack. The whole of the mounted volunteers were ordered to make a circuit, for the purpose of turning the right flank of the Indians; the cavalry were ordered to move up under cover of the river bank, and if possible, turn their left; while the regular infantry were formed in a thick wood in front of the "fallen timber," with orders, as soon as the signal was given, to rush forward at full speed without firing a shot, arousing the enemy from their covert at the point of the bayonet, and *then* to deliver a close fire upon their backs, pressing them so closely as not



to permit them to re-load their guns. All these orders were executed with precision. The mounted volunteers moved off rapidly to occupy the designated ground, while the first line of infantry was formed under the eye of the commander, for the perilous charge in front.

As soon as time had been given for the arrival of the several corps upon their respective points, the order was given to advance, and the infantry, rushing through a tremendous fire of rifles and overleaping every impediment, hastened to close with their concealed enemy and maintain the struggle on equal terms. Although their loss in this desperate charge was by no means inconsiderable, yet the effect was decisive. The enemy rose and fled before them more than two miles with considerable loss, as, owing to the orders of Wayne, they were nearly as much exposed as the regulars. Such was the rapidity of the advance and the precipitation of the retreat, that only a small part of the volunteers could get up in time to share in the action, although there can be no question that their presence and threatening movement contributed equally with the impetuous charge of the infantry, to the success of the day.

The broken remains of the Indian army were pursued under the guns of the British fort, and so keen was the ardor of Wayne's men, and so strong their resentment against the English, that it was with the utmost difficulty they could be restrained from storming the fort upon the spot.

The Indian force being thus completely dispersed, their cornfields cut up, and their houses burned, Wayne drew off his forces from the neighborhood of the British post, and in order to hold the Indians permanently in check, he erected a fort at the junction of the Auglaize and Miami in the very heart of the Indian country, to which he gave the very appropriate name of Defiance. As this was connected with Fort Washington by various intermediate fortifications it could not fail completely

to overawe the enemy, who in a very short time, urgently and unanimously demanded peace.

Accordingly, on the 3d of August, 1795, a grand council was held at Greenville, where eleven of the most powerful tribes of the north-west were represented, to whom General Wayne dictated the terms of peace. The treaty thus negotiated, stipulated for the mutual release of prisoners. The boundary established at Fort McIntosh was confirmed and extended westward from Loramies to Fort Recovery, and thence south-west to the mouth of the Kentucky river. All the territory eastward and southward of the line thus established, was ceded to the United States; and the Indians solemnly pledged themselves, never again to make those lands or any part of them, a cause or pretense of war or injury to the American people. Upon these conditions, the United States received the Indian nations into their protection, and relinquished all claim to lands, not included within the treaty boundary.

A large quantity of goods was likewise delivered on the spot, and perpetual annuities, payable in merchandize or in domestic animals, implements of husbandry, or other convenient utensils at the pleasure of the receivers, were promised to each tribe which became a party to the treaty. This treaty was the foundation of a permanent peace. It was the act of all the tribes who had any claims to the territory of the Wabash, and the observance of its conditions was secured by the expectation of solid benefits as the rewards of good faith; and by the dread of severe retribution as the consequence of infraction. Its effect upon the improvement and prosperity of the west was immense. Confidence in the ability and disposition of the government to protect the western settlers was universally restored, and the emigrant no longer had the fear of the tomahawk and the scalping knife, of the midnight conflagration and the noon day ambush, before his eyes, when he undertook the

conquest of the wilderness. No combination of tribes nor any single tribe again lifted the tomahawk against the United States until just before the breaking out of the war with Great Britain. During this long interim several important events transpired. In the year 1796, settlements were made on the southern shore of Lake Erie, at Cleveland and at Conneaut by settlers from New England. The intermediate countries between these settlements of the north and those of the south, was gradually filled up by subsequent emigration of settlers from different quarters of the United States, by their natural increase, and by immigrants from various parts of Europe. From Marietta, settlers spread into the adjoining country. The Virginia Military reservation drew considerable numbers of Revolutionary veterans and others from that state. The region between the Miamies, from the Ohio far up towards the sources of Mad river, became checkered with farms, and abounded in indications of the presence of an active and prosperous population. In 1796, Wayne county was established, including all the north-western part of Ohio, a large tract in the north-eastern part of Indiana, and the whole territory of Michigan. Before the end of the year 1798, the North-Western Territory contained a population of 5000 inhabitants, and eight organized counties.

In September, 1799, the first (territorial) legislature, under the ordinance of Congress, of the 13th of July 1786, for the government of the territory of the United States, north-west of the Ohio river, convened at Cincinnati. During that session which was appointed for the 16th of September, 1799, but did not open until the 24th, General William Henry Harrison, was elected delegate to Congress, and forty-eight acts were passed by both houses, thirty-seven of which were approved by Governor St. Clair, and eleven were returned by him without signing. The eleven acts vetoed, were principally relating to the erection of new counties and fixing of county-seats; these

being matters over which he claimed exclusive jurisdiction. The session closed in December following.

In 1801, the state of Connecticut relinquished her claim of jurisdiction over the Connecticut Western Reserve, and received a title in fee, of the soil, from the United States. The territory was thereupon erected into a county called Trumbull, and the courts of the territory established therein. By an act of Congress of the same year, the territory north-west of the Ohio was divided by a line drawn from the mouth of the Kentucky to Fort Recovery, and thence northward to the territorial line ; and Chillicothe was established as the seat of government of the eastern division, now Ohio. The second session of the territorial legislature was therefore held at Chillicothe. On the 30th of April, 1802, Congress passed an act authorizing the call of a convention to form a state constitution, for that part of the then North-Western Territory, lying between Lake Erie and the Ohio river ; and east of a meridian drawn due north from the mouth of the great Miami river, and extending easterly to Pennsylvania. On the first of November following, pursuant thereto, the convention met at Chillicothe and formed our present state constitution.

The formation of the constitution was the work of little more than three weeks. On the 27th of November, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and on the 29th, was ratified and signed by the members of the convention. It was never referred to the people for their approbation, but became the fundamental law of the state by the act of the convention alone. Besides forming the constitution, the convention had another duty to perform. The act of Congress providing for the admission of the new state into the Union, offered certain propositions to the people. These were, *first*, that section sixteen, in each township, or where that section had been disposed of, other contiguous and equivalent lands should be gran-

ted to the inhabitants for the use of schools; *second*, that thirty-eight sections of land where salt springs had been found, of which one township was situated on the Scioto, one section on the Muskingum, and one section in the United States Military tract, should be granted to the state, never however, to be sold or leased for a longer term than ten years; and *third*, that one-twentieth of the proceeds of public lands, sold within the state, should be applied to the construction of roads from the Atlantic, to and through the same. These propositions were offered, on the condition that the convention should provide by ordinance, that all lands sold by the United States after the thirtieth day of June, 1802, should be exempt from taxation by the state for five years after the sale.

The ordinance of 1785, had already provided for the appropriation of section sixteen to the support of schools in every township sold by the United States, and the appropriation thus became a condition of the sale and settlement of the western country. It was a condition offered to induce purchases of public lands, at a time when the treasury was well nigh empty; and this source of revenue was much relied upon. It extended to every township of land within the territory, except those in the Virginia Military reservation; and wherever the reserved section had been disposed of, after the passage of the ordinance Congress was bound to make other equivalent provisions for the same object. The reservation of section sixteen, therefore, could not in 1802, be properly made the object of a new bargain between the United States and the state; and many thought that the salt reservations and the twentieth of the proceeds of the public lands, were very inadequate equivalents for the proposed surrender of the right to tax. The convention however determined to accept the propositions of Congress, on their being so far modified and enlarged, as to vest in the state for the use of schools, section sixteen in each township sold by

the United States, and three other tracts of land, equal in quantity, respectively, to one thirty-sixth of the Virginia reservation, of the United States Military tract, and of the Connecticut Reserve, and to give three *per centum* of the proceeds of the public lands sold within the state, to be applied under the direction of the legislature, to roads in Ohio. Congress assented to the proposed modification and thus completed the compact.

Ohio was now a state and a member of the Federal Union. The constitution which was first adopted, has never since been altered in any respect. It makes the usual distribution of governmental power into three great departments; legislative, judicial and executive. The executive power is vested in a governor, elected biennially by the people. [*See Appendix.*] His authority is very limited. The veto power, that anomaly in a republican government, is not recognized in the constitution of Ohio. It is the duty of the governor to communicate such information and recommend such measures to the legislature as he may think expedient; on extraordinary occasions he may convene the general assembly; and in case of disagreement between the two houses, as to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them; but with the business of legislation, he has nothing to do. He is commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the state, except in case of impeachment; he may grant reprieves and pardons; all commissions are to be made out by him under the great seal; and he may fill vacancies which occur during the recess of the general assembly, in offices of legislative appointment, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of the next session.

On the 1st day of March, 1803, the general assembly convened at Chillicothe. Their first care, of course was, to adapt the state laws of the territory to the new state of things introduced by the constitution. With this view, several laws were passed. The state courts were organized, their jurisdiction

defined and their practice in some degree, regulated. Judges of the new courts were appointed agreeably to the constitution, and the courts of the territory, the general court, the circuit courts, the courts of common pleas and the courts of general quarter sessions, were all abolished. Most of the powers exercised by the courts of quarter sessions, formerly, in establishing highways, erecting public buildings, granting licenses, &c., were transferred to the associate judges of the court of common pleas.

Provision was made for the election of justices, and for the transfer to them of the unfinished business of the territorial magistrates. The tax laws of the territory were slightly modified and continued in force. A secretary, an auditor and a treasurer of state were appointed, and appropriate functions assigned to each. In addition to his other duties, the latter officer was charged with the receipt of the three per cent. of the proceeds of the public lands to be paid by the United States agreeably to the compact. Laws were passed for leasing the school lands and salt reservations. Senators were elected to the national Congress and provision was made by law for the election of representatives.

While this legislature was in session, the treaty for the purchase of Louisiana was concluded with France. This acquisition was of immense importance to the western country. It secured the free navigation of the Mississippi, at that time the only outlet for western produce, and put an end to the vexatious impositions and restrictions, to which the American trader had been subjected at New Orleans, by the Spanish authorities. In December, 1803, the second general assembly convened agreeably to the provisions of the constitution. Further alterations and improvements were introduced into the statutes. The militia laws on that subject, were all repealed. To encourage immigration, a law was passed at this session, and has ever

since remained in force, to enable aliens to acquire and hold land within the state. Provisions were also made for the appropriation of the three per cent. fund, to the construction and improvement of roads. The plan was to divide the fund into small sums, to be applied in different parts of the state, under the direction of road commissioners, and this plan has ever since been persisted in.

At the session of 1803-4, also, the revenue system of the state was simplified and improved. The main reliance for revenue continued to be upon lands. The burden of this tax was borne, in a great measure, by non-residents who had no other property of any kind in the state. The collectors of the tax were required to pay two-thirds of the proceeds into the state treasury, and one-third into the several county treasuries. The administration of justice was improved by the enactment of laws, defining the duties and authorities of justices and constables and regulating the common law and chancery practice of the courts.

At the session of 1809-10, the laws were a second time revised.

The Indians, who since the treaty of Greenville, had remained quiet, now began to commit aggressions upon the inhabitants of the west. The celebrated Tecumseh, aided and encouraged by British influence, was conspicuously active, in his efforts to unite the native tribes against the Americans and to arrest the farther extension of the settlements. His proceedings and those of his brother, "*The Prophet*," soon made it evident that the west was about to experience the calamities of another Indian war, and it was resolved to anticipate the movements of the savages. In 1811, General William Henry Harrison, then governor of Indiana territory, marched against the town of "*the Prophet*," upon the Wabash. On the 6th of November, he arrived at Tippecanoe, their principal town, where



he was met by Indian messengers, with whom an agreement was made, that hostilities should not take place until the next morning, and that then an amicable conference should be held. Just before day-break, the savages, in violation of their engagement, made a sudden and furious attack upon the troops in their encampment. Nothing but the precaution of sleeping in order of battle, on their arms, saved them from total defeat.

A dreadful slaughter was made, but the savages were finally repulsed, dispersed, and their town laid waste. In the same year, occurred an event of more momentous consequence to the west, than the issues of a thousand battles. This was the voyage, from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, of the first steam boat ever launched upon the western waters.

In June, 1812, the United States declared war against Great Britain. Of this war, the west was a principal theatre. Defeat, disaster, and disgrace marked its opening scenes; but the latter events of the contest were a series of splendid achievements.

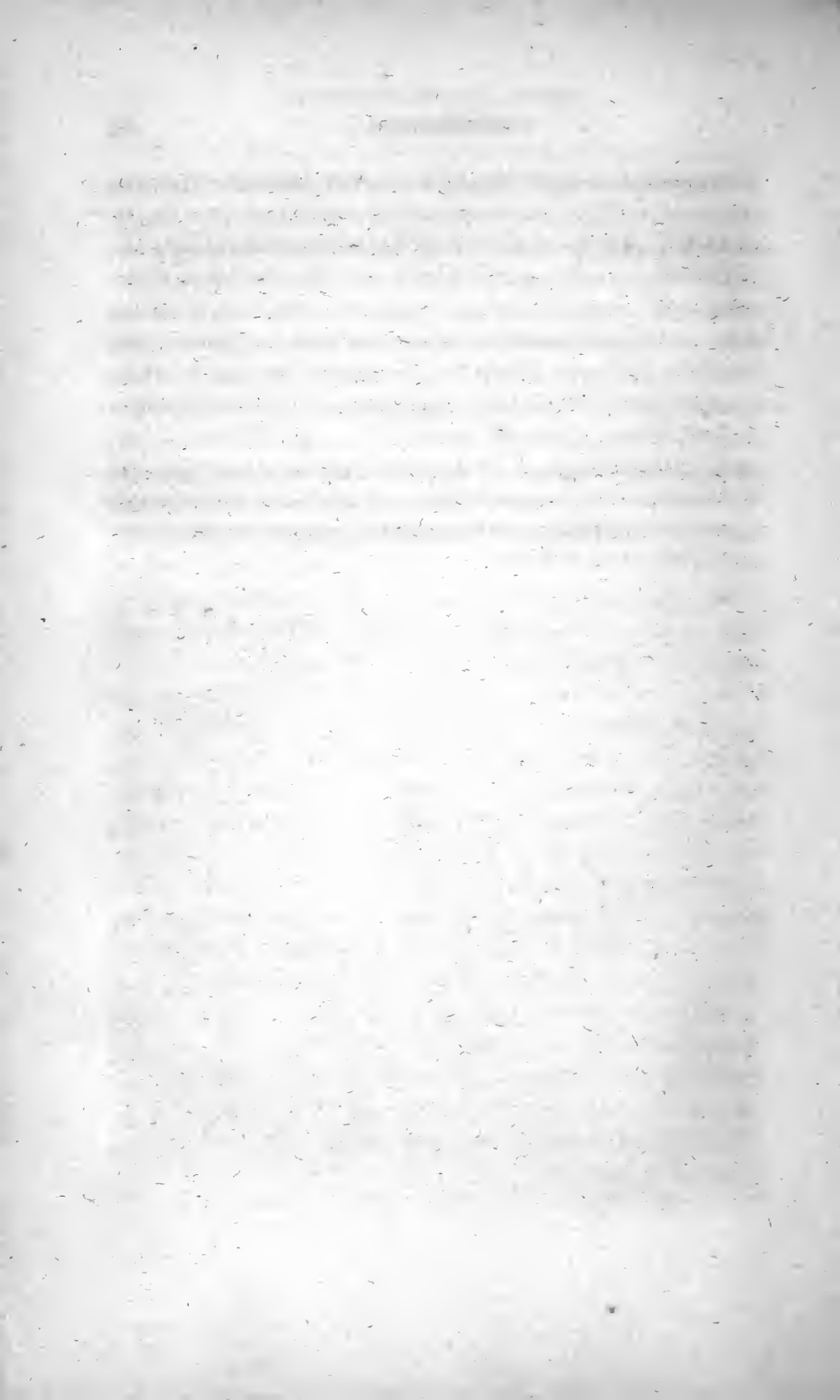
Colonel Croghan's gallant and successful defense of Fort Stephenson, was among the most brilliant. He was in the 22d year of his age, when left by General Harrison, in command of 160 men, and with one six-pounder at Fort Stephenson. On the evening of the first of August, the British and Indians, who had come up the Sandusky river, from the bay, commenced from their boats a heavy cannonading upon the fort, and threw in a great number of shells from their batteries. They continued their operations without success, until the evening of the second, when, after throwing a great number of balls from a six-pounder, at the north-west angle of the fort, for the purpose of making a breach, a column under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Short, advanced to the point on which the artillery had been played, with the intention of storming, but the judicious management of Colonel Croghan, foiled the enemy in his attempt. The ditch which surrounded the works, was

about eight feet wide, and of equal depth. This the enemy had to enter before they could approach the pickets, which had a bayonet driven through the top of each, in a horizontal direction. While in this situation, a six-pounder which was masked in a block-house, poured upon them a tremendous shower of musket balls, which did terrible execution. This so confounded the assailants, that Lieutenant Colonel Short, who had previously ordered his men to scale the pickets and *show the d—d Yankee rascals no quarters*, now exhibited a white handkerchief as a signal of distress, evincing a disposition to have quarters shown him, after he had proclaimed that the garrison should be murdered. It was, however, too late ; the next discharge proved fatal ; he fell, and Lieutenant Gordon, of the 29th regiment, died by his side. This was near two hours before sunset. The firing from the block-house, was principally directed at the enemy, who had taken refuge in the direction of the ravine, the slaughter there was immense, and General Proctor, who commanded in person, ordered the allied armies to retreat to their boats. The greater part of the night, was occupied in carrying off the dead and wounded ; and from the number of trails, it was evident, that no less than fifty of the dead were dragged away. About thirty killed, including the two officers just mentioned, were left in the ditch and ravine, and thirty prisoners, eighteen severely wounded, which General Proctor in his hurry, left behind, were afterwards brought into the fort. Major Croghan had but one man killed, and seven slightly wounded. The brevet rank of lieutenant colonel, was conferred by the President of the United States, upon Major Croghan, and the ladies of Chillicothe, presented him with a sword, and a flattering address.

Croghan's gallant defense of Fort Stephenson, Perry's victory upon Lake Erie, the total defeat, by Harrison, of the allied British and savages, under Proctor and Tecumseh, on the

Thames, and the great closing triumph of Jackson at New Orleans—all reflected the most brilliant lustre upon the American arms. In every vicissitude of this contest, the conduct of Ohio, was eminently patriotic and honorable. Her sons volunteered with alacrity their services in the field; and no troops more patiently endured hardships, or performed better service. Hardly a battle was fought on the western frontier, in which some of these brave citizen soldiers, did not seal their devotion to their country with their blood.

In 1816, the seat of the state government was removed to Columbus, and the year following, the first white settler located himself within the present limits of this county.



# HISTORY OF SENECA COUNTY.

---

## CHAPTER I.

Aborigines—War between the Wyandots and Senecas—Naval fight—The Wyandots settle upon the Sandusky—Treaty with the Indians—Grant of land to the Senecas—Seneca Indians—Their removal to the west—An execution for witch-craft.

THE country, watered by the Sandusky and its tributaries, was originally inhabited by a powerful and war-like tribe of Indians, known as the Wyandot or *Huron* tribe.

According to a tradition of this nation, their home was once, on the north side of the river St. Lawrence, down to Coon lake, and from thence, up the Utiwas. Their name for it, was *Cunone-tat-tia*. The Senecas, who were blood relations of the Wyandots, owned the opposite side of the river, and the island on which Montreal now stands. They were both large tribes, consisting of many thousands.

A war originated between the two tribes, in this way: A man of the Wyandots wanted a certain woman for his wife; but she objected and said he was no warrior; he had never taken any scalps. To accomplish his object, he raised a small war-party, and in their scout, fell upon a party of the Seneca hunters and killed and scalped a number of them. This caused a war between the nations, that lasted more than a century, which they supposed was fully a hundred winters, before the French came to Quebec.

They say they were the first instigators in the war, and were generally beaten in the contest. Both tribes became greatly wasted in the conflict. They often made peace ; but the first opportunity the Senecas could get an advantage against them, they would destroy all they could, men, women, and children.

The Wyandots, finding they were in danger of being exterminated, concluded to leave their country and go far to the west. With their canoes, the whole nation made their escape to the upper lakes, and settled in the vicinity of Green bay, in several villages ; but after a few years, the Senecas made up a war-party, and followed them to their new settlements, fell on one of their villages, killed a number, and returned.— Through this long period, they had no instruments of war but bows, arrows, and the war-club.

Soon after this, the French came to Quebec, and began trading with the Indians, and supplied them with fire-arms, and various other implements. The Senecas having got supplied with guns, and learned the use of them, made out a war-party the second time, against the Wyandots, came upon them in the night, fired into their huts and terrified them exceedingly: they thought at first, it was thunder and lightning. The Senecas did not succeed so well as they expected. After a few years, they made up a third war party, and fell upon the Wyandot villages and took nearly all of them ; but it so happened at this time, that nearly all the young men had gone to war with the Fox tribe of Indians, living on the Mississippi.

Those few, that escaped the massacre by the Senecas, agreed to give up, and go back with them, and become one people ; but requested of the Senecas, to have two days to collect what they had, and make ready their canoes, and join them on the morning of the third day, at a certain point, where they had gone to wait for them, and hold a great dance through the night.

The Wyandots sent directly to their other two villages, which the Senecas had not disturbed, and got all their old men and women, and such as could fight, to consult on what measures to take. They came to the resolution to equip themselves in the best manner they could, and go down in perfect stillness, so near the enemy as to hear them. They found them engaged in a dance and feasting on two Wyandot men they had killed and roasted, as they said, "*for their beef;*" and as they danced, they shouted their victory and told how good their Wyandot beef was. They continued their dance until the latter part of the night, and being tired, they all laid down and soon fell into a sound sleep. A little before day, the Wyandot party fell on them and cut them all off; not one was left to carry back the tidings. Thus ended the war, for a great number of years.

Soon after this, the Wyandots procured guns from the French traders, and began to grow formidable. The Indians, who owned the country where they had resided for a long time, proposed to them to go back to their own country. They agreed to return, and having proposed themselves as a war-party, they returned—came down to where Detroit now stands, and agreed to settle in two villages, one at the place above mentioned, and the other, where the British fort, Malden, now stands.

But previously to making any settlement, they sent out in canoes, the best war-party they could make, to go down the lake some distance, to see if there was an enemy on that side of the water. They went down to Long Point, landed, and sent three men across to see if they could make any discovery. They found a party of Senecas bending their course around the Point, and returned with the intelligence to their party. The head chief ordered his men, in each canoe, to strike fire and offer some of their tobacco to the Great Spirit, and prepare for action.

The chief had his son, a small boy, with him ; he covered the boy in the bottom of his canoe. He determined to fight his enemy on the water. They put out into the open lake—the Senecas came on. Both parties took the best advantage they could, and fought with a determination to conquer or sink in the lake. At length the Wyandots saw the last man of the Senecas fall ; but they had lost a great proportion of their own men, and were so wounded and cut to pieces, that they could take no advantage of the victory, but only gain the shore as soon as possible, and leave the enemy's canoes to float or sink among the waves. Thus ended the war between the two nations, forever.

The Wyandots afterward settled in this country, and their principal town was upon the Sandusky. But little was known of them or their country prior to the war of the Revolution. During this conflict, they became extremely troublesome to the back counties of Pennsylvania and Virginia ; particularly to those of Washington, Youghiogany and Westmoreland.

In the early part of the year 1782, these irregular excursions became so galling, that the ill-timed, and melancholy expedition of the unfortunate CRAWFORD, was concerted against them, particulars of which, have already been given in the Introduction. After this defeat, which stands upon record, as one of the most calamitous and disastrous expeditions that ever stained the American arms, the aggressions of the savages were much more frequent. The frontiers were continually harassed by them, indiscriminately murdering those of every age or sex ; or hurrying them captives to the wilderness, to be tortured with all the cruelty which savage ingenuity could devise.

The fury of the Indians of north-western Ohio, was not checked, until they were aroused from their coverts by the victorious Wayne. In 1794, he dictated to many of the northern tribes, the terms of peace. From this event, down to the



renewal of the war, under the auspices of Tecumseh and the Prophet,\* they remained comparatively tranquil. The death of their chief, and their total defeat by Harrison, destroyed forever their power in the north-west.

On the 29th of September, 1817, a treaty was held at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, between Lewis Cass, and Duncan McArthur, commissioners of the United States, on the one part, and the sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawanee, Patawatima, Ottawa, and Chippewa tribes of Indians, when all their lands within the limits of Ohio, were ceded to the United States, forever. At this time, there was not a single white settler within the present limits of Seneca county.

At the treaty just mentioned, the United States granted to Takawmadoaw, Captain Harris, Isahowmasaw, Joseph, Tawgyou, Captain Smith, Coffeehouse, Running-about, and Wipingstick, who were chiefs of the Seneca tribe of Indians, a tract of land, containing thirty thousand acres, lying upon the east side of, and adjoining the Sandusky river, and mostly within the present limits of this county. There was an addition of ten thousand acres, lying south of this tract, granted to the Senecas, by the United States, on the 17th of September, 1818; at which time, a treaty was held, supplementary to the treaty of the Miami of Lake Erie. The whole tract, consisting of forty thousand acres, has since been known as the "Seneca Reservation."

Although this nation was called the "Seneca tribe of Indians," there was not, in reality, a Seneca among them. They were chiefly Cayugas; with a few Mohawks, Onondagas, Tuscarawas, Wyandots and Oneidas. But the Mingoës were originally, Cayugas, and their chief was the celebrated Logan.

\* During the late war, the Wyandots, Shawanese and Senecas, remained friendly to the United States.

After the murder of his family, of which he speaks in his masterly speech, sent to the governor of Virginia, the Mingoes were scattered in bands, over the territory north west of the Ohio.

Their hunting grounds, were principally, upon the Scioto, and Olentangy ; and as one of the Seneca chiefs very significantly remarked, "their children were raised upon their backs," indicating that they had no particular home. At the time of the treaty, they had concentrated upon the Sandusky, and it is a fact worthy of notice, which has been attested by a Seneca chief who knew him well, that upon its banks, were spent some of the last days of Logan, the Mingo chief.

The Senecas lived upon their grant, until their removal to the west, which was agreed upon at a treaty held at Washington city, on the 29th of February, 1831. This treaty was made between James B. Gardiner, commissioner on the part of the United States, and Comstock, Seneca Steel, Captain Good-hunter, Hard-hickory and Small-cloud-Spicer, chiefs of the Seneca tribe. George Herrin, acted as interpreter ; and Henry C. Brish, as sub-agent. The whole of their grant of forty thousand acres of land, was ceded to the United States, giving them full authority to sell the same ; and the proceeds were to be placed in funded stock, at five per cent. interest ; which was to be paid to the Indians as an annuity, after deducting the cost of building for the latter, a saw and grist mill. The United States also gave them seventy-six thousand acres of land, lying upon the Neosho and Cowskin rivers, north-west of the state of Arkansas, and ninety miles above Fort Gibson.

In the fall of 1831, this tribe to the number of five hundred and ten, started for their new home in the west. A part undertook their journey by land, and after experiencing numerous hardships, and meeting with many accidents, finally succeeded in reaching Missouri by the next spring. The division

under the immediate charge of their sub-agent, Mr. Brish, traveled by water, encountering but little difficulty.

They finally all met on the 26th of April, above St. Louis, and arrived at their new homes, the 4th of July, following.— Twenty-eight of their number died on the road.

The home of the Senecas is in a beautiful country, which, it is feared, will not remain long in their possession. The destroyer is among them, and their number has already greatly decreased. On the 26th of August, 1845, they numbered, in all, including men, women, and children, but *one hundred and fifty-three*. The last two years have proved fatal to many.— The survivors live in comfortable houses, generally, and raise good crops of the coarser grains.

Their idea of education, is too ingenious to be overlooked ; “for,” say they, “it may perhaps be reconciled to the consciences of white men, who have a great many laws, contracts, &c., *written upon paper*, and education is necessary to evade them. But we have but few, and they are *written in the heart!*”

The following highly interesting narrative, of the execution for *witch-craft*, of one of these Indians, named Seneca John, is from the pen of Henry C. Brish, a resident of Clinton township, in this county.

“About the year 1825, Coonstick, Steel, and Cracked Hoof, left the reservation, for the double purpose of a three years hunting and trapping excursion, and to seek a location for a new home for the tribe, in the far west.

“At the time of their starting, Comstock, the brother of the two first, was the principal chief of the tribe. On their return in 1828, richly laden with furs and horses, they found Seneca John, their fourth brother, chief, in place of Comstock, who had died during their absence.

“Comstock was the favorite brother of the two, and they at once charged Seneca John, with producing his death by witch-

craft. John denied the charge, in a strain of eloquence, rarely equaled. Said he, 'I loved my brother Comstock, more than I loved the green earth I stand upon. I would give up myself, limb by limb, piecemeal by piecemeal; I would shed my blood, drop by drop, to restore him to life.' But all his protestations of innocence, and affection for his brother Comstock, were of no avail. His two other brothers pronounced him guilty, and declared their determination to be his executioners.

"John replied that he was willing to die, and only wished to live until the next morning, to see the sun rise once more.— This request being granted, John told them that he should sleep that night on Hard-hickory's porch, which fronted the east, where they would find him at sunrise. He chose that place because he did not wish to be killed in the presence of his wife, and desired that the chief, Hard-hickory, should witness that *he died like a brave man.*

"Coonstick and Steel, retired for the night, to an old cabin near by. In the morning, in company with Shane, another Indian, they proceeded to the house of Hard-hickory.

"A little after sunrise, Hard-hickory heard their footsteps upon the porch, and opened the door just enough to see out. He saw John *asleep* upon his blanket; and they standing around him. At length one of them awoke him. He arose upon his feet, and took off a large handkerchief which was around his head, letting his unusually long hair fall upon his shoulders.— This being done, he looked around upon the landscape, and at the rising sun, to take a farewell look of a scene that he was never again to behold, and then told them he was ready to die.

"Shane and Coonstick, each took him by the arm, and Steel walked behind. In this way, they led him about ten steps from the porch, when Steel struck him with a tomahawk on the back of his head, and he fell to the ground, bleeding freely. Supposing this blow sufficient to kill him, they dragged him under

a peach tree near by. In a short time, however, he revived—the blow having been broken by the great mass of hair upon his head. Knowing that it was Steel who struck the blow, John, as he lay, turned his head towards Coonstick, and said, ‘Now, brother, do you take your revenge.’

“This so operated upon the feelings of Coonstick, that he interfered to save him ; but it enraged Steel to such a degree, that he drew his knife, and cut John’s throat from ear to ear ; and the next day he was buried with the usual Indian ceremonies, not more than twenty feet from where he fell.

“Steel was arrested, and tried for the murder, in Sandusky county, and acquitted. The grave of Seneca John was surrounded by a small picket enclosure. Three years after when I was preparing to move them to the west—says Mr. Brish—I saw Coonstick and Steel remove the picket-fence and level the ground, so that no vestige of the grave remained.”

## CHAPTER II.

Simon Girty—His character—Attack on Fort Henry—Girty's harangue—  
Attack upon Bryant's station—Girty's speech—Answer of Reynolds—  
Girty's cruelty to Crawford corroborated—His death—Seneca Indians  
sacrificing two dogs to the Great Spirit.

THE notorious SIMON GIRTY, was adopted by the Seneca Indians, and became an expert hunter. He was from Pennsylvania, to which state his father had emigrated from Ireland.—The old man was beastly intemperate, and nothing ranked higher in his estimation than a jug of whiskey. "Grog was his song, and grog would he have." His sottishness turned his wife's affection. Ready for seduction, she yielded her heart to a neighboring rustic, who, to remove all obstacles to their wishes, knocked Girty on the head, and bore off the trophy of his prowess.

Four sons of this interesting couple were left—Thomas, Simon, George, and James. The three latter were taken prisoners, in Braddock's war, by the Indians. George was adopted by the Delawares, became a ferocious monster, and died in a drunken fit. James was adopted by the Shawanese, and became as depraved as his brother. It is said, that he often visited Kentucky, at the time of its first settlement, and inflicted most barbarous tortures upon all captive women who came within his reach. Traders, who were acquainted with him, say, so furious was he, that he would not have turned on his heel to save a prisoner from the flames. To this savage, are to be attributed many of the cruelties charged upon his brother Simon

—yet he was caressed by Proctor and Elliott. In Kentucky and Ohio, Simon sustained the character of an unrelenting barbarian. Sixty years ago, with his name was associated every thing cruel and fiend-like. To the women and children, in particular, nothing was more terrifying than the name of *Simon Girty!* At that time, it was believed by many that he had fled from justice, and sought refuge among the Indians, determined to do his countrymen all the harm in his power. This impression was an erroneous one. Being adopted by the Indians, he joined them in their wars, and conformed to their usages. This was the education he had received, and their foes were his. Although trained in all his pursuits as an Indian, it is said to be a fact, susceptible of proof, that, through his importunities, many prisoners were saved from death. His influence was great, and when he chose to be merciful, it was generally in his power to protect the imploring captive.

His reputation was that of an honest man, and he fulfilled his engagements to the last cent. He was intemperate, and when intoxicated, ferocious and abusive alike of friends and foes. Although much disabled the last ten years of his life, by rheumatism, he rode to his hunting grounds, in pursuit of game.\*

In September, 1777, Girty led the attack on Fort Henry, on the site of Wheeling, during which he appeared at the window of a cabin, with a white flag, and demanded the surrender of the fort, in the name of his Britannic majesty. He read the proclamation of Gov. Hamilton, and promised the protection of the crown if they would lay down their arms, and swear allegiance to the king. He warned them to submit peaceably, and admitted his inability to restrain his warriors, when excited in the strife of battle. Col. Shepard, the commandant, promptly

\*Campbell's Sketches.

replied, that they would never surrender to *him*, and that he could only obtain possession of the fort, when there remained no longer an American soldier to defend it. Girty renewed his proposition, but it was abruptly ended by a shot from a thoughtless youth, and Girty retired, and opened the siege, which proved unsuccessful.

Baker's station, in that vicinity, was also attacked, not far from this time, by Girty and his band, but without success.

In August, 1782, a powerful body of Indians, led by Girty, appeared before Bryant's station, in Kentucky, about five miles from Lexington. The Kentuckians made such a gallant resistance, that the Indians became disheartened, and were about abandoning the siege; upon this, Girty, thinking he might frighten the garrison into a surrender, mounted a stump, within speaking distance, and commenced a parley. He told them who he was, that he looked hourly for reinforcements with cannon, and that they had better surrender at once; if they did so, no one should be hurt; otherwise, he feared they would all fall victims. The garrison were intimidated; but one young man, named Reynolds, seeing the effects of the harangue, and believing his story—as it was—to be false, of his own accord, answered him in this wise: "You need not be so particular to tell us your name; we know your name, and you, too. I've had a *villainous, untrust-worthy cur-dog* this long time, named *Simon Girty*, in compliment to you; he's so like you—just as ugly, and just as wicked. As to the cannon, let them come on; the country's roused, and the scalps of your red cut-throats, and your own, too, will be drying on our cabins, in twenty-four hours; and if, by chance, you, or your allies do get into the fort, we've a big store of rods laid in, on purpose to scourge you out again." This response of Reynolds, was effectual:—the Indians withdrew, and were pursued a few days after, (the defenders of the fort being in the mean-time reinforced,) to the



Blue-licks, where the Indians lay in ambush, and defeated the Kentuckians with great slaughter.

Girty was also at St. Clair's defeat, and led the attack on Colerain.

Dr. Knight, in his narrative of his captivity and burning of Col. Crawford, (see Introduction,) speaks of the cruelty of Simon Girty, to the Colonel and himself. Col. Johnston corroborates the account of Dr. Knight. In a communication before us, he says: "He was notorious for his cruelty to the whites, who fell into the hands of the Indians. His cruelty to the unfortunate Crawford, is well known to myself; and although I did not witness the tragedy, I can vouch for the facts of the case, having had them from eye-witnesses. When that brave and unfortunate commander was suffering at the stake by a slow fire, in order to lengthen his misery to the longest possible time, he besought Girty to have him shot, to end his torments, when the monster mocked him by firing powder, without ball, at him.

"Crawford and Girty had been intimately acquainted in the early settlement of Pennsylvania; I knew a brother of the latter at Pittsburgh, in 1793."

Mr. Daniel M. Workman, now living in Logan county, gave us orally the following, respecting the last years of Girty:—"In 1813," said he, "I went to Malden, and put up at a hotel, kept by a Frenchman. I noticed, in the bar-room, a gray-headed and blind, old man. The landlady, who was his daughter, a woman of about thirty years of age, inquired of me, 'Do you know who that is?' pointing to the old man. On my replying 'No,' she replied, '*it is Simon Girty!*' He had then been blind about four years. In 1815, I returned to Malden, and ascertained that Girty had died a short time previous.—Simon Kenton informed me that Girty left the whites, because he was not promoted to the command of a battalion. Girty

was a man of extraordinary strength, power of endurance, courage and sagacity. He was in height about five feet ten inches, and strongly made."\*

✓ The following account of the Seneca Indians sacrificing two dogs to the Great Spirit, is given by an eye-witness. It happened just before their departure for their new homes.

We rose early, and proceeded directly to the council-house, and though we supposed we were early, the Indians were already in advance of us.

The first object which arrested our attention, was a pair of the canine species, one of each gender, suspended on a *cross*! one on either side thereof. These animals had been *strangled*—*not a bone was broken*, nor could a distorted hair be seen!—They were of a beautiful *cream* color, except a few dark spots on one, naturally, which same spots were put on the other artificially, by the devotees. The Indians are very partial in the selection of dogs entirely *white* for this occasion, and for which they will give almost any price.

Now for part of the decorations, to which I have already alluded, and a description of one will suffice for both.

First, a scarlet ribin was tastefully tied just above the nose, and near the eyes another; next, around the neck, was a white ribin, to which was attached some bulbs, concealed in another white ribin; this was placed directly under the right ear; and I suppose it was intended as an amulet, or charm. Then, ribins were bound around the fore-legs at the knees, and near the feet—these were red and white alternately. Round the body was a profuse decoration; then the hind-legs were decorated as the fore ones. Thus were the victims prepared, and thus ornamented for the burnt offering.

While minutely making this examination, I was almost unconscious of the collection of a large number of Indians, who

\* Ohio—its history and antiquities.

were then assembled to offer their sacrifices. Adjacent to the cross, was a large fire, built on a few logs; and though the snow was several inches deep, they had prepared a sufficient quantity of combustible material, removed the snow from the logs, and placed thereon their fire. I have often regretted that I did not see them light this pile. My own opinion is, they did not use the fire from their council-house; because I think they would have considered that as common—and as this was intended to be a holy service, they no doubt, for this purpose, struck fire from a flint, this being deemed sacred.

It was a clear, beautiful morning, and just as the first rays of the sun were seen in the tops of the towering forest, and its reflections from the snowy surface, the Indians simultaneously formed a semi-circle enclosing the cross, each flank resting on the aforesaid pile of logs.

Good-hunter, who officiated as high-priest, now appeared, and approached the cross; arrayed in his pontifical robes, he looked quite respectable.

The Indians being all assembled—I say Indians, for there was not a squaw present, during all this ceremony—at a private signal given by the high-priest, two young chiefs sprang upon the cross, and each taking off one of the victims, brought it down, and presented it on his arms, to the high-priest, who, receiving it with great reverence, in like manner, advanced to the fire, and with a very grave and solemn air, laid it thereon. And this he did with the other—but to which, whether male or female, he gave preference, I did not learn. This done, he retired to the cross.

In a devout manner, he now commenced an oration. The tone of his voice was audible, and somewhat chanting. At every pause in his discourse, he took from a white cloth he held in his left hand, a portion of dried, odoriferous herbs, which he threw on the fire. This was intended as incense. In the mean

while, his auditory, their eyes on the ground, with grave aspect and in solemn silence, stood motionless, listening attentively to every word he uttered. Thus he proceeded, until the victims were entirely consumed, and the incense exhausted, when he concluded his service.

The oblation now made, and the wrath of the Great Spirit, as they believed, appeased, they again assembled in the council house, for the purpose of performing a part in their festival, different from any I had yet witnessed. Each Indian, as he entered, seated himself on the floor, thus forming a large circle; when one of the old chiefs rose, and with that native dignity which some Indians possess in a great degree, recounted his exploits as a warrior; told in how many fights he had been the victor; the number of scalps he had taken from his enemies; and what, at the head of his braves, he yet intended to do at the "Rocky Mountains;" accompanying his narration with energy, warmth, and strong gesticulation. When he ended, he received the unanimous applause of the assembled tribe.

This meed of praise was awarded to the chief, by "three times three" articulations, which were properly neither nasal, oral, nor guttural, but rather abdominal.

Thus, many others in the circle, old and young, rose in order, and *pro forma*, delivered themselves of speeches. Among those was Good-hunter; but he

"Had laid his robes away,  
His mitre and his vest."

His remarks were not filled with such bombast as some others; but brief, modest and appropriate; in fine, they were such as became a priest of one of the lost ten tribes of Israel.

After all had spoken who wished to speak, the floor was cleared and the dance renewed, in which Indian and squaw united, with their wonted hilarity and zeal.

Just as the dance ended, an Indian boy ran to me, and with

fear strongly depicted in his countenance, caught me by the arm, and drew me to the door, pointing with his other hand towards something he wished me to observe.

I looked in that direction, and saw the appearance of an Indian running at full speed to the council-house ; in an instant, he was in it, and literally in the fire, which he took in his hands, and threw fire, coals and hot ashes in various directions through the house, and apparently, all over himself! At his entrance, the young Indians, much alarmed, had all fled to the further end of the house, where they remained crowded, in great dread of this personification of the Evil Spirit! After diverting himself with the fire a few moments, at the expense of the young ones, to their no small joy, he disappeared.

This was an Indian disguised with a hideous false face, having horns on his head, and his hands and feet protected from the effects of the fire ; and though not a professed "Fire-king," he certainly performed his part to admiration.

During the continuance of this festival, the hospitality of the Senecas was unbounded. In the council-house, and at the residence of Tall Chief, were a number of large, fat bucks, and fat hogs, hanging up, and neatly dressed. Bread, also, of both corn and wheat, in great abundance.

Large kettles of soup ready prepared, in which maple sugar, profusely added, made a prominent ingredient, thus forming a very agreeable saccharine coalescence. All were invited, and all were made welcome ; indeed, a refusal to partake of their bounty, was deemed disrespectful, if not unfriendly.

I left them in the afternoon enjoying themselves to the fullest extent ; and so far as I could perceive, their pleasure was without alloy. They were eating and drinking ; but on this occasion, no ardent spirits were permitted—dancing and rejoicing—caring, and, probably, thinking not of to-morrow.

### CHAPTER III.

Erection of counties—The New Purchase—Land Districts—Sale of lands—Seneca county—Roads—Oakley—Sandusky river—Honey creek—Wolf creek—Organization of the county—First annual election.

ON the 12th day of February, 1820, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Ohio, erecting into fourteen separate and distinct counties, all the lands within the state, which, by the late treaty, had been ceded by the Indians to the United States. These lands included the whole of what was called the "New Purchase," and were, soon after the treaty, directed to be surveyed. From the boundary line between this state and Indiana, the surveyor, Mr. Bourne, ran a line due east, until it reached the south-west corner of the Connecticut Reserve, dividing the New Purchase into two parts. This is the *base-line*, which separates this county from those of Wyandot and Crawford. From the Indiana line, which was taken as a meridian, other lines were run parallel to the same, cutting the base-line at right angles, at the distance of every six miles throughout its whole length. These lines, running north and south, are called *ranges*.

Lines were also run, parallel to the base-line, at the distance of every six miles, both north and south, until they reached the northern and southern extremities of the purchase. As these lines cross the ranges at right angles, the whole is cut into squares of thirty-six miles each, containing thirty-six sections of land. The ranges are numbered progressively eastward, from the Indiana line, until they strike the western edge

of the Connecticut Reserve. All of the squares, each one of which constitutes a township, are noted by progressive numbers from the base-line, both north and south. All the other lines, except the base-line, were run by Alexander Holmes, who finished his survey, in the fall of 1819. By provisions of the act already mentioned, the ninth of the fourteen counties, to include township one, two, and three, north, in ranges thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen and seventeen, east, was called *Seneca*.

The county, thus constituted by name and boundary, received its name from the Seneca tribe of Indians, whose history has already been given. The county was not organized, until four years afterwards, during which time, it remained attached to Sandusky county for judicial purposes. During the summer of 1820, and the spring of 1821, the several townships in this county were surveyed into sections and quarter-sections, except the land comprising the Indian grants, which were not surveyed until 1832.

The whole of the New Purchase having been thus divided, a line was drawn north and south, nearly in the center, separating it into two parts, called the *Piqua* and *Delaware* land-districts; the former comprising the western, and the latter, the eastern section. On the 3d of August, 1821, so much of the Delaware land-district as lay north of the base-line, was offered to the highest bidder, in the town of Delaware, the minimum price being fixed, at ten shillings per acre.

The average purchase price of the land bought in this county at the sale, was but little higher than that established by law. Very little since has been entered by speculators, so that the population of Seneca county, from its commencement, has been of a permanent and industrious character. Possessing but little fictitious capital, its increase in population and wealth has been steady and rapid.

Thirty years ago, it was a mighty forest—an unbroken chain

of wilderness—entirely covered with sturdy oaks, and thrifty hickories, intermingled with numerous other forest trees, such as beech, maple, poplar, black-walnut, sycamore, &c. Upon the bosom of the Sandusky, the wild-fowl reposed in safety, and the deer sported in their native haunts. Along this river and its tributaries, the hungry wolf prowled in search of food; and their hiding-places were in the thickets of the up-land.— Here and there, the smoke ascended from the Indian's wigwam, curling majestically amidst the branches of the towering oak; while the wily hunter pursued his game along the margin of creeks; or reposed upon his matted couch, by blazing faggots of the wilderness. Such was *Seneca* county, thirty years ago!

At that time, there was only *one* solitary road leading through the county. This was first known as "*Bell's road*;" having been surveyed by Gen. Bell, of Wooster, as early as the year 1812. It connected Upper and Lower Sandusky, and was opened by a Mr. Meeker. It ran along the western bank of the Sandusky river, and has since been known as the "*old army road*," from its being the principal thoroughfare for troops and supplies, during the war of 1812. For several years after the close of the war, large quantities of flour and other provisions, for the settlements around Lower Sandusky, passed along this road; and many emigrants from Europe, who had previously landed in Canada, took this course, on their way to the south, making it quite a traveled road, before there was a white settler in the county. In 1821, this road was again surveyed by David Risdon, Esq. and constituted a state road.

In 1820, Israel Herrington surveyed what is at this time known as the "*Morrison state road*," leading from Croghansville to Delaware. It received its name from one of the commissioners, who was at that time, a resident of Croghansville. This was the first road east of the Sandusky.

In 1822, a road was surveyed by Col. James Kilbourn, lead-



ing from Sandusky City to Upper Sandusky, and known as the "*Kilbourn road*." The first teams driven along the line of this road, within the limits of the county, were by Thomas Baker, from New York, and Ezra Brown from the same state; both of whom, have ever since been residents of the county.

During the month of February, 1820, was established the first post-office in the county, at *Oakley*. This town had been surveyed some time previous, by Joseph Vance, upon land granted to one Robert Armstrong, an account of whom will be given hereafter. This was the first surveyed and platted town in the county. In 1824, it was again surveyed, by David Risdon, and its name changed to *Fort Ball*. The gentleman just named, was the first post-master, and at the time of his appointment, there was but one mail-rout through the county—which was along the "*old army road*"—and extended from Columbus to Lower Sandusky.

*Sandusky river*, the largest stream of water in the county, passes through it, from south to north, dividing it nearly, into two equal parts. It rises in the western part of Richland county, and after a westerly course of twenty miles, reaches Upper Sandusky, where it changes its course, running northerly, until it reaches the southern boundary of this county. It crosses the line, in the south-east corner of Seneca township, and after deviating from its northerly direction into Eden township, it again passes into Seneca. Running along the eastern edge of this township, it crosses into Hopewell, almost due north of its entrance into the county. From Hopewell township, it passes into Clinton, a little below the mouth of Honey creek; and after pursuing a northerly course in this township, it enters Pleasant. After passing through Pleasant township, it leaves the county, and taking a northerly course, falls into Sandusky Bay, about eighty miles, by the course of the river, from its source.

As to the origin of the name of this river, there are two opinions. By some, it is believed to be a word of French extraction, given to the bay and river, by the Indians, in honor of the first French trader who visited the country. In Champagne county, Illinois, there is now living, a man of this name, who claims that one of his ancestors settling at an early period upon the Sandusky, and becoming a great favorite among the Indians, they, as a mark of respect, gave his name (Sowdowsky) to the river and bay.

By the tradition of aged Indian warriors, given to the late William Henry Harrison in the friendly chat of the wigwam, when he first became acquainted with the north-western tribes, the following appears to be the origin and signification of the word *Sandusky*. After the naval conflict upon the lake, between the Wyandots and Senecas, mentioned in Chapter I., these conquering bands, having landed at Maumee, followed the lake shore towards the east, passing and giving names to bays, creeks, and rivers, until they arrived at Cold creek, where it enters the Sandusky bay. Being charmed with the springs of *clear, cold* water in this vicinity, they pitched their tents and engaged in hunting and fishing. By them (the Wyandots) the bay and river was called *Sandusky*; meaning in their language, "*at the cold water.*"

"I have a note of conversation," says John H. James, in the American Pioneer, "with William Walker, at Columbus, in 1835-6, at which time, he was principal chief of the Wyandots, at Upper Sandusky, in which I asked the meaning of the word, *Sandusky*. He said it meant '*at the cold water,*' and should be sounded San-doo-tee. He said it '*carried with it, the force of a preposition.*' The Upper Cold Water, and the Lower Cold Water, then, were descriptive Indian names, given long before the presence of the trader, Sowdowsky."

In the vocabulary of Wyandot words, given by John Johns-

ton, Esq., formerly Indian agent in Ohio, as printed in *Archæologia Americana*, Vol. I. p. 295, the word *water* is given, *Sa-un-dus-tee*; and in page 297, he gives the name of Sandusky river, as *Sa-undustee*, or water within water pools.

The Sandusky, compared with most of our western rivers, is rapid and shallow. It becomes quite low during the summer months; but in the spring and fall, it generally fills its banks, as also, during the winter months.

The greatest rise of waters ever known in this river, occurred in January last. In 1821, according to the observations of one *Spicer*, an Indian captive, who had then lived nearly forty years upon its banks, the water rose that year higher than it had before, since his recollection. In January last, it was considerably above the mark of 1821.

In 1819, Paul D. Butler, in the employ of Robert Armstrong, a sketch of whose life will be given hereafter, erected a saw-mill upon this river, between what are now the towns of New Fort Ball and Tiffin, which was the first mill in the county. It was a miserable affair, and was soon after demolished. There are, at this time, seven grist-mills, and several saw-mills upon this river within the limits of the county. The land along the Sandusky is very fertile, and as you recede from the river towards the west, it is generally level, and in some places inclining to be wet. In the eastern portion of the county, the soil is more clayey.

*Honey creek*, the largest tributary of the Sandusky, rises in the New Haven marshes, near the corners of Richland, Crawford, Huron, and this county, and passes directly into the latter, in Venice township. Taking a north-westerly course through Venice, it enters the township of Bloom, near its north-east corner. Pursuing a south-westerly direction through Bloom, it passes into Eden township; and after making a large curve

in Eden, it leaves the latter township near its north-west corner, and in Hopewell falls into the Sandusky.

The first grist-mill erected in the county was upon this creek, just above the site of the town of Melmore. It was built in 1821, by Ezra and Case Brown. The first grist ground in this mill, was for a Mr. Free, of the township of Bloom. The event was hailed with great joy by the early settlers, as they were now relieved from those long and tedious journeys through the wilderness, to Upper Sandusky, Monroeville, and Mt. Vernon.— In 1827, another mill was erected upon this stream, by John Kinzer, (an early settler from the state of Pennsylvania,) a little below the present village of Melmore. Mr. Kinzer has ever since resided upon the banks of this creek—a very intelligent man, and much respected citizen. Honey creek received its name from the appearance of the water when high, which very much resembles *honey*.\*

*Wolf creek*, another tributary of the Sandusky, rises in the south-west part of the county, and after passing through Seneca, Hopewell, and Liberty townships, it finally falls into the Sandusky river, in Sandusky county, soon after it enters its limits. This stream, running through a level country, is somewhat sluggish. It received its name from the circumstance of a great number of *wolves* formerly inhabiting the swamps near its source, and the thickets around the wet prairies, a little west of its mouth.

By an act of the General Assembly of Ohio, of the 22d of January, 1824, Seneca was organized into a separate and distinct county. All justices of the peace, and other officers were to continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices un-

\* There are several sink-holes in the bed of this stream, into which much of the water precipitates itself, and many are of the opinion that were these filled, as they say might be done with a limited expense, sufficient water would run the year round, to drive the several mills located upon the creek.

til their successors should be chosen and qualified according to law.

It was farther provided, that all qualified electors residing in the county, should meet in their respective townships, on the first Monday of April, following, and elect their several officers until the next annual election; and until others were chosen and qualified according to-law.

It was also enacted, that all suits and actions, whether of a civil or criminal nature, which had been commenced, should be prosecuted to final judgment and execution; and all taxes, fines and penalties which were due, should be collected in the same manner as if the act had not been passed.

This act took effect, the first day of April, 1824, and according to its provisions, elections were held in the townships of Thompson, Seneca, Eden and Clinton, these being the only ones then organized. The county officers first to be chosen, were a sheriff and coroner. For the former office, Agreen Ingraham received one hundred and ninety votes—for the latter, Leverett Bradley received two hundred and six, and both were elected.

The first county court was held the 12th of the same month, at Tiffin, in the house at present occupied as a Masonic hall. It continued about thirty minutes; during which time a county surveyor was appointed;\* and a clerk of the court†, pro tem. Hon. Ebenezer Lane presided at this court as president judge, and William Cornell, Jaques Hulburd and Mathew Clark were his associates.

On the 12th of October of the same year, the first annual election was held in the county, and the ticket elected was as follows:

Sherif, . . . . . Agreen Ingraham.

\* David Risdon. † Neal McGaffey.

Coroner, . . . . . Christopher Stone.

Auditor, . . . . . David Smith.

Commissioners, { Benjamin Whitmore,  
 Thomas Boyd, and  
 Doctor Dunn.

During the same year, a prosecuting attorney was appointed by the court of Common Pleas;\* and a treasurer,† by the county commissioners. [For a list of county officers, see Appendix.]

Immediately after its organization, the affairs of the county commenced with a successful tide of operation. Courts of justice were established, officers chosen, townships organized, roads constructed, mills erected, and the dense forests fallen by the sturdy hand of industry.

\* Rodolphus Dickinson. † Milton McNeal.

## CHAPTER IV.

Camp Ball—First settler in Seneca county—Clinton township—Fort Ball—Robert Armstrong—William McCulloch—Tiffin—Land offices—Mad River and Lake Erie Rail-road.

ABOUT the middle of July, 1813, a detachment of men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel James V. Ball,\* built a stockade near the old army road, upon the bank of the San-

\*About half a mile south-west of Ballsville, in Sandusky county, Lieut. Col. James V. Ball had a skirmish with the Indians, a day or two previous to the assault on Fort Stephenson. There is, or was a few years since, an oak tree on the site of the action, on the road to Columbus, with 17 hacks in it, to indicate the number of Indians killed on the occasion. The squadron was moving towards the fort, when they were suddenly fired upon by the Indians from the west side of the road, whereupon Col. Ball ordered a charge, when he with his suit and the right flank being in advance, first came into action. The colonel struck the first blow. He dashed in between two savages, and cut down the one on the right; the other, being slightly in the rear, made a blow with a tomahawk at his back, when by a sudden spring of his horse, it fell short, and was buried deep in the cantel and pad of his saddle. Before the savage could repeat the blow, he was shot by Corporal Ryan. Lieut. Hedges—now General James Hedges of Mansfield, the surveyor of Tiffin and brother of Josiah Hedges, proprietor of the latter place—following in the rear mounted on a small horse, pursued a large Indian, and just as he had come up to him, his stirrup broke, and he fell head-first off his horse, knocking the Indian down. Both sprang to their feet, when Hedges struck the Indian across his head, and as he was falling, buried the sword up to its hilt in his body. We have been informed, that many years after, the lost stirrup was found, and sent to the gallant Hedges, at Mansfield.

At this time, Captain Hopkins was seen on the left, in pursuit of a powerful savage, when the latter turned and made a blow at the captain with a tomahawk, at which his horse sprang to one side. Cornet Hayes then came up, and the Indian struck at him, his horse in like manner evading the blow. Sergeant Anderson now arriving, the Indian was soon dispatched. By this time, the skirmish was over, the Indians, who were about twenty in number, being nearly all cut down; and orders were given to retreat to the main squadron.

Col. Ball dressed his men, ready for a charge, should the Indians appear in force, and moved down without further molestation to the fort, where they arrived, at 4 o'clock, in the afternoon.

dusky river, opposite the present town of Tiffin; and in honor to its commandant, it was called "*Camp Ball*."

This camp was built as a transient place of security, in case of disaster at the north; and as a magazine for supplies.—The camp consisted of stakes a foot in thickness, fixed in the ground, with bayonets driven through them, horizontally, near their tops. Against these, logs were piled upon the outside; and over the logs, dirt was thrown from a ditch, which surrounded the whole. There was room in the interior, for five hundred men.

After the battle of Tippecanoe, a detachment was sent by General Harrison, who was then at Seneca, up the river, to strengthen this camp. The soldiers were quartered here several days, during which time, they were frequently destitute of provisions; and once, their supply was so completely exhausted, that they were obliged to subsist entirely upon *fish*—a part standing guard to protect those that were fishing, from the lurking savages.

Before the battle at Fort Stephenson, this detachment left for the Maumee, but the post was occasionally occupied, until Harrison left the country. Vestiges of Camp Ball still remain.—Between the ground and the river, is a beautiful spring of water, which serves to mark the spot where the camp once stood. It is on the west bank of the river, just above the new bridge which crosses the stream, at the foot of Washington street, Tiffin. Several soldiers were buried near the camp; and among their number was the father of a Mr. Powers, of Delaware.—The remains of one of these, were exhumed a short time since, by some workmen in the employ of R. W. Shawhan.

On the 18th of November, 1817, ERASTUS BOWE, the *first* settler in Seneca county, arrived at Camp Ball, where some hired men had erected him a log house, which was within the



limits of the camp—many of the stakes standing at the time. Here commenced the first settlement in the county.

Mr. Bowe was born in Rutland county, Vermont, and passed through this county as early as 1812, under the command of General Hull. He was in Norton's company, at the building of the fort at Lower Sandusky; and was one of those daring *rangers*, who scoured the Indian country, and protected the whites from savage cruelty. He was a citizen of Delaware, eight years previous to his settling in this county. After the close of the war, he occasionally hunted in this vicinity, and among the early settlers of the county was famous as a deer-hunter.

Soon after his arrival in 1817, he erected a house just below Camp Ball; and here he opened the *first* tavern in the county. His charges must have been somewhat in advance of those of the present day; as butter was worth, at that time, two shillings a pound; pork, six dollars per hundred; and flour, twelve dollars per barrel. Mr. Bowe has ever since resided in the county, and is now a resident of Hopewell township. Thirty years ago, he came to this county, and for several months was the only settler within its limits.

With what astonishment, mingled with admiration, must he look back upon the years that have passed, and see the mighty change that has been wrought, since he first located upon the banks of the Sandusky! Instead of standing in the door of his humble log shanty, which was then far in the wilderness—a dense portion of which occupied the present site of the town of Tiffin—he now sees *there*, from the beautiful village of New Fort Ball, a large and flourishing town, the county-seat of a populous and wealthy county!

There is *now* the track of a rail-road, where was *then* an Indian trail; and instead of the wild whoop of the Indian hunt-

er, his ears are now greeted with the shrill whistle of the locomotive, and the thundering of rolling wheels!

*Clinton* township was organized on the first Monday of June, 1820; and its boundaries, defined by the commissioners of Sandusky county, as follow: "Commencing where the township line between (townships) No. two (2) and three (3) strikes the river, on the east bank thereof; thence with said line, to the north-east corner of township No. two, (2,) in range fifteen (15) east; thence south with the range line between ranges fifteen (15) and sixteen, (16,) to the south-east corner of the aforesaid township; thence west to the township line between (townships) No. one (1) and two; (2;) thence northwardly, with the meanders of the river, to the place of beginning." It received its name from *De Witt Clinton*, governor of New York.

The first township election was held on the 15th of June, 1822. Its population in 1840, was 2,195. Since that time, it has steadily increased in business, population and wealth, numbering among others of its enterprising farmers—George Stoner, Samuel Waggoner, Ezra Baker, Jacob Souder, Elisha Olmsted, Thomas Coe, Jacob Adams, John Souder, Dennis Stoner, Levi Davis, Samuel Rule, John Swander, William Hunter, Joseph Richards, Eli Olmsted, Thomas Ellis, Frederick Cramer, Ezra Derr, John Baugher, William Baker, John Keller, Hezekiah Searles, Jacob Holtz, Joseph Burnsides, Grafton Bernard, Dennis Cramer, and Aenas Cramer.

In 1819, Abner Pike settled in Oakley; (now New Fort Ball;) and, on the 1st of April, of the following year, David Risdon came to this town, and shortly after was appointed postmaster, the first in the county. Subsequently, Mr. Pike located upon the farm at present owned by Ezra Baker.

At the time of the survey of Oakley by Joseph Vance, there were no dwellings upon the site of the town, and only one

house in its vicinity, which was the residence of Mr. Bowe.

In 1824, the town of *Fort Ball* was surveyed upon the same plat, by David Risdon, receiving its name from the camp before mentioned. Had it not been that the land upon which this town was surveyed, belonged to Robert Armstrong, it would, doubtless, have become the county-seat of the county.

At the treaty of the Miami of Lake Erie, the United States granted to Mr. Armstrong this tract, consisting of one section, of 640 acres of land, afterwards known as the "Armstrong Reservation."

Armstrong was taken captive by the Wyandot Indians, at three years of age, in the state of Pennsylvania. He married a half-blood Indian woman, and was in every respect a gentleman. He spoke excellent English; so much so, that it would not have been suspected he had ever lived among the Indians. Having been for a number of years, employed as interpreter by the United States, it was in consideration of his valuable services in this capacity, that he received his grant of land.— He died in 1825, about two miles from Upper Sandusky, upon the Wyandot reservation.

The United States granted, at the same time and place, to the children of William McCulloch, a section of 640 acres of land, lying just below the Armstrong reservation, above mentioned. McCulloch was killed by a cannon ball at the siege of Fort Meigs, while sitting in General Harrison's tent; and was employed at the time, as interpreter for the United States.

Dr. Eli Dresbach, from Circleville, a graduate of the Ohio Medical college, settled in this town, (Fort Ball,) on the 17th day of February, 1823, and removed from the latter place to Tiffin in 1826, where he has since resided.

Rodolphus Dickinson, from New York, a member of Congress for this district, settled in Fort Ball, in 1824, and was the *first* attorney at law in the county.

On the 15th day of February, 1826, Abel Rawson, from Massachusetts, who succeeded Mr. Dickinson as prosecuting attorney, settled in this place and became a permanent resident. He has ever since, pursued the practice of law in this county, and now ranks among the first in his profession, in northern Ohio.

Fort Ball, (now New Fort Ball,) has since grown steadily, and is at the present time a flourishing and healthy place.— Its location is pleasant—commanding a view of the whole of Tiffin, and also, much of the surrounding country. It contains about sixty dwellings, one church, three large ware-houses, three stores, two tanneries, two carriage-shops, two hotels, two groceries, one cabinet-shop, three shoe-shops, one tin-shop, and three blacksmith's-shops.

Its population is over four hundred, and is rapidly increasing.

New Fort Ball was surveyed and platted, by James Durbin, county surveyor, on the 25th of November, 1837. It is situated upon the eastern portion of the Armstrong reservation, and contains six hundred and twenty in-lots. The town is made to include all of the northern addition to Tiffin; and all of what was before known as "Fort Ball."

TIFFIN, the county-seat of this county, is situated in Clinton township, upon the east bank of, and adjoining the Sandusky river, in latitude  $41^{\circ} 7'$  north, longitude  $6^{\circ} 8'$  west, of Washington city. It received its name from Edward Tiffin, president of the convention that formed the Constitution of Ohio, and first governor of the state, after its admission into the Union.

In 1821, Josiah Hedges, from Mansfield, Richland county, entered at the Delaware land-office, the land upon which Tiffin now stands. It was surveyed by General James Hedges, of Mansfield, brother of the proprietor. The first stick was cut

upon the town-plat, in March, 1822, and soon after, Messrs. Wetz, Drennon, and John Mim, of Mansfield, and Henry Welch, of Eden township, had a town-lot given to each of them by the proprietor, with the stipulation that they were to erect cabins, and bring on their families, which was done immediately thereafter.

James Spink, of Wooster, came to the place during the same month, bringing with him a small stock of goods; but the next winter, he left; his store having been broken open and plundered of goods, to a considerable amount.

Simeon B. Howard, from the eastern part of the state, came to the place during the same month; so that on the 25th of March, 1822, the day the county-seat was located here, there were *six cabins* in the place. The commissioners to locate the seat of justice, were Messrs. Herford, Miner, and Cyrus Spink.

In 1822, Mr. Hedges, proprietor of Tiffin, erected a saw-mill on Rocky creek, about a quarter of a mile east of the town, and a grist-mill about half a mile north of the place, upon the Sandusky river. He also erected the first frame house upon the town-plat in 1822, the same that is at present occupied as a Masonic hall. It was used as a store until the next year, (1823.) Soon after, it was occupied for the holding of the county courts, which were continued here until 1828.

The prospects of Tiffin, the first few years after its commencement, were not very flattering, nor its appearance very prepossessing. The unhealthiness of the town, incident to all new settlements—its situation on the side of the river, (then without a bridge,) opposite to Fort Ball, through which the main traveled road from Columbus to Lower Sandusky then extended—and the vigorous efforts made at the time to remove the seat of justice from Tiffin to Fort Ball—all conspired to dishearten the proprietor, who began to be fearful that it would

never progress to any extent. But his apprehensions proved groundless, as it has since steadily increased, and is now a thriving, populous, and beautiful town.

The streets are wide, and generally well paved. It is the great mart of trade for the surrounding country—the farmer finding here a ready market for his produce, at all times of the year. Communication by rail-road, with Sandusky City and Cincinnati, is now secured. It is 86 miles north of Columbus, and 34 from Sandusky City; and is situated nearly in the center of the county. Formerly, it was dull and unhealthy; but receiving many improvements, it has become an enterprising and healthy town, full of life and activity. Its population, according to the census of 1840, amounted to 728. It has since more than doubled.

It contains two Lutheran, two Catholic, one Episcopal, one Methodist Episcopal, one Reformed Methodist, and one German Reformed church. Also, four hotels, one foundry, eight groceries, nine tailor's-shops, three silversmiths, five saddlers, four cabinet-shops, four blacksmith's-shops, five carriage-shops, two gunsmiths, four tin-shops, and one large, brick school-house.

Its merchants, are R. W. Shawhan, Rufus W. Reid, the Messrs. Cronises, Rummell and Snyder, Robert Crum, Baldwin and Pride, Andrew Glenn, Jesse Shriver, Rolla Johnson, W. D. Scott, Geo. Taylor, Einstein and Hobbs, Howard and Nailor, and E. Ayres & Co. A book-store has also been opened of late, by Ebert and Seney.

There are eight physicians in the place—Eli Dresbach, Henry Kuhn, J. A. McFarland, Andrew Hepburn, James Fisher, B. Raymond, Jacob Staub, and S. W. Bricker.

There are also twelve lawyers—Warren P. Noble, William C. Hedges, William H. Gibson, Sidney Sea, R. G. Pennington, William Lang, J. P. Pillars, Luther A. Hall, Jesse Stem, Richard Williams, Joel W. Wilson, and Abel Rawson.

On the 4th day of July, 1825, the commissioners of the county, Thomas Boyd, Benjamin Whitmore, and Doctor Dunn, held an extra session for the purpose of receiving proposals for the building of a jail, in the town of Tiffin.

They contracted with Elijah Farquassan, as the lowest bidder, for the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars. It was completed and received by the commissioners, the 4th of March, 1826. This was a very unsubstantial place for the confinement of criminals, which may explain why so many *cleared themselves*, at an early day.

On the 4th of May, 1828, a quantity of land, by an act of Congress, was granted to this state, equal to one-half of five sections in width on each side of the Miami canal, between Dayton and the Maumee river, at the mouth of the Auglaize, so far as the Miami canal should be located through the public lands; but reserving for the United States, each alternate section of the land unsold, to be selected by the commissioner of the land-office. By the fourth section of the same act, and under certain conditions, five hundred thousand acres of land in this state were granted to Ohio, to aid her in the construction of her canals.

In order to dispose of the five hundred thousand acres so granted, an act was passed by the General Assembly, February 12, 1829, entitled "An act to provide for the sale of certain lands granted to Ohio," and for this purpose, two land-offices were established, one of which was located at Tiffin. Here it remained, until 1837, when it was removed to Maumee.

In April, 1828, the United States land-office, for the sale of lands in the Delaware land-district, was removed from Delaware and located at Tiffin, where it was continued until the next year, when it was removed to Bucyrus.

On the 5th of January, 1832, the charter of the Mad River and Lake Erie Rail-road company was granted, by the Gener-

al Assembly of Ohio. The line of this road was run the same year, by a Mr. Stansbury, assisted by Messrs. Morris of Pennsylvania, and Van Antwerp of Albany, and extended from Sandusky City to Dayton, a distance of one-hundred and fifty-three miles. The road was commenced, in September, 1835, and finished, as far as Tiffin, in 1841. It is now nearly completed, throughout its whole length.

The benefits derived from this road, by the citizens of Seneca county are immense. A market is established at home, for their produce; the value of land is enhanced; and those tiresome and dreaded journeys to the lake for merchandise, and a market, are now obviated. It has given a powerful impulse to the onward progress of the county, both in activity and wealth.

A few years ago, the whole country was a wilderness—the home of the Indians, who were trapping along the Sandusky and its tributaries, or hunting in the low-lands through which they flow. But their wigwams have vanished; their council-fires have become extinguished, and their hunting-grounds the cultivated fields of the white man. The bones of their warriors and young men lie scattered in various places, tacitly telling that once the red men were lords of the soil, and the rightful owners of the land we occupy.

Their war-dance has ceased. Their wild whoop and fierce yell, are heard no longer, in the silent woods. They have gone, and the wilderness has passed away. But a vestige of their strength remains, in the wilds of the far west!

A little later, and here and there a hardy adventurer is braving the difficulties of an unsettled country, while the idea of a *rail-road* is not yet dreamed of. But *now*, the powerful locomotive with its immense train comes sweeping along upon the iron rails, bringing the luxuries of every clime—the labor of every nation—to our very doors!



## CHAPTER V.

Seneca Patriot—Printing-press—Independent Chronicle—Tiffin Gazette—Van Burenite—Seneca Advertiser—Whig Standard—Cholera—Court-house—Jail and Sheriff's house—Bank.

ON the 4th day of August, 1832, was issued the first number of the "Seneca Patriot," the *first* paper printed in the county. This sheet, E. Brown, editor, and J. H. Brown, proprietor, was offered to subscribers, at one dollar and twenty-five cents, per year, in advance.

"We propose," says the editor, "to insert occasionally, as near as may be, an equal proportion of matter, to be published under the following general heads—*Clay Politics*, *Jackson Politics*, and *Anti-masonic Politics*. By this means, each reader attached to the several parties, may find something suited to his party taste, and political feelings." In three months from this, however, he broke up his neutrality, and came out a thorough *Jackson Patriot*. Says he, "we go for Democratic principles and *Jackson*, against all combinations."

The history of the *press*, used in this office, is somewhat remarkable. It was brought to Washington, Pennsylvania, by a Mr. Colerick, prior to the year 1800, from some place on the Atlantic coast. It was removed from Washington, to Wellsburg, Virginia, about the year 1820, by J. P. McArdle. From thence, it was removed to Mount Vernon; thence, to Clinton, and finally, from the latter place to Norwalk, in 1827. Here it became the property of the Messrs. Browns, and by them was

taken to Sandusky City in 1830; and at length brought to Tiffin, in 1832.

“It must be acknowledged, that this venerable press, in the service of half a century, has earned at least the reputation of a faithful ‘herald of a noisy world.’ It has no doubt emblazoned to the world the achievements of many an eminent statesman, and probably chronicled, as they occurred, the stirring events which gave our government its national existence. Commencing its tour of pilgrimage upon the Atlantic coast, it has wound its way to the fancied ‘far west.’ It is, indeed, a relic of other days. He who would compare, at this day, that sturdy lever with the vast improvements made upon its like, since its first days, would behold one of the most astonishing and remarkable evidences of human skill ever developed in any branch of scientific or mechanical invention.

“If this be the *first* press (and it doubtless was) that crossed the Alleghanies, it should become the property of *the west*; and here be preserved, to attest the improvements made in the ‘*art preservative of arts.*’”\*

After the dissolution of the firm which published the “Seneca Patriot,” Mr. Alonzo Rawson purchased the office, and published the “Independent Chronicle.” He disposed of the establishment to J. F. Reed, who commenced the “Tiffin Gazette” which was published some time by him, and subsequently by Joseph Howard, who was succeeded by S. A. Griswold, Esq., the latter gentleman discontinuing it in the fall of 1842.

In 1840, a second printing-press was brought to Tiffin by an association, and in July of that year the first number of a paper entitled the “Van Burenite and Seneca County Advertiser,” was issued by “H. Cronise and others.” This paper was published until the fall of 1841, when it was discontinued.—

\* Seneca Advertiser.

In the spring of 1842, the office was purchased by John G. Breslin, who issued the first number of the "Seneca Advertiser" on the 6th of May of the same year. The publication of this paper is still continued by the same proprietor.

"We shall advocate," says the editor, in the first number of this paper, "with a becoming zeal, and dignifiedly in manner, the great Democratic Republican principles, as established and taught by THOMAS JEFFERSON. That ours is a government of specified and limited—not general powers, and ought so to be strictly observed to attain the ends for which it was established—all must admit.

"The few and venerable patriots, who, when our government dated its existence, were upon the bright summit of glory, and have lived till this late day, are willing to exclaim that our *system* of government has eminently exceeded the most sanguine expectations of those who achieved the glorious victory upon which it was established, and become an object, not only of admiration, but of envy and emulation by all the world.

"It is, therefore, our duty, rendered imperious by the position we occupy as a nation, to preserve for its character as pure and untarnished as the *bright and illustrious spirit of liberty* which dictated its existence among its framers; and still serve as a beacon-light to the benighted, and a home for the oppressed of mankind, the object for which the blood of our forefathers and heroes—and labor of our sages have been bestowed to obtain.

"In regard to the present federal administration, we unhesitatingly declare, that we will war against it and its measures an unyielding opposition. We would banish from us all prejudice—cast off all party predilection, and admonish the American people to view the awful and deplorable condition of our country, brought about by the short federal predominance of

one year, and ask themselves if this is the 'change' to which they were invited.

"The Democracy, who in trying times have been entreated to rally and rescue our government must appreciate the present as a crisis equally important, and prepare to restore her from the dominion of an unprincipled and reckless political party, who are now plunging her into debt, disgrace, and dishonor, regardless of consequences. We shall endeavor to maintain a courteous, but decided position, in regard to the principles we intend promulgating, and in discussion have a strict observance for the truth of what shall appear in our paper.

\* \* \* \* \*

"With these remarks, we throw ourselves upon the support of our friends in the cause of Democracy, and by an honest, fearless and independent course, we hope to merit the support which they shall be pleased to bestow upon us."

On the 18th of November, 1845, the first number of the "Whig Standard," was issued by Geo. L. Wharton, editor.—This paper is still printed at Tiffin. The following is the conclusion of the editor's "Salutatory :"

"We shall enter our protest against the Locofoco party, and labor ardently for the preservation of those principles bequeathed to us by the patriots of the Revolution—the principles of the Whig party—a party whose origin was our country's Revolution, and whose fidelity and patriotism achieved our Independence. Upon this broad platform we shall stand, adhering firmly to liberty, despising anarchy and despotism with an eye single to the interest of our country, feeling assured that, upon the integrity of the Whig party, rests our destiny as a nation."

On the 9th day of June, 1832, the *Cholera*, that fearful scourge of nations, made its appearance in America. It commenced amongst some newly arrived Irish immigrants in Canada, and proceeded rapidly along the valleys of the St. Lawrence,

Champlain and Hudson, and on the 26th of the same month, several cases occurred in New York. A great proportion of the inhabitants left the place in dismay ; but, notwithstanding the reduction of numbers, the ravages of the disease were appalling ! It spread with great rapidity throughout the states of New York and Michigan, and along the Ohio and Mississippi to the gulf of Mexico.

From New York, it went along the Atlantic coast, as far as North Carolina, and apparently followed the great routs of travel, both on land and water. It did not, however, make its appearance in this county, until the 19th of August, 1834.— Its ravages were confined entirely to the town of Tiffin, though some died in the country after they had left the place.

The *first* person that fell a victim to this disease, was the wife of John Hubble. During its continuance, *sixty-three* died, and many more were attacked, but recovered. All that could, left the town, and scattered in various parts of the county. Those with whom it proved fatal, were principally of the poorer class of foreigners. One thing is quite remarkable. During the whole time that it prevailed in this county the wind blew from the *north* ; and as soon as it changed, the fatality ceased !

The most general disease which at present prevails in the county, and indeed ever has, since its first settlement, is *bilious fever*. This disease makes its appearance *periodically*, commencing the latter part of summer, and continuing until the close of autumn, prevailing more extensively, and with increased severity, during the month of September. It is more common along the Sandusky and its tributaries than in other sections of the county.\*

\* A correspondent, speaking of early times, remarks : “ It was then quite sickly,— none of the comforts of life, such as groceries, or store-goods, were to be had nearer than Sandusky or Huron. Many suffered, and probably died, for the want of proper care.— There was no physician nearer than at Lower Sandusky, (Dr. Brainard,) and I have seen people carrying boards on their backs, two miles through the woods of which coffins were

No fatal and malignant epidemic, except the *Cholera*, has ever scourged this section of country. Genuine *Phthisis Pulmonalis*, or Consumption, is of rare occurrence ; and, since the forests have been cleared ; since they have been turned into cultivated fields, Seneca has justly ranked as a healthy county.

On the 17th day of January, 1834, the county commissioners issued notice to receive proposals for erecting a court-house to be built in Tiffin. On the 13th of February, of the same year, the commissioners, after deliberating upon the proposals submitted, finally agreed and entered into a written contract with John Baugher, to build the same, for the sum of nine thousand, five hundred dollars.

It was finished in the fall of 1836, and on the night of the 21st of May, 1841, all, except its walls, were burned to the ground. A large amount of papers, books, &c., belonging to private individuals and of considerable value were consumed, but none of any worth belonging to the county were destroyed, except a few in the clerk's office, and some others of inconsiderable value.

On the 10th of June, of the same year, the commissioners ordered the re-building of the court-house, and on Friday, July 23d, entered into an examination of proposals for doing the same. The lowest proposal was by John Baugher, who offered to do the joiner-work for two thousand nine hundred and ninety dollars, which was accepted. Jacob Emrick contracted for the mason-work, at eight hundred dollars ; and Alison Phillips, for the plastering, at four hundred and fifty dollars.—

---

to be made. But the county soon began to settle rapidly, changing the face of the country—society began to improve—the county-seat was located—physicians, mechanics and merchants came in—but sickness still prevailed, which for some time, was very discouraging to early settlers, who were much indebted to Drs. Dresbach, Kuhn, and a few others, for their valuable services.”

In June, 1843, the building was completed a second time, the same walls standing that were built for the first house. These are two stories high ; and, with two feet of hewn stone for a foundation, measure thirty-three feet. To the top of the dome, it is seventy-one feet. This elegant building is fifty feet in front, and seventy in depth. The basement story is occupied by the several county officers. In the one above, is a large and commodious room for the holding of courts, and two jury rooms.

On the 16th of May, 1843, the county commissioners agreed upon a plan for a county-jail and sheriff's house ; and, on the 26th of June, of the same year, they entered into a written agreement with Ephraim Riker, of Erie county, for building the same. The former is of hewn stone ; the latter of brick ; and both, under one roof and constituting one building, are well calculated for the object for which they were built.

On the 12th of July, 1847, Samuel Waggoner, Benjamin Tomb, Rufus W. Reid, Alfred Johnson, Daniel Brown, William M. Buel, Daniel Smith, William Fleet, R. G. Pennington and William H. Gibson, subscribed stock to the amount of fifty thousand dollars, divided into shares of one hundred dollars each, and filed in the proper office their application for an independent bank, agreeably to the provisions of an act entitled "An act to incorporate the State Bank of Ohio, and other banking companies," passed by the General Assembly of Ohio, February 24th, 1847.

On the 2d day of August, of the same year, and during the pending of the application before the bank-commissioners, the above named persons, with others as their associates, enlarged the capital stock of the bank to one hundred thousand dollars, and filed accordingly, an amended application, which was acted upon by the board of commissioners, and an independent bank, to be located at Tiffin, with a capital of one hundred

thousand dollars, was granted them on the 9th of August of the same year.

The bank was organized by electing Benjamin Tomb, Samuel Waggoner, William M. Buel, Rufus W. Reid, and R. G. Pennington, directors; who afterwards elected Benjamin Tomb,\* president, and R. G. Pennington, cashier, *pro tem.*—William E. Chittenden, has since been elected permanently, as cashier of the bank. The notes of the bank are provided by the treasurer of state, as well as those of all independent banks, at the expense of the several banks, and are registered at the treasurer's office, and obtained upon the order of the directors of the several banks, upon depositing with the treasurer certificates of the funded debt of the state, or of the United States, agreeably to the terms of the statute, in this behalf.

Annual meetings for the election of officers, are held on the first Monday of January in each year. The bank commenced business, on the 13th day of November, 1847, and is now in successful operation. The notes, the engravings of which are neatly executed, are of four denominations—ones, threes, fives and tens.

\* On Tuesday, the 8th of February, 1848, the office of president became vacant, by the resignation of Mr. Tomb; whereupon, Abel Rawson, Esq., was elected to fill the vacancy.



## CHAPTER VI.

Journey of the Welches—John Vanmeter—Eden Township—First physician—Melmore.

In the month of February, 1819, Thomas and Hugh Welch started from Huron county to seek a home in the wilds of Seneca. Having reached the limits of the county, as since defined, they soon struck a beautiful stream of water, where they encamped for the night.

The sight of the lofty forest-trees filled them with admiration; and they were not a little surprised to find the wilderness already green with leeks, and a modest wild-flower, here and there, "wasting its fragrance" in the silent woods! The wide-spreading branches of the oak, black-walnut, hickory and sycamore, partially protected the earth from the severity of winter. This was supposed to induce the early appearance of vernal vegetation.

The stream where they had encamped, was Honey creek.—The next morning, they followed its course downwards, until they arrived within the present limits of Eden township.—Near what is now the residence of William Fleet, they came upon a band of the Seneca Indians employed in making sugar, and with them, they again encamped for the night. The next morning, pursuing their journey down the creek, they at length arrived at a village of Mohawk Indians, consisting of about twenty log huts, pleasantly situated upon both sides of the

stream. This village was located upon a tract of land of a thousand acres,\* granted at the treaty of the Miami of Lake Erie to one *John Vanmeter*, a white man, and to his wife's two brothers.

Vanmeter was captured by the Wyandot Indians, in the month of March, 1778, at the age of five. This happened within a mile of West Liberty, in the state of Virginia. The people in the neighborhood, having been frequently alarmed by Indian aggressions, had assembled for the purpose of building a fort, to protect themselves from savage cruelty. It was a beautiful day in the spring of the year, and two of the elder boys of the family were directed to proceed to a "chopping," and arrange some brands. John accompanied them, and the father proceeded to the fort. The boys had but just commenced their work, when they were suddenly beset by a party of Indians. The elder boys made good their escape, but John was easily captured. The Indians then directed their course to the house of Vanmeter, set it on fire, murdered his wife and daughter, and immediately fled to the wilderness, carrying with them their captive boy.

He ever afterwards lived among the Indians; completely forgetting his native tongue, though he learned it again, before he died, so as to converse quite fluently. He was afterwards induced to visit his relatives and friends; but refused to remain among them, "preferring," as he said, "the innocent and unrestrained indulgences of the Indian's life, to the arbitrary restraints of civilized society." Vanmeter was a man of more than ordinary decision of character; of a benevolent disposition, and friendly to the whites. Owning a large stock of cattle and several horses, early settlers relied much upon his generosity; and it was not in vain, that they sought relief at his

\* Now owned by Lloyd Norris.

hands, in times of distress and destitution. He married a woman of the Seneca nation, (a relative of the celebrated Brandt whose name is well known in the state of New York,) and died a few years since, on the grant made him by the United States.

In 1829, the Indians of this village, who were a remnant of the Mohawk tribe, joined the Senecas and left the county with the latter. Thomas Brandt, one of these Indians, and a brother-in-law of Vanmeter, was a captain in the United States service, during the last war, and fought at the battle of Brownstown.

The Welches were welcomed by Vanmeter, with every demonstration of friendship; and making known to him their business, they were directed to a tract of land which he represented as of excellent soil. Being well suited with it, both as to quality and location, they resolved to proceed no farther.— Here commenced the *first* settlement in Eden township, which was upon the farm now owned by David Olmsted. In June, of the same year, they were joined by two other brothers, Martin and John Welch.

At that time, their nearest neighbor was *Erastus Bowe*, at Oakley, six miles distant. On the north, the nearest settlement was at Lower Sandusky. On the south, there was a house erected at the point where the Morrison state road now crosses the Sandusky river, in Wyandot (then Crawford) county; and on the east, it was nearly twenty miles to a habitation. They cut out, for their own convenience, a wagon-road, leading from a point a mile north of the center of Norwich township, Huron county, and running near the site of the present town of Republic, to their settlement in Eden. This was the first track, in imitation of a highway, east of the Sandusky river within the limits of the county. Soon afterward, Thomas

Welch died. The other brothers are now residents of Wyandot county.

Other settlers now located upon Honey creek ; and before the "sales" at Delaware, on the 3d of August, 1821, there were twelve squatters upon the land of the United States, within the present limits of Eden township. These were the Welches, together with Ira Holmes from Chenango county, New York, Daniel Pratt, Henry Craw, Samuel Knapp, Christopher Sponknable, William Clark,\* Case Brown, from Kinderhook, Columbia county, New York, and John Searles.

Soon after the "sales," William Cornell, Daniel Hough, M. D., John Gibson, Ezra Brown, Thomas Baker, Philip Bretz, Richard Jaqua, and John Downs,† settled in Eden township,

\*Mr. Clark was from Cayuga county, New York. His daughter, [Sarah] became the wife of James Mathers, which was the first marriage in the county. The two have since removed to California. The ceremony was performed by David Smith, Esq., first justice in the county. Mr Smith was at that time a resident of Fort Seneca—now Pleasant—township, and has since deceased.

† The following story—well authenticated—may not be altogether unattractive to juvenile readers :

Many years ago, while the country was a wilderness, the few inhabitants along the banks of Honey creek were obliged to get their grinding done at the old Indian mill, at Upper Sandusky.

It was in the fall of the year, and although the Indians at that time were numerous, their presence was not ordinarily a source of alarm to the early settlers, who had become familiar with their habits and dispositions. One morning, three lads, each with his horse and grist, started for the mill. They had just entered Crawford [now Wyandot] county, when the great abundance of hickory-nuts upon the ground, attracted their attention.—Dismounting, they began to fill their pockets, and while thus engaged, one of them, hearing a noise, raised his head, and to his great terror, saw just in advance, an Indian, standing by a tree, with a gun in his hand, and a dog by his side. The Indian, who doubtless had concluded to have some sport with the boys, without intending to harm them, remained silent, waiting for a good opportunity to accomplish his object. The other lads were not long ignorant of his presence ; and the next moment were upon their horses, dashing through the woods at full speed. The Indian thereupon blew a shrill whistle upon his charger, at the same time leveling his gun at the terrified boys. This was enough. Their fright was complete. The Indian uttering a fierce yell, and letting loose his dog, followed at full speed. This was too much ; first one, then another of their grists was thrown off.—Relieved of their burdens, and pressing forward, they were not long in leaving the Indian and his dog, far behind. The boys, however, did not in the

and became permanent residents. John Searles and Case Brown have since deceased—the latter, the 8th of February, 1843.

In 1820, Eden was surveyed into sections and quarter-sections by James T. Worthington, assisted by David Risdon.—In 1821, it was organized into a separate and distinct township, receiving its name from the quality of the soil, which is remarkably fertile, especially that which borders on Honey creek. The *first* township election, was held the 4th of June, of the same year, at the house of John Searles.\*

On the 6th of March, 1822, Selden Graves, *first* practicing physician in the county, settled in Eden township, upon the farm where he now resides. His ride soon extended over the whole of Seneca, and occasionally into the adjoining counties of Huron and Crawford.

Eden now began to settle rapidly. The great fertility of the soil, attracted emigrants from various parts, especially from the state of New York; and at the organization of the county in 1824, its population exceeded that of either of the other townships. In 1830, it contained 819 inhabitants; in 1840, they had increased to 1471. It has since steadily augmented both in population and wealth; numbering among its enterprising farmers—Richard Baker, George Denison, Thomas Baker,

least relax their speed, until they arrived at the residence of a white man, on the Sandusky river, the only one throughout the whole distance.

Through his importunities, they reluctantly consented to return with him for their grists, which were found near the trail; the Indian having blazed two trees against which he had placed them. On their return from the mill, they could not be induced to take the same rout; but sought their homes by the circuitous way of Tyemochetee.

\* The following was the successful ticket: David Clark, clerk; John Welch, James Mathers, and Henry Crow, trustees; Ira Holmes, and John Searles, overseers of the poor; Daniel Pratt, and John Searles, fence-viewers; John Searles, treasurer; Hugh Welch, and Ira Holmes, appraisers; Samuel Knapp, and John Welch, supervisors; Thomas Welch, constable.

Selden Graves, Lloyd Norris, Sylvanus Arnold, John Baker, William Fleet, James Watson, Jesse Koler, William Watson, David Olmsted, Benjamin Brundage, Daniel W. Eastman, Philip Bretz, John Kagy, Adam Pennington, John Bretz, Jonah Brown, John Gibson, Henry Shauk, John Crum, Jacob Price, John Downs, Peter Springer, Jacob Andre, Samuel Kennedy, and many others.

In 1824, a town was surveyed in this township, where the Kilbourn road crosses Honey creek, to which the surveyor, Col. James Kilbourn, gave the name of *Melmore*. This word is a fantastic compound of the Latin *mel*, which signifies honey, and the English adjective, *môre*; from the circumstance of the place being situated upon *Honey* creek.\*

\*The following piece of poetry, composed by Mr. Kilbourn, on his survey of this town, exhibits the spirit of the times :

#### MELMORE.

Where honey-dews from the mild Heaven,  
 Distil on the foliage below—  
 Where Honey creek's waters are given,  
 T' enrich the sweet vales as they flow—  
 Where playful, the heart-cheering breeze  
 Sweeps o'er the sweet bosom of flowers—  
 There *Melmore* is seen, on a hill,  
 With fragrance and health in her bowers.

This country and village to prove,  
 Of pleasure and health the abode,  
 Kind Nature has formed in her, love,  
 And on her good children bestowed.  
 The fees to her agents are small,  
 For titles in form which they give ;  
 Then come, men of enterprise—all,  
 Accept, and in happiness live.

Merchants and laborers come,  
 A fortune is offered you near ;  
 Here make it your permanent home,

The land upon which this town is located, was entered at the Delaware land-office, by Case Brown, afterwards one of its proprietors. John C. Jones erected the *first* dwelling-house upon the plat. He died here, in 1828. The *first* public house was kept by Joshua D. Munsel, since deceased. The *first* store in this town was opened by Buckley Hutchins, who settled here, September 28th, 1824, where he has ever since resided. He became *first* post-master, holding that office for several years, until succeeded by Philip J. Price, the present incumbent.

James M. Stevens, an early settler, became owner of many of the lots of land in this town, which, upon his death, in 1830, descended to his heirs. James Gray, William Ireland, Daniel M. Bate (for many years a practicing physician in this town) and John Lambertson, Esq., were also early settlers, and are still residents of the place.

Melmore is pleasantly situated, upon a high bank of the creek; and may be considered one of the healthiest villages in the county. Its population in 1830, was 77. It has since increased to 250. It contains forty dwellings, two stores, two

The country will cherish you here.  
 Come, taste the *Melmorean* springs,  
 Possess the *Melmorean* lands,  
 Wealth, honor, and pleasure they'll bring,  
 To strengthen your hearts and your hands.

So healthy the country is, round,  
 That *doctors* have little to do;  
 So moral the people are found,  
 They live without *ministers*, too:  
 So honest our neighbors we call,  
 So peaceful and happy at home,  
 They've need of no *lawyers* at all,  
 And none are desired to come.

taverns, two tailor's-shops, three shoe-shops, three blacksmith's-shops, one cabinet shop, one saddler and one carriage-shop.— It contains also, one Presbyterian, and one Methodist Episcopal church. At the raising of the latter, on the 16th of July, 1836, Amroy Butterfield, father of the writer, was instantly killed by the falling of a bent.

There are three physicians located in this town ; Henry Ladd, Robert McD. Gibson, and Timothy M. Smith.



## CHAPTER VII.

Camp Seneca—Indian council—Fort Meigs—Fort Stephenson—General Harrison at Camp Seneca—Grand Camp—Perry's Victory.

ABOUT the 1st of July, 1813, a detachment of men, under the command of Gen. William Henry Harrison, erected a stockade upon the west bank of the Sandusky river, within the present limits of Pleasant township, in this county, to which was given the name of "*Camp Seneca.*"

It was situated upon a bank, about forty feet above the bed of the river, close to the old army road; and containing within the enclosure an acre and a half of ground. It was built nearly in the form of a square, surrounded by pickets consisting of oak timbers, a foot in thickness, and twelve feet high.—Between the ground and the river, are several springs of water; to, and around one of which, the pickets extended.

On the east side of the camp, were two rows of pickets, about six feet apart, the space being filled with dirt. On the south was a single row of pickets; and a little beyond, is a deep ravine, between which and the camp an embankment was thrown up, which is still partially visible. On the west, was a single row of pickets, with a ditch about six feet deep, and twelve feet wide. On the north, there was likewise a deep ditch with an embankment, upon the top of which were placed the pickets.

A block-house was erected at the south-west corner, sixteen feet high, and about twenty-five feet square, no vestiges of

which remain. It consisted of large logs, with port-holes for cannon and small arms, and was located in such a manner as to completely command the ditch. There was a projection at the north-east corner, strongly picketed, probably used as a magazine; and two small block-houses, at each of the other corners, with port-holes.\*

Previous to the building of this camp, and while at Franklinton, in June, 1813, General Harrison held a council with the chiefs of the friendly Indians, of the Delaware, Shawanese Wyandot and Seneca tribes, in which he stated to them that the time had arrived for all those who were willing to engage in the war, "to take a decided stand for or against the United States"—that the president wished no false friends—that the proposal of Proctor to exchange the Kentucky militia for the tribes in our friendship, indicated that he had received some hint of their willingness, to take up the tomahawk against us; and that to give the United States a proof of their good disposition, they must remove with their families into the interior, or the warriors must accompany him in the ensuing campaign, and fight for the United States. To the latter condition, the chiefs and warriors unanimously agreed; and said they had long been anxious for an invitation to fight for the Americans. Tarhe, the oldest Indian in the western country, who represented all the tribes, professed in their name the most indissoluble friendship for the United States. General Harrison then told them he would let them know when they would be wanted in the service; "but you must conform to our mode of warfare. You are not to kill defenseless prisoners, old men, women, or children." He added, that by their conduct he would be able to tell, whether the British could restrain the Indians from such

\* The land upon which Camp Seneca was built, is now owned by Joel Risdon, and R. M. Titus. It is about nine miles from Lower Sandusky, and one mile south of the northern boundary of the county.

horrible cruelty. For if the Indians fighting with him, would forbear such conduct, it would prove, that the British could also restrain theirs if they wished to do it. He humorously told them he had been informed that General Proctor had promised to deliver him into the hands of Tecumthe, if he succeeded against Fort Meigs, to be treated as that warrior might think proper.\* “Now, if I can succeed in taking Proctor, you shall have him for your prisoner, provided you will agree to treat him *as a squaw*, and only put petticoats upon him ; for he must be a coward who would kill a defenseless prisoner.”†

In the month of June, while at Franklinton, General Harrison was informed that Fort Meigs was again invested. Although he doubted the intention of the enemy to attack that place, at this time, he promptly started a reinforcement to its relief, and on the 28th, reached there in person. It proved to be a false alarm, and the general returned to Lower Sandusky, on the first of July, and on the following day set off for Cleveland, on business connected with the public stores, and the building of boats for transporting the army across the lake.— On the 23d, a body of eight hundred Indians were seen to pass Fort Meigs, for the purpose, it was supposed, of attacking Fort Winchester. Two days afterwards, the British and Indians appeared in great numbers before Fort Meigs, then commanded by General Clay. In the meantime, Captain Oliver, accompa-

\* We find the following note in Dawson, on this subject: “There is no doubt that when Proctor made the arrangement for the attack on Fort Meigs with Tecumthe, the latter insisted, and the former agreed, that General Harrison, and all who fought at Tippecanoe, should be given up to the Indians to be burned. Major Ball, of the dragoons, ascertained this fact from the prisoners, deserters and Indians, all of whom agreed to its truth.”

On the supposition that this statement be true, it proves that Tecumthe meditated the violation of the agreement he made with General Harrison, at Vincennes, in 1810, that in the event of a war, prisoners, and women and children should be protected. On no other occasion is he known to have departed from the spirit of his engagement.

† M'Afee.

nied by Captain McCune, was sent to apprise the commander-in-chief of the fact; and reached him at Lower Sandusky, with certain information that the united force of the enemy, principally Indians, was not less than five thousand—a greater number than had ever before assembled on any occasion during the war. General Harrison, with remarkable accuracy of judgment, as the result proved, came to the conclusion, that this investment of Fort Meigs was a feint, made by the enemy, to call his attention to that place, while Lower Sandusky or Cleveland, was really the point on which the next attack would be made. He immediately removed his head-quarters to Camp Seneca, nine miles above Lower Sandusky. From this place he could fall back and protect Upper Sandusky, or pass by a secret rout, to the relief of Fort Meigs—two points to be defended—Lower Sandusky being of comparatively little importance. Major Croghan was left at Lower Sandusky, with one hundred and sixty regulars, for the defense of Fort Stephenson. There were about six hundred troops at Camp Seneca—a force too small to advance upon Fort Meigs. Captain McCune was sent back to General Clay, with the information, that as early as the commander-in-chief could collect a sufficient number of troops, he would relieve the fort. The day after the return of the express, the enemy raised the siege.—As had been anticipated by General Harrison, the British sailed round into Sandusky Bay, while the Indians marched across the swamps of Portage river, to aid in the projected attack on Lower Sandusky.

As early as the 21st of April, of this year, General Harrison, in a letter to the secretary of war, in speaking of the ulterior operations of the campaign, remarked: "I shall cause the movements of the enemy to be narrowly watched; but in the event of their landing at Lower Sandusky, that post cannot be saved. I will direct it in such an event to be evacuated.—"

The stores there are not of much consequence, excepting about five hundred stand of arms, which I will cause to be removed as soon as the roads are practicable—at present it is impossible.” These arms were subsequently removed. Just before the express from Fort Meigs reached General Harrison, he in company with Major Croghan and other officers, had examined Fort Stephenson, and concluded that it could not be defended against heavy artillery; and, if the British should approach it by water—which would raise a presumption, that they had brought their heavy artillery—the fort must be abandoned and burnt, provided a retreat could be effected with safety. In the orders left with Major Croghan, it was stated:—“Should the British troops approach you in force with cannon, and you can discover them in time to effect a retreat, you will do so immediately, destroying all the public stores.\* You must be aware, that the attempt to retreat in the face of an Indian force, would be vain. Against such an enemy, your garrison would be safe, however great the number.”

On the 29th, General Harrison was informed that the siege of Fort Meigs had been abandoned. The scouts sent out by him, reported that from the indications, they believed an attack was meditated by the Indians, then lying in numbers on the south side of Fort Meigs, upon Upper Sandusky. Upon this information, a council of war was called, composed of McArthur, Cass, Ball, Paul, Wood, Hukill, Holmes and Graham, who were unanimously of opinion, that as Fort Stephenson was untenable against heavy artillery, and as it was relatively an unimportant post, that the garrison should not be reinforced, but withdrawn, and the place destroyed. The following order was forthwith sent to Major Croghan: “Sir: Immediately on receiving this letter, you will abandon Fort Stephen-

\* The amount of stores at this place was inconsiderable; every thing valuable had been previously removed.

son, set fire to it, and repair with your command this night to head-quarters. Cross the river, and come up on the other side. If you should find, or deem it impracticable to make good your march to this place, take the road to Huron, and pursue it with the utmost circumspection and dispatch." The bearer of this dispatch losing his way, it did not reach Major Croghan until eleven o'clock of the next day. The major was then of opinion that he could not retreat with safety, as the Indians were around the fort, in considerable numbers. A majority of his officers concurred in the opinion that to retreat was unsafe, and that the post could be maintained at least until further instructions were received from head-quarters. The major, therefore, promptly returned the following answer: "Sir: I have just received yours of yesterday, ten o'clock, P. M., ordering me to destroy this place, and make good my retreat, which was received too late to be carried into execution. We have determined to maintain this place, and, by Heavens, we can."—The strong language of this note, was used on the supposition that it might fall into the hands of the enemy. It reached the general on the same day, who, not fully understanding the motives under which it was written, sent Colonel Wells next morning, escorted by Colonel Ball, and a detachment of dragoons, with the following order:

"JULY 30th, 1813.

"SIR—The general has just received your letter of this date, informing him that you had thought proper to disobey the order issued from this office, and delivered to you this morning. It appears that the information which dictated the order was incorrect; and as you did not receive it in the night, as was expected, it might have been proper that you should have reported the circumstance and your situation, before you proceeded to its execution. This might have been passed over; but I am directed to say to you, that an officer who presumes to aver, that he has made his resolution, and that he will act in direct opposition to the orders of his general, can no longer be intrusted with a separate command. Colonel

Wells is sent to relieve you. You will deliver the command to him, and repair with Colonel Ball's squadron, to this place. By command, &c.

"A. H. HOLMES, Ass't. Adjutant General."

In passing down, the dragoons met with a party of twenty Indians, and killed seventeen of them. When Major Croghan reached head-quarters, he explained to the general his motives in writing the note, which were deemed satisfactory. In the mean-time, the scouts had reported to General Harrison, that the Indians had not gone in the direction of Upper Sandusky. Upon receiving this information, Major Croghan was directed to resume his post, with written instructions of the same import as had been previously given.

On the evening of the 31st of July, some scouts sent out by General Harrison, discovered the British within twenty miles of Fort Stephenson, approaching the place by water. It was after twelve o'clock, however, on the next day, August 1st, before these scouts, in returning to Camp Seneca, by Lower Sandusky, communicated this information to Major Croghan, and in a few hours afterwards the fort was actually invested by the British and Indians. A flag was now sent from the enemy demanding a surrender. The messenger was informed that the commandant and garrison were determined to defend it to the last extremity. The attack was promptly commenced, and gallantly sustained. The result was glorious to the American arms, and covered the gallant Croghan and his officers and men, with honor. Only one man was killed, and but seven wounded, belonging to the garrison. The loss of the enemy was not less than one hundred and fifty, in killed and wounded.

General Harrison, when informed of the attack on Fort Stephenson, paused before moving to its relief. He was hourly expecting considerable reinforcements from the interior, but had not with him at Camp Seneca, a disposable force of more

than eight hundred men, the fifth of whom were cavalry, who, in the thick woods extending the greater part of the way, between that place and Lower Sandusky, would have been of little use. The remainder of these eight hundred men were raw recruits. To have marched upon an enemy, several thousand strong, with such a force, would, in all human probability, have resulted in its total destruction. Again, in moving to Fort Stephenson, he must necessarily leave the camp at Seneca with one hundred and fifty sick soldiers in it, exposed to the Indian tomahawk; while Upper Sandusky, at which were ten thousand barrels of flour, besides other supplies of public stores, indispensable for the main objects of the campaign, was equally liable to be attacked and destroyed by Tecumthe, who, with two thousand warriors, was then lying in the swamp, between that point and Fort Meigs, ready to strike upon either Camp Seneca or Upper Sandusky, in the event of General Harrison's moving to Fort Stephenson. Under these circumstances, he was bound by every military principle, to retain that position in which he could, with the most certainty, accomplish the best results. He therefore determined to wait, for a time, at least, the progress of events, hoping that reinforcements would arrive before the fort could be reduced. On the night of the 2d, he was informed that the enemy was retreating, and early next morning having in the night been reinforced by three hundred Ohio militia, he set out for the fort attended by the dragoons, and directing the remainder of the disposable force to follow under Generals Cass and McArthur. Upon reaching the fort, the general was told by a wounded sergeant of the British troops, that Tecumthe was in the swamp, south of Fort Meigs, ready to strike at Upper Sandusky, on the first opportunity. This information, corroborative of what he had before heard, induced the commander-in-chief to direct General Mc-



Arthur, who had not yet reached the fort, to return to Camp Seneca with all possible dispatch.

In his official report of this affair, General Harrison said : " It will not be among the least of General Proctor's mortifications to find that he has been baffled by a youth, who has just passed his twenty-first year. He is, however, a hero worthy of his gallant uncle, George R. Clark." The president immediately conferred the brevet rank of lieutenant-colonel, on Major Croghan.

Shortly afterwards an attack was made in some public prints upon the conduct of General Harrison, in regard to the defense of Fort Stephenson. Major Croghan promptly replied to it, by forwarding to a newspaper in Cincinnati, a communication under date of Lower Sandusky, August 27th, 1813, in which he gives the reason already stated, for disobeying General Harrison's order to destroy the fort, and retreat to Camp Seneca, and says :

" I have with much regret seen in some of the public prints, such misrepresentations respecting my refusal to evacuate this post, as are calculated not only to injure me in the estimation of military men, but also to excite unfavorable impressions as to the propriety of General Harrison's conduct relative to this affair.

" His character as a military man is too well established to need my approbation or support. But his public services entitle him at least to common justice. This affair does not furnish cause of reproach. If public opinion has been lately misled respecting his late conduct, it will require but a moment's cool, dispassionate reflection, to convince them of its propriety. The measures recently adopted by him, so far from deserving censure, are the clearest proofs of his keen penetration and able generalship."

The letter concludes with the following paragraphs, alike honorable to the soldier and the gentleman :

“It would be insincere to say that I am not flattered by the many handsome things which have been said about the defense which was made by the troops under my command ; but I desire no plaudits which are bestowed upon me, at the expense of General Harrison.

“I have at all times enjoyed his confidence, so far as my rank in the army entitled me to it. And on proper occasions received his marked attention. I have felt the warmest attachment for him as a man, and my confidence in him as an *able commander* remains unshaken. I feel every assurance that he will at all times, do me ample justice ; and nothing could give me more pain than to see his enemies seize upon this occasion to deal out their unfriendly feelings and acrimonious dislike—and as long as he continues (as in my humble opinion he has hitherto done) to make the wisest arrangements and most judicious disposition, which the forces under his command will justify, I shall not hesitate to unite with the army in bestowing upon him that confidence which he so richly merits, and which has on no occasion been withheld.”

As soon as this invasion of the territory of Ohio was known, Governor Meigs called upon the militia of the state to repel the enemy. The appeal was promptly and nobly responded to, but the abandonment of the siege of Fort Meigs, and the gallant defense of Fort Stephenson, rendered their services unnecessary. When the militia were disbanded, without an opportunity of meeting the foe, or being employed in the main expedition against Canada, there was much discontent among them. To allay this feeling, General Harrison met them at Upper Sandusky ; and, through the governor, made known the reasons for their being disbanded. These were, mainly, that to retain in camp all the Ohio troops then embodied, was impossible, as

the embarkation on the lake could not be effected under fifteen or eighteen days, and so large a force, even for a short time, would consume the provisions provided for the support of the campaign. The delay in moving upon Canada arose from a cause which General Harrison could not then publicly explain, lest it should reach the enemy. Under the plan of the campaign, he was not to cross the lake until he had the full co-operation of Commodore Perry's fleet. The period when this could be obtained, was uncertain. Under such circumstances, the retention of so large a body of militia, in camp, would have defeated the plan of the campaign. At the same time, the commander-in-chief bore his testimony to the fact, that the exertions made by Governor Meigs to assemble the militia, and the promptitude with which the call had been met, was truly astonishing; and reflected the highest credit on the state.— Some of the disbanded officers, however, met together, notwithstanding this explanation, and in a moment of popular discontent, passed resolutions to the effect, that they were greatly disappointed in not being kept in service, and that there was something mysterious in the conduct of General Harrison.— The cool reflection of these officers, and a subsequent knowledge of the whole plan of the campaign, have long since caused them to regret their course on this occasion; and, to admit with a frankness honorable to their character, that they had done great injustice to the commander-in-chief.

Active preparations for the expedition against Upper Canada were now making. The call by General Harrison, on the governor of Kentucky, for volunteers, was promptly responded to, by the venerable Shelby, who, in a patriotic appeal to the people of that state, appointed the 31st of August for the rendezvous of the troops at Newport. Public attention was now directed with great intensesness, to the rival fleets on Lake Erie. About the 2d of August, the vessels under Commodore

Perry were finally equipped. On the 5th, General Harrison visited the fleet, and furnished the commander with a company of soldiers, to act as marines, who were afterwards acknowledged to have performed a valuable service. Col. Johnson, with his mounted regiment, was recalled from Kentucky to the frontiers. Every exertion was made along the whole line from Cleveland to Fort Meigs, to hasten on the stores, while Governor Shelby was steadily advancing with a strong body of mounted men towards the scene of action. In the midst of these active preparations, in which the energy of the commander-in-chief was everywhere perceptible, he received, on the 12th of September, at Seneca, a note in which Commodore Perry says :

“ We have met the enemy and they are ours—two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and a sloop.”

This important and glorious news spread, with the rapidity of an electric shock, throughout the whole line of the army, and as it reached the various detachments, pressing on to the shore of the lake, it quickened their speed, and awakened a burning desire to achieve a victory equally brilliant, over the enemy under Proctor.

On the 20th, the embarkation commenced from the mouth of Portage river. On the 26th, the army reached the Middle Sister—having touched at Put-in-bay, where a general order of debarkation, of march and of battle, was issued by the commander-in-chief, which, for lucid minuteness and military acumen, has been pronounced by competent judges, to be unsurpassed in its kind. On the morning of the 27th, the final embarkation of the army commenced, in sixteen vessels, and upwards of eighty boats. The sun shone in all his autumnal beauty, and a gentle breeze hastened on the ships to that shore, on which it was anticipated the banner of our country would have to be planted, amid the thunder of British arms, and the

yells of ferocious Indians. While moving over the bosom of the lake—every eye enchanted with the magnificence of the scene, and every heart panting for the coming opportunity of avenging their country's wrongs—the beloved commander-in-chief caused the following address to be delivered to his army :

“The general entreats his brave troops to remember, that they are the sons of sires whose fame is immortal ; that they are to fight for the rights of their insulted *country*, while their opponents combat for the unjust pretensions of a master.—Kentuckians ! remember the River Raisin ; but remember it *only* whilst victory is suspended. The revenge of a soldier cannot be gratified upon a fallen enemy.”

When this stirring appeal was read, on each vessel, and in each boat, the shouts of “Harrison and victory,” rose, successively, from an army of freemen, and went booming over the rippling waters. The landing was effected at four o'clock, with a celerity and an order, as remarkable as the spectacle was beautiful and grand ; and, about sun-down, the army entered Malden in triumph, heralded by the national air of “Yankee Doodle.”\*

\* Life of Harrison.

## CHAPTER VIII.

Attempt to assassinate Gen. Harrison—James Montgomery—Pleasant township—Fort Seneca—Peter Pork—William Spicer—Bloom township—Elizabethtown—Bloomville—Silver creek—Scipio township—Republic—Seneca county Academy.

WHILE Gen. Harrison was at Camp Seneca, he narrowly escaped being murdered by an Indian. It appears that the friendly Indians of the Delaware, Shawanese, and Seneca tribes had been invited to join him. A number had accepted the invitation, and had reached Seneca before the arrival of the Kentucky troops. All the chiefs, and no doubt the greater part of the warriors, were favorable to the American cause; but before their departure from their towns, a wretch had insinuated himself among them, with the intention of assassinating the commanding general. He belonged to the Shawanese tribe, and bore the name of Blue Jacket, but was not the celebrated Blue Jacket, who signed the treaty of Greenville with Gen. Wayne. He had formerly resided at the town of Wapakonetta; he had, however, been absent for a considerable time, and had returned but a few days before the warriors of that town set out to join the American army.

He informed the chiefs, that he had been hunting on the Wabash, and at his request, he was suffered to join the party which were about to march to Seneca. Upon their arrival at McArthur's block-house, they halted and encamped for the pur-

pose of receiving provisions from the deputy Indian agent, Col. Mc. Pherson, who resided there.

Before their arrival at that place, Blue Jacket had communicated to a friend of his, (a Shawanese warrior,) his intention to kill the American general, and requested his assistance ; this his friend declined, and endeavored to dissuade him from attempting it, assuring him that it could not be done without the certain sacrifice of his own life, as he had been at the American camp, and knew that there was always a guard around the general's quarters, who were on duty day and night.

Blue Jacket replied, that he was determined to execute his intention at any risk—"that he would kill the general, if he was sure that his guards would cut him in pieces not bigger than his thumb-nail."

No people on earth are more faithful in keeping secrets than the Indians, but each warrior has a friend, from whom he will conceal nothing. Luckily for General Harrison, the friend of the confidant of Blue Jacket was a young Delaware chief, named Beaver, who was also bound to the general by the ties of friendship. He was the son of a Delaware war-chief of the same name, who had, with others, been put to death by his own tribe, on the charge of practicing sorcery.

General Harrison had been on terms of friendship with the father, and had patronized his orphan boy, at that time ten or twelve years of age. He had now arrived to manhood, and was considered among the most promising warriors of his tribe: to this young chief, the friend of Blue Jacket revealed the fatal secret. The Beaver was placed by this communication in an embarrassing situation, for should he disclose what he had heard, he betrayed his friend, than which nothing could be more repugnant to the feelings and principles of an Indian warrior. Should he not disclose it, consequences equal, or even more to be deprecated, were likely to ensue. The assas-

sination of a friend, the friend of his father, whose life he was bound to defend, or whose death to avenge, by the same principle of fidelity and honor which forbid the disclosure.

While he was yet hesitating, Blue Jacket came up to the Delaware camp somewhat intoxicated, vociferating vengeance upon Colonel McPherson, who had just turned him out of his house, and whom he declared he would put to death for the insult he had received. The sight of the traitor raised the indignation, and aroused the resentment of the Beaver, to the highest pitch. He seized his tomahawk, and advancing towards the culprit, "You must be a great warrior," said he, "you will not only kill this white man, for serving you as you deserve, but you will also murder our father, the American chief, and bring disgrace and mischief upon us all. But you shall do neither—I will serve you as I would a mad dog."

A furious blow from the tomahawk of the Beaver stretched the unfortunate Blue Jacket at his feet, and a second terminated his existence; "there," said he, to some Shawanese, who were present, "take him to the camp of his tribe, and tell them who has done the deed."

The Shawanese were far from resenting it; they applauded the conduct of the Beaver, and rejoiced at their happy escape from the ignominy which the accomplishment of Blue Jacket's design would have brought upon them.

At the great treaty which was held at Greenville, in 1815, Gen. Cass, one of the commissioners, related the whole of the transaction to the assembled chiefs, and after thanking the Beaver in the name of the United States, for having saved the life of their general, he caused a handsome present to be made him out of the goods which he had sent for the purpose of the treaty.

It is impossible to say what was the motive of Blue Jacket, to attempt the life of General Harrison: he was not one of the



Tippecanoe Shawanese, and therefore could have no personal resentment against the general. There is little doubt that he came from Malden when he arrived at Wapakonetta, and that he came for the express purpose of attempting the life of the general; but whether he was instigated to it by any other person or persons, or had conceived the idea himself, has never been ascertained.\*

On the 20th of November, 1819, James Montgomery, a native of Pennsylvania, but then a resident of the south part of this state, having been appointed as agent of the Seneca Indians, settled in this county within the limits of Camp Seneca, where the Indians had erected him a log house, which was covered with bark, with puncheon for a floor.

Mr. Montgomery remained agent for the Indians, and lived near the camp until his death, which occurred the first of June, 1830. Mr. M. was a worthy citizen, and greatly beloved by the Indians. When he first came to the county, there were but *five* families between his residence and Oakley, now New Fort Ball.

*Pleasant* township was organized the 6th of June, 1831.— Among its first settlers, were John Chaney, Nathan Shippey, and Caleb Rice, none of whom are now residents of the township. The name, *Pleasant*, was suggested by James Gordon, one of the county commissioners at the time. This township, lying upon both sides of the Sandusky, contains more bottom land than any other in the county. Among its enterprising farmers, are Lorenzo Abbott, Isaac I. Dumond, Benjamin Tomb, John Claggett, Uriah Egbert, M. B. Fry, Vincent Bell, Daniel V. Flummerfelt, D. H. Jop, M. M. Titus, G. Sheats, and others.

On the 14th of January, 1836, Erastus Bowe and Vincent

\* Memoirs of Harrison.

Bell caused to be surveyed on the corners of sections nineteen and twenty in this township, a town, to which they gave the name of "*Fort Seneca*." This place, (formerly known in the vicinity as "Swope's Corners,"<sup>2</sup>) was surveyed and platted by David Risdon, county surveyor, and contains fifty-seven lots. It received its name from the stockade before mentioned, which was about three miles below the town.

It is situated within 60 rods of the Sandusky river, upon the Columbus state-road, six miles and a half from Tiffin, and eleven from Lower Sandusky. Its population is one hundred. It is a post-town, containing twenty dwelling-houses, one Methodist Episcopal church, one tavern, one store, one district school-house, two blacksmith's-shops, three shoe-shops, one tailor-shop and one cabinet-shop. There is also a physician located in this town—Dr. F. M. Bell.

On the 4th of October, 1829, Benajah Parker, a resident of what is now Fort Seneca, in Pleasant township, was stabbed by an Indian of the Seneca nation, named *Peter Pork*. It appears that the Indian, who had been drinking, called at Parker's house, and asked for whiskey. Angry words ensued on its being refused, and while Parker was attempting to force the Indian out of doors, the latter drew a knife, and with a back-handed stroke, inflicted a dangerous wound in the side of the former. Parker lingered for several months and died.

Peter Pork, as soon as he had committed the deed, fled to his cabin and prepared to defend himself. Having placed his tomahawk under his bed, and his knife in the wall at the head, he laid down to sleep. He was a stalwart Indian—the whole tribe standing in awe of him. The neighbors in the vicinity soon assembled near his house, and while asleep, they secured his tomahawk and knife. He was then awakened—but not until after a severe contest, was he secured and placed in confinement.

On the 28th of April, 1830, he was tried by the court of common pleas of this county, and found guilty of "stabbing with intent to kill." He was sentenced to three years' confinement in the penitentiary.

At the treaty of the Miami of Lake Erie, the United States granted to one William Spicer, a white man, who had been captured at the age of five, by the Wyandot Indians, and had ever since lived among them, a section of 640 acres of land, situated on the east bank of the Sandusky river, within the present limits of Pleasant township. This tract, generally known as the "Spicer section," is now owned principally by Benjamin Tomb, formerly of the state of Pennsylvania.

Spicer was captured in Pennsylvania, and to the day of his death was, as to his habits, manners and language, a perfect *Indian*. When the country was first settled by the whites, he had resided upon the Sandusky forty years. His history is but little known. He was taken by the Wyandots, to the banks of the Ohio river, and used by them as a *decoy* to bring boatmen to the shore, that chanced to be passing upon the stream. Tying him to a tree near the water's edge, they would compel him to utter the most plaintive tones, as if he wished to be relieved from his unfortunate and perishing condition, while the savages lay in ambush, ready to fall upon the unsuspecting victims of Indian cunning and duplicity. Many thus fell a prey to savage cruelty, though it is to be presumed that Spicer was *compelled* to act as he did.

On the 5th day of April, 1822, Noah Seitz, from Fairfield county, settled upon the north-east quarter of section *twenty*, in what is now the township of *Bloom*. This was the *first* settlement within its limits. Mr. Seitz sold out soon after, to Edward Sutherland, and removed to Eden township, upon the banks of Honey creek, just above the present village of Melmore, where he still resides.

In the spring of the same year, Thomas Boyd, Sen., from Ross county, with his sister, Mrs. Mary Donnel, came to this township. At the Delaware land-sales, he purchased land upon which he afterwards resided, until his death, which occurred November 27th, 1847. "Mr. Boyd was a native of the state of Pennsylvania, and son of Major Boyd, who under General Washington contributed a gallant share in achieving the liberty of the nation. Mr. B. emigrated in an early day to the state of Ohio, which he adopted as his future home, and ever afterwards manifested the most ardent attachment to her best interests."

The same year—1822—Joseph McClelland and James Boyd settled upon Honey creek, in Bloom township, and were soon after followed by Abram Kagy, Lowell Robinson and Nehemiah Hadley. The next year, John Seitz, Geo. Free, and Jacob Bretz, became citizens of this township, and permanent residents of the county.

On the 7th day of June, 1824, a petition was presented to the board of county commissioners, for the organization of townships Nos. *one* and *two* in range *sixteen*. The organization was perfected accordingly, including the present townships of Bloom, Scipio, Reed and Venice. The name Bloom, was suggested by John Seitz; and though adopted for its brevity, it may not be deemed altogether inappropriate; as the wilderness at that time presented a scene of surpassing beauty—the garden of nature in fullest *bloom*.

The population of this township, in 1830, amounted to 389. According to the census of 1840, it had increased to 1168.—The soil is remarkably fertile, there being scarcely an acre of indifferent land within its limits. It is probably not exceeded in this respect, by any other township in the county.

Among its enterprising farmers, are Lowell Robinson, Joseph McClelland, David Roop, John T. Reid, Simon Keller,

Lewis Seitz, John Seitz,\* Benjamin Huddle, Philip Heilman, David Troxel, William Roberts, Isaac Rohrer, Levi Neibel, Adam Baker, Jacob Myers, Oliver L. Robinson, and many others.

In 1822, Harry Blackman, from Genessee county, New York, settled in this township, at the place since known as "Blackman's Corners." Here he resided sixteen years; and is at present a resident of Eden township. At these "Corners," on the Kilbourn road, a town was surveyed by James Durbin, county surveyor, in 1830, which by the proprietor, Dr. James Fisher, was called Elizabethtown. It has never flourished—containing, at the present time, six dwelling-houses, a blacksmith's shop, one carriage-shop and a tavern.

In 1837, Philip J. Priece, Julius Treat, and Thomas T. Treat Esq., caused to be laid out, on the Marion state-road, five miles south of the town of Republic, and upon the school section (16) in this township, a town, to which they gave the name of "*Bloomville*." It has a post-office—Thomas T. Treat, from Aurora, Erie county, New York, being post-master.

In 1840, its population was 13. It has since increased to 60. The town contains twelve dwelling-houses, three shoe-shops, one tailor-shop, two blacksmith's-shops, one carriage-shop, one store and two physicians—Dr. Bellville, of the regular practice, and Peter J. Smith, Thompsonian.

*Silver creek*, a tributary of Honey creek, rises in Crawford county, and passes into Bloom township near its south-east corner, (sec. 36.) After pursuing a north-westerly course, it falls into Honey creek, just after entering the township of Eden.—There are three saw-mills and a grist-mill upon this stream, and water sufficient to drive them more than three months of

\* Mr. Seitz passed through this county during the last war, in company with twenty others, with wagons loaded with clothing for the soldiers at Fort Stephenson, where they arrived, three weeks after its gallant defense by Col. Croghan.

the year. Three young men traveling from Mansfield to Tiffin, at an early day, gave name to this stream. Striking it, near its source, and being delighted with the transparency of its waters, they agreed that it should be called "*Silver creek.*" They followed its downward course to its junction with another stream, to which, from the peculiar resemblance in the color of its waters to that of honey, they gave the name of "*Honey creek.*" [See Chap. III.]

Soon after the land-sales at Delaware, in 1821, William Anway, from Scipio, Cayuga county, New York, settled in what is now Scipio township. He may be considered the first settler; although at the time, two families were located upon the school section (16) who soon after, left the county. The late Mr. Laughery was the first that purchased land in this township.

Among the oldest settlers in this township, besides those just mentioned, were C. T. Westbrook, John Wright, Adam Hance, Abram Spencer, Isaac Nichols, Messrs. Stephens and Osborn, and Timothy P. Roberts. The gentleman last mentioned, settled here in May, 1824, and erected the *first* frame dwelling-house in the township, the one in which he now resides.

Scipio was surveyed into sections and quarter-sections, by Silvanus Bourne, in 1820; except a small portion, which belonged to the Seneca Indians, and which was surveyed by C. W. Christmas, in 1832.

On the 6th day of December, 1824, a petition was presented to the commissioners of the county, praying for the organization of the *second* township in the *sixteenth* range, to be known by the name of "*Scipio.*" It had, at that time, *sixteen* qualified electors. The township was organized accordingly, and included, at the time, the whole of the present township of Reed.\*

\* The name was given to this township by Mr. Anway, after the township he left, in the state of New York.

The *first* annual election was held on Christmas-day, of the same year. The number of votes polled amounted to *seventeen—thirteen* of those voting, receiving offices; leaving *four* only, as the "*sovereign people*."\*

Through the energy of its inhabitants, Scipio has now become one of the first townships in the county. Its progress was somewhat retarded at an early day, on account of an insufficient supply of water; but this defect has been overcome by the ingenious contrivances and perseverance of its inhabitants. Although there is not a stream of water in the township large enough to propel a mill, yet there are several, as well as factories and machine-shops, in active operation, by the aid of steam.

The population of Scipio, according to the census of 1840, was 1556. Since that time, it has rapidly increased in numbers and in wealth.

In 1834, General Sidney Smith (now Sea) caused to be surveyed, in this township, upon the adjoining corners of sections fifteen, sixteen, twenty-one and twenty-two, a town to which he gave the name of "*Republic*." It was surveyed and platted by R. M. Shoemaker. The greater part of the land upon which it is situated, was entered at Delaware, by Messrs. Adam Hance and John Wright, in the year 1822—the former entering the east, and the latter the west part. The *first* dwelling-house erected upon the site of this town, was of hewed logs, and was built by John Wright, near the spot where a house has since been erected, which is at present occupied by Mr. Gale, as a store.

But very little was done towards the improvement of the

\*The following was the successful ticket.—William B. Mathewson, clerk; John Wright, Seth F. Foster, and Jonathan Nichols, trustees; Adam Hance, and Joseph Osborne, overseers of the poor; William Stephens, and Ezekiel Sampson, fence-viewers; William Anway, jun., lister; William Anway, treasurer; Cornelius T. Westbrook, and Morrison McMillan, constables; John Anway and E. H. Brown, supervisors.

place until the year 1838. Upon the completion of the Railroad from Sandusky City, in 1841, to this town, it received an impetus which it still retains, and is now, as to wealth, population and business, the second town in the county. Republic contains one Universalist church, erected in 1845, at an expense of two thousand dollars; one Methodist Episcopal church, erected in 1846, at a cost of two thousand three hundred dollars; and one Presbyterian church, erected in 1847, at an expense of about two thousand four hundred dollars.

It contains also, nine stores, one apothecary, one silversmith, one furnace, a steam saw and grist-mill, one carding-machine, two forwarding houses, one district school-house, three shoe-shops, two cabinet-shops, two tin-shops, four tailor-shops, two carriage-shops, four blacksmith's-shops one bakery, and one hat-shop. Its population is about 1100.

There are in this town a Masonic chapter, a lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, (No. 40,) a division of the Sons of Temperance, (No. 170,) and a Temple of Honor.

There was formerly in this town, as in the township, a scarcity of water, which considerably retarded its early progress; but three public wells have been recently dug by the Messrs. Davis, (natives of England,) to the depth of sixty-five feet.—Owing to the peculiar quality of the earth, considerable skill was required to complete them. Good water is now obtained in abundance.

The general appearance of Republic, is prepossessing and pleasant. It is a healthy village, while its growth has been more rapid than any other town in the county, and bids fair to exceed what a few years ago, were the expectations of the most sanguine.

There are six physicians located in this town—William C. Cole, William L. Hamilton, F. S. Kendall, J. S. Sparks, J. Ball, and Dr. Pierce. There is also one attorney-at-law resi-



dent of the place, William W. Culver, formerly from the state of New York.

The *Seneca County Academy*, a spacious brick edifice, is located a little east of this town, in the center of a beautiful plain, containing about four acres of ground, partially surrounded by a pleasant grove. The building has accommodations sufficient for three hundred pupils, and presents an imposing appearance. The act incorporating this academy was passed by the General Assembly of Ohio, March 4th, 1836. [See Appendix.]

The members of the corporation met and organized, February 8th, 1844. The capital stock of the institution amounts to three thousand dollars, and is divided into three hundred shares of ten dollars each, the principal part of which was taken in Scipio township.

The stock-holders, at their first meeting, elected nine trustees—William C. Cole, Evan Dorsey, and John McConaghy, for three years; Timothy P. Roberts, Charles Lamkin, and James H. Benham, for two years; and Zephaniah Hathaway, William Toll, and David D. Ogden, for one year. At the expiration of one year, Josiah Roop, Alfred Johnson, and Zephaniah Hathaway were elected for three years, to fill the vacancies which had then occurred. February 2d, 1846, Sylvester H. Lamkin, Robert R. McKee, and Joshua Maynard, were elected for the ensuing three years.

The president and secretary are elected annually, by the trustees. The treasurer is elected by the stockholders, for the term of three years.

The board elected Timothy P. Roberts, first president, but having sold his share in the stock, his office became vacant; whereupon, Josiah Roop was elected to fill the vacancy. Joshua Maynard, M. D., has since been twice elected president, and still continues in that office. William C. Cole, became first

secretary, serving until the first Monday of February, 1847, when he was succeeded by Josiah Roop, the present incumbent. Edson T. Stickney, was the first treasurer, and has since continued in office.

The academy commenced operations November 10th, 1845, S. W. Shepard, principal; Miss Sarah Jane Thayer, preceptress, and Mrs. Elizabeth A. Baxter, teacher of music. Mr. Shepard studied his preparatory course in the state of Vermont, and graduated with the degree of A. B. at the Ohio University. Three years after, the degree of A. M. was conferred upon him by the same institution. He is still principal of the academy.

On the 1st of July last, a Miss Curtis was employed as preceptress, and teacher of music and drawing, which station she still occupies.

A primary department was established in this institution, in the winter of 1847, under the charge of Miss Amelia E. Root, as teacher. Miss A. Pearce is at present conducting the same. The whole number of pupils that have attended this institution since its commencement, up to the present time, is four hundred and thirty-two.

## CHAPTER IX.

Thompson Township—Sink-holes—Cave—Lewisville—Reed Township  
—Lodi—Venice Township—Caroline—Attica.

ON the 25th of April, 1820, the commissioners of Sandusky county set off a township in this county, to which they gave the name of *Thompson*. It extended, also, into the former county; and its boundaries, as defined by the commissioners at that time, were as follow: "Beginning at the north-east corner of the Seneca reservation; running thence north, to the present trailed road from Croghansville to Strong's settlement; thence east, until it shall intersect the Fire-lands; thence south, with said line to the base-line; thence west, along said line, until a line due north will strike the place of beginning." This tract comprehended, besides a portion of Sandusky county, nearly half of this county east of the Sandusky river.—Thompson includes at this time the original surveyed township, No. 3, in the 17th range, and the fractional township, No. 3, in the 18th Range.

The *first* township election was held on the 6th day of May, 1820, at the house of Joseph Parmenter. The first settlers in this township were William and Nathan Whitney, Joseph Parmenter, Horace Purdy, David Underhill, James Whitmore, James Underhill, Eli Whitney, Jasper Underhill, Benjamin Clark, Solomon Dimmick, Benjamin Murray, A. H. Twiss, and others—several of whom are still residents.

There were several squatters upon the land of the United States within the limits of Thompson ; but owing to the scarcity of water at that time, most of them left the county.

The population of this township, in 1830, amounted to 362. In 1840, it had augmented to 1404. It is now steadily and rapidly increasing in population and wealth, ranking as one of the first townships in the county. The soil is remarkably fertile, and the face of the country beautifully undulating. The appearance of many of the farms—their farm-houses and extensive barns, indicate the intelligence, activity, and wealth of its farmers—among whom are John Bunn, Samuel Steward, Jacob Bunn, Jacob Karn, John Reyer, Daniel Close, M. Good, Jacob Decker, John Heter, Peter Dewalt, William Heter, Solomon Dimmick, A. H. Twiss, and many others.

Thompson is settled principally by people from the state of Pennsylvania, and immigrants from Germany. Of the latter, there is a large settlement in the south-eastern section of the township, which is rapidly increasing. They are Roman Catholics, and have established a *Nunnery*, which contains, according to the best information we could obtain, twenty-four brothers and fifty-nine Sisters of Charity.

The greater part of Thompson rests upon a bed of limestone rock, which is from two to twelve feet below the surface. This bed is usually loose, and the seams in the rock form the numerous "sink-holes," which are seen in all parts of the township. Of these, two are worthy of notice. Into one, a stream called "Sink creek" precipitates itself, and entirely disappears. Many years ago, a saw-mill was erected, just above the sink, upon this stream, and is still in operation, with sufficient water to drive it over three months of the year. To the west of this, is another sink, where a small stream also disappears, upon which a saw-mill has likewise been erected. During the occurrence of the greatest floods, these sinks are too

small to receive the waters from above, in consequence of which an overflow is caused, inundating considerable of the country beyond.

But by far the greatest object of interest in this township, is the "*Thompson Cave.*" The entrance to this remarkable place is about ten rods from the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad; near the south end of the east half, of the north-west quarter, of section *one*; which is almost in the extreme north-east corner of the county. It is situated upon the land owned by Mason Kinney, one and a half miles from Bellevue, and three-fourths of a mile from Lewisville, in this township.

The discovery of the cave is generally attributed to George and Henry Hassan. It was probably first explored by Lyman and Asa Strong. As early as the year 1815, it was known to the settlers upon the Fire Lands, and was then much frequented by hunters, for the purpose of killing rattle-snakes, which were found here in great numbers. From this circumstance, it was called the "*Rattle-snake's Den.*" But these poisonous reptiles have long since disappeared.

The mouth of this cave is a space of about six feet in length, and three in width. Upon examining the land in the immediate vicinity, it appears that about five acres, from some unknown cause, have sunk several feet. Some have conjectured, that the lime-stone rocks once rested upon a bed of *soap-stone*, which was washed away in time, leaving a cavity, into which the whole mass above was precipitated, causing a wide seam in the rocks, which constitutes the cave. That there has been a great convulsion of the earth in this vicinity, is almost certain; for, as you descend into the cave, it is discovered that on one side, the strata of the rocks are nearly horizontal; while on the other side, they are inclining at an angle of about forty degrees.

Upon entering the passage, a natural path leads gradually downwards in a north-easterly direction. At the depth of

about thirty feet, the light from above is obstructed, below which, darkness forever reigns, unless driven away by the lights of the curious, who are exploring the wonders of this silent and gloomy place. After a descent of about forty feet, a large space is opened; and here, as the eye surveys the lofty ceiling, and penetrates the recesses around, the mind is peculiarly impressed with the awful grandeur and magnificence of the scene.

Proceeding onward, water is observed dripping from the rocks above, which is found upon examination, to be impregnated with sulphur, and not disagreeable to the taste. Beneath, are discovered the tracks of harmless animals, that roam about in places inaccessible to man; while over head, *bats* are seen suspended from the rocks, apparently lifeless; but when brought to the sun, they soon recover, and immediately direct their course to the cave.

After a descent of nearly two hundred feet, the passage is interrupted by a stream of pure, cold water, which is very pleasant to the taste, and has a slow current to the north-ward. This stream rises during the wettest portions of the year, about eighty feet, and again recedes upon the recurrence of dry weather. In 1844, a year remarkable for rains, the water rose in the cave one hundred and seventy feet, or within thirty feet of the surface of the earth. When at its minimum height, the stream presents only a few feet of surface; but its bottom has never been reached.

This cave is certainly an object of interest to all who admire the works of nature, or delight in subterranean wonders; and were the rocks excavated around the mouth, so as to render the ingress less tedious, it would doubtless be visited by thousands. [See "note" at the end of this chapter.]

On the 1st day of January, 1841, the county surveyor, Jonas Hershberger, surveyed a town on sections *eleven* and *twelve*,

in Thompson township, to which was given the name of *Lewisville*, from a town of the same name in the state of Pennsylvania. The proprietors were George Schoch, Jr., Jacob Kerner and Frederick Harpster.

Lewisville is pleasantly situated upon the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad, and is rapidly improving. The country around is delightful, descending in nearly every direction from the town. The post-office is called Flat Rock.

It is one mile west of the Huron county line—one and one-fourth miles south of the Sandusky county line; twenty-one miles from Tiffin; twelve miles from Republic; fifteen miles from Norwalk, the county seat of Huron county; eighteen miles from Sandusky City; and three and a half miles south-west from Bellevue, Sandusky county. Its population is 80. It contains eighteen dwellings, one store, one cabinet-shop, one tailor-shop, two shoe-shops, three blacksmith's-shops, one saddler's-shop and one carriage-shop. There are two practicing physicians, residents of this town—Joseph Myers and Henry L. Harris.

On the 18th day of January, 1825, *Seth Reed* and *George Raymond*, from Steuben county, New York, settled upon section twenty-four, in what is now the township of *Reed*. These gentlemen entered land at the Delaware land-office, and were the *first* settlers within the limits of the township. They were followed soon after by Edward Cassety and Elijah Reed. In a short time, Tornis Cronkite, Thomas Bennit, Samuel Scothorn and Isaac Bennit, became permanent residents of the township.\*

\*On the 9th day of March, 1827, two young men left their homes in this township, and crossed over into Norwich, Huron county, upon a hunting excursion. Discovering a flock of wild turkeys, they secreted themselves, and commenced calling them, according to the usual method adopted by hunters. While thus engaged, a neighbor, who was in the vicinity, unknown to either of them, was deceived by the noise, and cautiously approaching the spot, and discovering what was supposed to be a turkey, he immediately fired! The next moment he discovered he had shot his neighbor. There he sat, the blood running down his side, when it was found upon examination, that the ball had struck him

Reed was constituted a legal township on the 5th day of December, 1826; and was thus named in compliment to *Seth Reed*, one of its earliest settlers. The *first* township election was held at the house of this gentleman, on the first day of the year following.

The face of the land in this township is generally undulating, and its soil very fertile. There are no mill-streams within its limits; although there are three saw-mills in active operation by the aid of steam. In 1830, the population of Reed was 264. According to the census of 1840, it had increased to 1214. There are several sink-holes within its limits, as in Thompson township.

Among the enterprising farmers of this township, are Matthew Clark, Thomas Bennit, A. C. Baker, Benjamin Sanford, John B. Schuyler, Jacob Cole, William P. White, Henry Ryno, Levi Reed, James Harrison, W. H. Cronkite, John Clark, John Hover and others. Reed is steadily and rapidly increasing both in population and wealth.

On the 4th day of January, 1838, John Terry and Catharine Beard caused to be laid out on sections *five* and *six*, in this township, a town, to which was given the name of "*Lodi*." It was surveyed and platted by James Durbin, county surveyor. Lodi is a post-town—the *first* post-master was Lyman White, the present incumbent.

The population of this town is 80. It contains fourteen dwellings, one Baptist church, one forwarding house, two hotels, two stores, one tannery, one steam saw-mill; one grocery,

---

just behind the ear, apparently passing through the same. He was conveyed to his home, and medical assistance procured as soon as possible. It was then found upon a closer examination, that the wound was not fatal, and after three months suffering he recovered.

This, it must be acknowledged was a very narrow escape from an untimely grave; and it is to be presumed, that the incidents of that day still remain vivid in the memories of those men; and will thus continue, coeval with their existence.



one cabinet-shop, two wagon-shops, two tailors'-shops, two blacksmiths'-shops, and two shoe-shops. There is one practicing physician, Robert P. Frazer, a resident of the place. Lodi is situated upon the Mad River and Lake Erie Rail-road, five miles from Republic, and fourteen from Tiffin.

On the 1st day of June, 1829, Ezra Gilbert presented a petition to the commissioners of this county from the citizens of the original surveyed township No. 1, in the 17th range, praying for its organization into a legal township, to be known by the name of VENICE. It was organized accordingly; but included the fractional township in range 18. The *first* township election was held June 13th, 1829.\*

Among the earliest settlers of this township, were Cornelius Gilmore, Ezra Gilbert, Henry Speaker, Samuel Halsted, Gouverneur Edwards, John Wallet, David Kemp, Jacob Cook, Andrew More, William McPherson, Johnson Ford, Philip Muck and James McKibben.

The population of Venice in 1840, was 1222. Since that time, its increase has been gradual and rapid. The early progress of this township was somewhat retarded, on account of its wet appearance at an early day. But since the land has been cleared, it is found to be of excellent soil, and well adapted to the growth of wheat and most other grains.

Among others of its enterprising farmers, are George Ringel, Thomas Bennett, David Ringel, Capt. J. Miller, Andrew More, James McKibben, Samuel Shade, James D. Stephens, John McKibben, Henry Myers, (tailor,) Z. Bretz and James McKibben, Sen.

On the 28th of February, 1828, Col. James Kilbourn, of

\* The ticket elected was as follows: Philip E. Bronson, township clerk; Thomas West, Ezra Gilbert, Moses Smith, trustees; James Halsted, treasurer; Henry Speaker, Elisha Fair, overseers of the poor; Cornelius Gilmore, Ezra Gilbert, fence-viewers; Warren Blakesly, constable.

Worthington, surveyed a town on sections *ten* and *eleven*, in this township to which he gave the name of "*Caroline*,"\* in

\*The following song was composed on May-day, following the survey of this town, by the colonel, who has often sung it with great glee at his numerous "jollifications."

### CAROLINE.

#### A SONG.

As poets have sung of their masculine towns,  
Where rivers are flowing and pleasure abounds,  
The muse I invoke, on the entrance of May,  
To sing of sweet "*CAROLINE*," blooming and gay.

Where the forest is cleft, by the hands that were strong,  
And the Sandusky turnpike, extending along—  
Erect in the midst of the richest of lands,  
On the borders of Honey creek, smiling she stands.

Here, roads are concentred and travelers come,  
And here may the stranger repose at his home;  
Improvements extend, and the laboring hand,  
Of various artisans, rise in demand.

*Here*, mandrakes and violets spreading around,  
And the high tulip-poplars are shading the ground,  
*There*, meadows and fields, 'mid the forests are seen,  
Presenting their verdure in bright living green.

Approaching the scene, and when viewing it near,  
The gods of the waters enamored appear;  
And linger a while in their course as they flow,  
Before they descend to the rock-lands below.

When settlements spread, came the good Doctor Pearse,  
But no one was sickly, and none on the hearse:  
He quit of necessity—and just the same fate,  
By just the same causes, took off Doctor Bate.

Here Dutchmen, and Scotchmen, and Yorkers unite—  
And with Yankees and Irishmen, *pull away right*—  
With *long pull*, and *strong pull*, compacted they stand—  
And by pulling together, success they command.

compliment to a daughter of Cornelius Gilmore, first inhabitant of the town.

Its proprietors were Hector Kilbourn, Byron Kilbourn, and Cornelius Gilmore.

Caroline is situated on the south bank of Honey creek, upon the Sandusky City and Columbus turnpike. The *first* settler upon the town plat was Cornelius Gilmore, a native of Pennsylvania, who settled here in the winter of 1830.

On the 1st of April of the same year, Andrew More settled in this town, where he resided until his death, which occurred August 6th, 1846. On the 17th of June, 1830, James McKibben moved to this town, and has ever since been a resident of the place. At that time there were only *fifteen* families in Venice township. Caroline contains sixteen dwellings, one tavern, one store, one large tannery, one district school-house, three shoe-shops, one blacksmith-shop and one carriage-shop. In 1840 its population was 27. It is now nearly a hundred, and is gradually increasing.

On the first day of May, 1833, William and Samuel Miller,

McPherson of Caroline pleases as well  
 As any McPherson, that Scotland can tell;  
 Hanna, Stephenson, Willoughby, Bennett, aspire.  
 McKibben, the merchant, and Gilbert, the squire.

For jollification, when met as a band,  
 If a *speaker* we need, we've a SPEAKER\* at hand,  
 And many more worthies—and leading the corps,  
 We name with great pleasure, our friend, landlord *More!*

Now last, but not *least*, sing we Heaven's *last* gift—  
 Whose cares and whose smiles give to man the best lift—  
 Their beauties of person, and character shine,  
 To honor their sex, and our *sweet Caroline*.

\*Old Mr. Henry Speaker, often made speaker of the meeting.

from the state of Pennsylvania, caused to be surveyed on section ten, in Venice township, a town, to which they gave the name of "*Attica*." It was surveyed and platted by David Risdon, county surveyor. It received its name from the post-office, which was established here prior to its survey. The name "*Attica*" was given to the post-office by Ezra Gilbert, one of the first settlers on the plat, from a town of the same name in the state of New York, where he had formerly resided. Among the other first settlers of Attica, were Samuel Halsted, of New York, and the Messrs. Millers, who are still residents of the place. The *first* public house was opened by Ezra Gilbert—the first store, by Nathan Merriman, since deceased. In 1836, Attica contained twenty dwellings, and a population of 100. In 1840, the increase in population was 18 over the number in 1836. It contains at this time, forty dwellings, and a population of 200. There are in this town, one Presbyterian church, three stores, two hotels, one steam saw and grist-mill, one grocery, a district school-house, one foundry, two cabinet-shops, two tailor's-shops, three shoe-shops, three blacksmith and three carriage-shops. There are three practicing physicians, residents of this town—Benjamin F. Freeman, Calvin Jones, and Benjamin Vannatta. John L. La Marcux, attorney-at-law, is also a resident of the place. The *first* post-master in Attica was Ezra Gilbert. The office is now held by H. B. Cain.

Attica is situated upon the Sandusky City and Columbus turnpike, 77 miles from the latter, and 28 miles south from the former place. The main traveled road, from Fort Findlay through Tiffin, passes through this place to New Haven, Huron county, Wooster, &c. Attica is 22 miles south-west from Norwalk, the county seat of Huron county; 18 miles from Monroeville; 12 miles west from New Haven; 18 north from Bucyrus, Crawford county; 14 east from Melmore; and 16

miles from Tin.ffi Attica is a healthy and vigorous town, surrounded by beautiful farms, and is gradually increasing both in population and wealth.

NOTE. The following communication, published in the Sandusky Clarion, August 17th, 1844, though somewhat of a digression from the history of the county, will be read with interest, as the subterranean passages in the eastern portion of this county have given rise to much speculation.

*Messrs. Editors*—I have seen, going the rounds of the papers, as a “singular phenomenon,” the flowing of the water from a well about 11 miles from this place. Singular, I think it is not, and new I know it not to be. Neither, as represented, did it commence “all at once to flow,” for it was known to be rising many days before it commenced overflowing, and had been daily watched. Some days it rose a little, and some days it fell a little, until the last violent rain, when it commenced running over.

But perhaps you will better understand the subject, if I give you the result of my observations, and what I have learned concerning the subterraneous waters of that region, for the last quarter of a century.

*Cold Creek*, probably the principal out-let of the water, rises in Margaretta township, about three and a-half miles from Sandusky Bay, (and at an elevation of 50 feet above Lake Erie,) into which it flows, in a northerly direction, and in that distance supplies the water for four large flouring mills.

The spring that the creek flows from, was originally about an acre in extent; but by damming it close to the head, the course of the water was changed under ground, so as to divert a part of it, which again burst out at about two hundred rods distant, from a great depth in the earth, forming a hole about ten feet across, which was afterwards partially surrounded by a circu-

lar dam, with the intention of forcing the water back to the old creek; but as the water *would not run up hill*, the dam was extended, and a canal dug, uniting the springs in one level. The new spring is now about one hundred feet across, bowl-shaped, and from 40 to 60 feet deep, with the water so clear that a person looking from a boat on its surface, can see small objects floating at the bottom, and seem themselves to be floating in the air.

These springs rise less than two miles from the western boundary of the "Fire Lands," which is also our county line west, within which distance another rises, called the "Rockwell spring," which flows west into Sandusky county, and supplies water to a saw-mill.

The water that supplies these springs is supposed to come from the extensive swamps and marshes that lie from 25 to 30 miles in a southern direction, and about five miles north of the dividing ridge that separates the waters flowing into the Ohio river and those flowing into Lake Erie at this point, and at rather a gradual elevation of about 400 feet above the level of the lake.

From Cold Creek to these swamps, there is strong evidence of large quantities of water running under the surface of the earth. The first is about 50 rods from the head of the creek, where the breaking out of a few stone at the bottom of a small ledge, exposed a large and deep stream of water, constantly running, the bottom of which cannot be reached at 20 feet, in a slanting direction, and the surface can be seen ten feet wide. At another place, some two miles south, water can always be obtained by sinking a bottle from 40 to 60 feet in the crevices of the rock. Then again, about five miles south from Cold Creek, is a dishing prairie; of from one to two hundred acres in extent, which, after a series of rainy seasons, fills, by the water rising from its bottom, through the alluvial soil that forms

the surface of the prairie. Then about one mile further south, is a similar prairie, from the south side of which, at about ten feet elevation from its bottom is the "flowing well." The first account of the flowing of this prairie, reaches back about 27 years. A man who had settled on the north bank for the purpose of cultivating the lands below, which he found ready for the plow, was in the night alarmed by a loud report, and the shaking of the earth, and upon going to the door of his cabin, he heard a sound as of running water. Upon going towards the spot from whence the sound proceeded, he found the water rushing from the surface of the earth with tremendous force, on the south bank of the prairie, in a volume larger than a hogshead, which continued to flow until the prairie was filled, and the water ran off from the north-east side of the basin. After this the prairie filled, several different seasons, through the alluvial soil on its sides and bottom, but not always so as to run over, until about 12 years ago, when the "flowing well" burst out about 60 rods east of the first one. After it had ceased flowing, a man living near, thought to follow the water as it settled down, so as to have a well, it being difficult to find water in this neighborhood. After digging about 18 feet in a perpendicular direction, the course diverged to the westward, in a descending direction, about as much further; then after removing the rubbish about 20 feet further, in a perpendicular direction, it was abandoned, at a distance of about 50 feet from the surface of the earth. Since that time, water could always be found at the bottom, in the spring of the year. Eight years ago it overflowed again, since which time there has occasionally been high water in it during a wet season, and it once rose to within a few feet of the top; but never ran over until the present season, when it filled the prairie to the extent of about 75 acres, floating off the fences and destroying the crops. It lasted about ten days, when it ceased flowing, and ran

back, so that the prairie was dry within a week, notwithstanding the bottom of the basin is eight feet below where the water was drained to the well—the water settling away through the soil at the bottom.

While the water was at its highest point at this time, the family upon the farm where the "flowing well" is situated, heard a loud report in the night, which seemed to come from the earth, during a thunder-storm. In the morning, it was found to have come from the "blowing out" of another hole, about three-quarters of a mile, in a north-westerly direction, from which the water was flowing in a stream as large as a hogshead. Around all the "blow holes," as they are called, the broken lime-stone is scattered for many feet, thrown out by the force of the water when it first burst out.

From this spot, for ten miles or more, towards the dividing ridge, the face of the country is indented in numerous places, with flowing prairies and "sink-holes," from a few rods to many acres in extent. Many of the "sink-holes" are mere bowl-shaped depressions of the surface, occasioned, probably during periods of high water, by the wasting away of the earth below, into the cavernous region, through some crevice in the compact lime-stone immediately beneath. I am led to this conclusion, from the fact, that in some places, wells have been dug into the compact lime-stone, that have furnished water until some dry season, when it has become low, and in blasting for more, they have broke through into the loose lime-stone, and lost what they had.

Others of the sink-holes have openings at the bottom, through which the water rises, in a wet season, whilst through the bottoms of others the surplus water from the surface of the country runs off. Advantage has been taken of some of these depressions to form the pond of a saw-mill near Bellevue, that runs from two to four months in the spring of the



year, carried by water that is accumulated from the draining of a large tract of country above, which, after supplying the mill, runs off through a "sink-hole."

I think, if it were not for the "sink-holes" to carry off the water, in many places the country would be full of ponds and swamps, rendering it unhealthy. The citizens of Bellevue have been compelled, this season, for the second time, to drain a pond caused by the overflowing of a "sink-hole."

About two miles, still south of Bellevue, there is an opening into the cavernous lime-stone, that can be traversed above two hundred feet, at the extremity of which runs a large stream of water, at more than 130 feet from the surface of the earth, and this season the cavern was filled to within from twenty to thirty feet of the surface.

A few miles still further south, is a sunken prairie, in the bottom of which stands a black-walnut tree, that holds a rail-cut *eighteen inches through*, among its branches, more than 20 feet from the ground, floated there when the water was at that height.

In connection with the above, I will mention a circumstance that took place a few years ago, in the region of the "sink-holes:"

A man, well known to myself, had a team of three yoke of cattle, plowing in the spring. When it commenced raining, he stopped his work, and turned his cattle loose in the field. The rain proved to be a long storm, lasting several days.— When it held up, and the cattle were sought for, one of them was missing, supposed by the owner to have jumped the fence and strayed off, until, more than three weeks afterwards the ox was found in the lot, where he had settled down through the soil into a crevice of the rock below, with nothing but his head and shoulders out. He was taken out, and lived, with no other injury than the loss of hair from the buried part. Another

ox was lost three weeks, and found at the bottom of a "sink-hole" in the woods ; the sides of which he had browsed clean.

I will further state, that when some parts of the country I have been describing, were first settled, they were very much infested with rattlesnakes, (although they are now rarely found,) which were sometimes found early in the spring, in large numbers, upon the surface of the earth, nearly in their torpid state, driven from the rocks below, by the rising of the water, before the sun was sufficiently powerful to warm them into active life.

I have written so much more than I intended when I commenced, that I will finish by adding that, notwithstanding the immense quantity of water in the country above, Cold Creek is *never* affected by the rising or falling of the water, six inches.

Yours, respectfully,

W.

## CHAPTER X.

Sale of School-sections—Free-schools—Present condition—Obstacles regarding their progress.

By an act of the General Assembly of Ohio, the school-sections in the townships of Eden, Clinton, Seneca and Scipio, were appraised, several years since, at their actual value, and permanently leased for ninety-nine years, the interest of which was to be paid annually.

Since that time, they have been sold, together with the school-sections in each of the other townships of the county, except those of Big Spring, Loudon, Liberty, and a portion of the section in Hopewell township. The school-section in Adams, at that time was owned by the Seneca tribe of Indians; but since their removal to the west, it has been appraised and sold.\*

As there is a general interest manifested at the present day, with regard to the subject of popular education; and as the present condition of the common schools of this county, is not very dissimilar to that of most of the other counties of the state, we have appended a sketch of the origin and progress of the free-school system in Ohio.

The Ordinance of 1787, provided that "religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the

\* Each township that has disposed of its school-section, draws interest upon a certain proportion of the proceeds annually, which is applied for the payment of teachers in the several school districts throughout the township.

[For statistics, see Appendix.]

happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall be forever encouraged." In the previous Ordinance of 1785, regulating the sale of lands in the west, section number 16, of every township was reserved "for the maintenance of public schools within the said township." And the Constitution of Ohio, using the words of the Ordinance of 1787, says, "that schools and the means of instruction, shall be forever encouraged by legislative provision."

In accordance with the feelings shown in these several clauses, the governors of Ohio always mentioned the subject of education with great respect, in their messages; but nothing was done to make it general. It was supposed that people would not willingly be taxed, to educate the children of their poor neighbors; not so much because they failed to perceive the necessity that exists for all to be educated, in order that the commonwealth may be safe and prosperous; but because a vast number, that lived in Ohio, still doubted whether Ohio would be their ultimate abiding-place. They came to the west to make money rather than to find a home, and did not care to help to educate those whose want of education they might never feel.

Such was the state of things, until about the year 1816, at which time several persons in Cincinnati, who knew the benefits of a free-school system, united, and commenced a correspondence with different portions of the state. Their ideas being warmly responded to, by the dwellers in the Ohio company's purchase, and the Western Reserve more particularly, committees of correspondence were appointed in the different sections, and various means were resorted to, to call the attention of the public to the subject; among the most efficient of which was the publication of an *Education Almanac*, at Cincinnati. This work was edited by Nathan Guilford, a lawyer

of that place, who had from the first taken a deep interest in the matter.

For seven or eight years this gentleman and his associates labored silently and ceaselessly to diffuse their sentiments, before any attempt was made to bring the subject into the legislature. At length, in 1824, it having been ascertained that a strong feeling existed in favor of a common school system through the eastern and north-eastern parts of the state, and it being also known, that the western men who were then bringing forward their canal schemes, wished to secure the assistance of their less immediately benefited fellow-citizens, it was thought to be a favorable time to bring the free-school proposition forward; the understanding being, that, as neither the friends of canals, nor those of schools, were strong enough by themselves to carry their project, each should assist the other.

This understanding, which was rather implied than expressed, has led some to say, that the free-school system was attained by "log-rolling;" which saying, though true in one sense, is not to be understood in the sense that refers to individual solicitation and promise. On this occasion Cincinnati sent to the senate, Mr. Guilford, whose avowed and main object in thus entering public life, was to help on the accomplishment of his favorite project, and to that he devoted himself during the session. Many thought his toils useless; some of the leading men said the measure was unconstitutional, unwise, and against popular feeling entirely; but they proved false prophets, as it was carried by a very large vote, and became a popular measure.

The Rev. Manasseh Cutler, one of the leading directors of the Ohio company, stood by the side of the chief projector of the school law at the bar of the house of representatives when the final vote was taken upon it, and, as the speaker announced the result, the old man raised his hands and uttered the words of

Simeon: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation!" It was a touching and true tribute.

Mr. Guilford, having brought about the particular good which he had in view, became a private citizen again, setting to the common political aspirants of the country, an example well worthy of their consideration.

Praise for his devotion to so noble a cause, would be here misplaced, but no one can doubt, looking only to the object he effected, that his name will ever be remembered with those of the great benefactors of Ohio and the west.\*

The act of that year imposed a general tax upon property, of half a mill upon the dollar, for the support of schools, and provided for their establishment in every township. It afterwards underwent several alterations, and in 1831, was superseded by another and better law upon the same subject. To this latter were made several amendments; when in 1838 another general revision took place. Since that time, several additions and alterations have been made, but the general features of the law of 1838 still remain in force.

That the common schools of this county are not equal to those in the eastern states, or even to the older counties in this state, is not surprising. Our county is new, and its inhabitants have not had the time, with an age of twenty-four years only, to mature its institutions. But we are looking forward to the time when the sun of science shall rise higher above the horizon—when the public schools of our county will be the pride of every citizen.

Aside from the obstacles arising from the defective school system of the state, there are those which retard the onward progress of popular education, and which might be removed

\* North American Review.

in every county, were the subject well understood, and the blessings of education rightly appreciated. We will mention a few only.

1. *Neglect of parents and guardians to visit the school-room.* There is no class of men who need greater support and encouragement than teachers, and yet none receive less. It is not strange that they should contract errors, for none proffer sympathy or counsel; nor is it strange that they become disheartened, and sluggishly and faithlessly discharge their duties, for no kind voice beckons them on to diligence and duty. No agent in any other employment would be so neglected by his principal; and yet what vocation ought to command such strict and affectionate supervision as that of the teacher? The injurious consequences, however, of this inattention to schools, attach with the greatest power to the pupils. A child cannot be supposed to have any adequate or enlarged views of duty, industry or learning, when parents exhibit an almost total indifference to their condition or progress. Did a parent exhibit as much indifference to his flocks and herds, as he frequently manifests in regard to the education of his children, he would be regarded as improvident and injudicious.

Dews, sunshine, and rain, are not more needed for the growth of plants in the vegetable kingdom, than are the genial influences of sympathy and co-operation in giving prosperity and beauty to the more interesting plants to be found in the nurseries of our country's hope and glory.\*

2. *Employing incompetent teachers.* The importance and responsibility of the office of teacher—says Emerson—are sadly undervalued. A very common impression is, that any person of tolerable character, who has been through a school, and acquired the elements of the branches taught, is qualified

\*The secretary of state's report, 1848.

to teach; as if the art of teaching were nothing more than pouring into the mind of another what has been poured into ours; as if there were no such thing as mind to act upon, habits to form, or character to influence. The prevailing opinions in regard to the art are such as the common sense of mankind and the experience of centuries has shown to be absurd as to every other art and pursuit of civilized life. To be qualified to discourse upon our moral and religious duties, a man must be educated by years of study; to be able to administer to the body in disease, he must be educated by careful examination of the body in health and disease, and of the effects produced on it by external agents; to be able to make out a conveyance of property, or to draw a writ, he must be educated; to navigate ships, he must be educated by years of service before the mast, or on the quarter-deck; to transfer the products of the earth, or of art, from the producer to the consumer, he must be educated; to make a hat or coat, he must be educated by years of apprenticeship; to make a plow he must be educated; to make a nail or a shoe for a horse or an ox he must be educated; *but to prepare a man to do all these things;* to train the body in its most tender years, according to the laws of health, so that it shall be strong, to resist disease; to fill the mind with useful knowledge, to educate it to comprehend all the relations of society, to bring out all its powers into full and harmonious action; to educate the moral nature, in which the very sentiment of duty resides, that it may be fitted for an honorable and worthy fulfillment of the public and private offices of life; to do all this is supposed to require no study, no apprenticeship, no preparation.

So long then as the business of an instructor is not considered in its true light, as one of the highest, noblest, and most useful employments on earth—so long as the compensation is very



low—will the people of this county labor under the disadvantages of a depressed state of popular education.

3. *The use of old and dilapidated school-houses.* We do not look for deep religious feeling, in a community who occupy good dwelling-houses, but are content to worship in poor and neglected churches; nor do we expect great reverence for Christianity, from children, if the sanctuary to which they are carried on Sunday, is old and dilapidated—disfigured by abuse—without paint—its windows broken—and not a shrub, or tree, or square yard of verdure in its neighborhood.

The school-house is dedicated to education, as the house of worship is to religion. In one case, as in the other, the state of the edifice indicates the regard which its builders and guardians have for the object to which they have devoted it. Nor this only. The condition and aspect of the building, with its appendages and surrounding landscape, are inseparably associated in a child's mind, with his first day at school, and his first thoughts about education. Is it well, then, that these earliest, most lasting, and most controlling associations, should be charged with so much that is offensive? Is it to be expected, that the youthful mind can regard that as the cause, next to religion, most important of all others, which is upheld and promoted in such buildings as the district school-house usually is? Among the most comfortless and wretched tenements, which the pupil ever enters, he thinks of it with repugnance; the task which it imposes, he dreads; and he at length takes his leave of it—as of a prison, from which he is but too happy to escape.

When parents are no longer indifferent about the welfare of their schools—when they desire no longer to hire those teachers whose only recommendation is, that they will teach “*cheap*”—when they do not fail to examine their children at home with regard to their progress at schools—when they are no longer

remiss in visiting the school-room—then may we expect that *Seneca county* will shine bright as a star of the first magnitude in the great constellation of Ohio! and then will her *common schools* be THE PROUDEST MONUMENTS OF HER GREATNESS.

## CHAPTER XI.

Adams township—Suphur springs—Green Spring—Festival of the Seneca Indians.

On the 6th day of December, 1826, the township of *Adams* was organized, and made to include all the land in the original surveyed township, No. 3, in the 16th range, except what was then owned by the Seneca tribe of Indians, and one tier of sections on the west side of township No. 3, in the 17th Range, or what is at present Thompson township. Adams includes at this time, the whole of the original surveyed township No. 3, in range 16. That part not then owned by the Indians, was surveyed into sections, and quarter sections, by Sylvanus Bourne, in 1820; the residue was surveyed in 1832, by C. W. Christmas.

The *first* township election was held on Monday the 25th day of December, 1826, at the house of Samuel Whiteman.\* The soil in this township is remarkably rich, producing all kinds of grain and grass in abundance. The land is heavily timbered, consisting chiefly of oak, walnut, poplar, maple, beech, &c. The surface is usually rolling, and very well watered.

\* The ticket elected was as follows: Martin Olds, L. T. Butler, and Thomas Longwith, trustees; Abraham Kine, clerk; Charles Shelby and Samuel Whiteman, overseers of the poor; G. Lee and Samuel Heartsock, fence-viewers; Cyrenus Wright, treasurer; William Myers, William Mead and Francis Evens, supervisors; Moses Pyatt, constable.

In 1830, Adams contained 285 inhabitants. In 1836 the population was estimated at 600. In 1840 it had augmented to 1250. Since that time it has steadily and rapidly increased in population and in wealth, numbering among many others of its enterprising *farmers*—Asa Crockett, L. C. Stone, Daniel Rule, Ezra West, James Crockett, E. Smith, Solomon Drown, John Petticord, Enos Mead, John Craig, William Myers, Sen., Samuel Whiteman, (1st,) Reuben Drinkwater, G. Lee, John Kessler, and John Pain.

The greatest natural curiosity in Adams township, is the *Sulphur Springs*. These are nearly in the middle of section seven, at present owned by Josiah Hedges, proprietor of Tiffin.

The water which issues from the earth in several places, is clear and cold, and strongly impregnated with sulphur. It is not unpleasant to the taste, and possesses the remarkable properties of petrifying substances. Old logs have been taken from the bed of the stream which is formed by these springs, partially turned to stone, and various other substances have been found completely petrified. There is quite a large and steady current proceeding from these springs, which, after a southerly course of about thirty rods, mingles with the waters of *Beaver creek*.

The generally received opinion with regard to these springs is, that they are formed by the water which sinks into the earth near the north-east corner of the county—in the bed of Honey creek—and in Reed township, and which after a subterranean passage, here breaks forth upon the surface. This of course is mere conjecture.

Beaver creek, a small stream of this township, passes near these springs, and after receiving the waters of the latter, crosses into Pleasant township, on section twelve. Taking a northerly direction, it leaves the county near the north-east corner of the township. This creek was formerly inhabited by

beavers, as vestiges of their works still remain. From this circumstance, originated the name of Beaver creek.

There are three saw-mills on this stream, above the sulphur springs; and water runs sufficient to drive them over four months of the year.

In 1838, a large flouring-mill was erected on Beaver creek, by Josiah Hedges.\* It is just below the spring, in Pleasant township; and unlike other mills of the county, is not in the least affected by dry weather. During some of the summer months, its patrons are generally from all parts of the county, and occasionally from Wood, Hancock, Wyandot, Crawford, and sometimes from Putnam county, eighty miles distant.

In Sandusky county, eighty rods north from the northern boundary line of this county, there are sulphur springs similar to those in Adams. From the color of the water they have received the name of "Green Springs." The water from these springs unites with Beaver creek, after which, the latter takes the name of "Green creek;" and empties into the Sandusky river, in Sandusky county.

On the 26th day of May, 1839, David Reeves, of Sandusky county, and David Risdon, of Seneca county, surveyed a town on section No. 5, in Adams township, and sections Nos. 31 and 32, in the original surveyed township No. 4, in the 16th range, in Sandusky county, which was named by the proprietor, Jacob Stem, "Green Spring," from the springs before mentioned.

The first settlers of this town were Jacob Stem, Bishop Adams, and Daniel H. Dana. This is a healthy and pleasant town, and contained in 1840, a population of 29. Since that time it has increased to 100. There are 20 dwellings in the place. One store, one foundry, one carriage-shop, one sad-

\* This mill is now owned by Josiah Q. Hedges, a son of Josiah Hedges.

dlers-shop, one tailor's-shop, one cabinet-shop, three shoe-shops, and one blacksmith's-shop.

Green Spring is a post-town—the *first* post-master was Daniel H. Dana—that office is now held by Robert Smith. There are two practicing physicians, residents of this town—S. T. Finch and Thomas Cochran.

On the 30th day of April, 1846, Thomas Heming surveyed on section 36, in Adams township, a town, to which the proprietor, Daniel Kistler, gave the name of Adamsville. It has never been improved to any extent. In 1833, a town was surveyed on section 7, in this township, by David Risdon, to which the proprietor, Josiah Hedges, gave the name of "Sulphur Spring," from the springs before described, which are near the plat. This town contains but a few houses.

More than half of the present township of Adams, and so much of Pleasant township as lies east of the Sandusky river, together with a portion of Clinton and Scipio townships, formerly belonged to the Seneca Indians. But as we have given a geographical description of most of what was formerly their grant of land, we proceed to a more minute account of that nation, and we cannot better introduce this subject, than by giving the following, from the scrap-book of *Samuel Crowell*, of Lower Sandusky, which was published in the "Sidney Aurora," of 1844, as it relates some interesting facts relative to this nation; but more particularly, as it describes their famous chief, "HARD-HICKORY."

Says the writer :

The SENECAS who roamed those wilds,  
In ages long by-gone,  
Are now rejoicing in the chase,  
Towards the setting sun.

Their sacrifices offer'd up,  
And Deity appeas'd—

Their "Father-land" they left in peace,  
With their exchange well pleased.

On the first day of February, some fourteen years since, I witnessed an interesting, and to me, a novel religious ceremony of the Seneca tribe of Indians, then occupying that portion of territory now comprising a part of the counties of Seneca and Sandusky, Ohio, familiarly known to the inhabitants of this region, as the "Seneca Reservation."

The fact that this nation had recently ceded this Reserve to the United States, and were about to commemorate, *for the last time in this country*, this annual festival, previous to their emigration to the Rocky Mountains, contributed not a little to add to it an unusual degree of interest.

To those acquainted with the characteristic trait of the red men, it is unnecessary to remark, that there is a *reservedness* attached to them, peculiarly their own; but, especially, when about to celebrate this annual festival, they seem, so far at least as the pale-faces are concerned, to shroud their designs in impenetrable secrecy.

And the festival of which I now speak, might have been, as many others of similar character were, observed by themselves with due solemnity, and without the knowledge or interference of their white neighbors, but that the general poverty and reckless improvidence of the Senecas were proverbial: And those were the causes which awakened the suspicions of the inquisitive Yankees.

In order, therefore, that the approaching festival, as it was intended to be the *last* of those observances here, should not lack in any thing necessary to make it imposing, and impress a permanent recollection of Sandusky on the minds of *their* rising race, no effort was spared, and no fatigue regarded, that would tend to promote this object. Thus for some time previous to the period of which I am now speaking, by the unerring aim of the

Seneca rifle, the antlers, with the body of many a tall and stately buck, fell prostrate; and in crowds the Indians now came into Lower Sandusky, with their venison and their skins; and the squaws, with their painted baskets and moccasins, not as heretofore, to barter for *necessaries*, but chiefly for *ornaments*.

\* \* \* \* \*

The principal head men, or chiefs of the Senecas, were "*Good-hunter*," "*Hard-hickory*," and "*Tall Chief*"; there were also some sub or *half-chiefs*; among those of the latter rank, *Benjamin F. Warner*,\* a white, or half-breed, had considerable influence.

In this, as in other nations, civilized as well as savage, though there may be several men of apparent equal rank, yet there is usually *one*, who either by artificial, or universally acknowledged talent, directs in a great measure, the destinies of the nation, and such, among the Senecas, was "*HARD-HICKORY*."

To a mind of no ordinary grade, he added, from his intercourse with the whites, a *polish of manner*, seldom seen in an Indian. The French language, he spoke fluently, and the English, intelligibly. Scrupulously adhering to the costume of his people, and retaining many of their habits, this chief was much endeared to them: while on the other hand, his urbanity, and for an Indian, he possessed, as already observed, a large share of the *suaviter in modo*; his intelligence, his ardent attachment to the whites—and above all, his strict integrity in business transactions, obtained for him, and deservedly, the respect and confidence of all with whom he traded. Such was

\* Warner was a white man, and had previously been a fireman on one of the steam-boats that plied between Buffalo and Green Bay. On one of the downward trips, he persuaded an Indian woman that was traveling to New York, to elope with him. They came to the Seneca nation, and were adopted by them.



the trust the merchants of Lower Sandusky reposed in this chief, that when an indigent Indian came to ask for goods on credit, if Hard-hickory would say he would see the sum paid, no more was required. Thus his word passed current with, and current for, the whole nation.

And as in the mind of man there is something intuitive, better known, than defined, by which instinctively, as it were, we find in the bosom of another, a response to our own feelings; so in the present case, this noble Indian soon discovered in the late OBED DICKINSON,\* a merchant of Lower Sandusky, a generous, confiding, and elevated mind, whose honorable vibrations beat in unison with his own.

To Mr. D. therefore, he made known the time *when* they would celebrate their festival, by sacrificing their dogs, &c., and cordially invited him to attend as a *guest*, and if so disposed, to bring a friend with him.

Correctly supposing that I never had an opportunity of witnessing this religious rite, Mr. D. kindly requested me to accompany him to their council house, on Green creek, in that part of this county included in the present township of Green creek. On giving me the invitation, Mr. D. remarked, that by taking a present in our hand, we would probably, be made the more welcome. In accordance, therefore, with this suggestion, we took with us a quantity of loaf sugar and tobacco.

It was some time in the afternoon when we arrived, and immediately thereafter, we were ushered into the council house with demonstrations of public joy and marked respect.

As soon as seated, we gave our presents to Hard-hickory, who rising, held one of them up, and pointing to Mr. D., addressed the Indians in an audible voice, in their own tongue; then holding up the other, he pointed to me, repeating to them

\* Brother of Hon. R. Dickinson.

what he had before said—this done, he turned to us and said :

“ You stay here as long as you want ; nobody hurt you.” Confiding in the assurances of this chief, I hung up my valise, in which were some important papers, for I was then on my way further east, attending to my official duties as sheriff of this county, and felt perfectly at home.

To the inhabitants of this section of Ohio, a minute description of the council house, would be deemed unnecessary. Suffice it to say, that its dimensions were perhaps, sixty by twenty-five feet ; a place in the center for the fire, and corresponding therewith, an aperture was left on the roof for the smoke to ascend.

Contiguous to the fire-place were two upright posts, four or five feet apart ; between these posts, a board fourteen or fifteen inches broad, was firmly fastened ; and over this board the skin of a deer was stretched very tight. On a seat near this board, sat a blind Indian, with a gourd in his hand, in which were beans or corn—with this he beat time for the dancers. Such was the musician, and such the music.

The dancing had commenced previous to our arrival and was continued with little intermission for several successive days and nights. An effort by me to describe their *manner* of dancing, would be fruitless. I have witnessed dancing assemblies in populous cities of the east, among the refined classes of society—but having seen nothing like this, I must therefore, pronounce it *sui generis*. I was strongly solicited by some of the chiefs to unite with them in the dance ; I, however, declined the intended honor—but gave to one of them my cane, as a *proxy*, with which he seemed much delighted. Several of their white neighbors, both male and female, entered the ring.

There was on this occasion a splendid display of ornament. Those who have seen the members of a certain society, in their most prosperous days, march in procession, in honor of their

patron saint, decorated with the badges and insignia of their Order, may have some conception of the dress and ornamental decoration of those head men while engaged in the dance.

I will select "*Unum e Pluribus.*" Their doctor, as he was called, wore very long hair, and from the nape of his neck, to the termination of his cue, there was a continuous line of *pieces of silver*—the upper one being larger than a dollar, and the lower one less than a half dime.

Some of the more inferior Indians were stuck over with baubles, and hung round with strings. Many of them wore small bells tied round their ancles; and those who could not afford bells had deer hoofs in place thereof: these made a jingling sound as they put down their feet in the dance.

The *squaws* also exhibited themselves to the best advantage. Several of them were splendidly attired and decorated. Their dresses were chiefly of *silk*, of various colors, and some of them were of good old fashioned *queen's gray*. These dresses were not "cut," as our fair belles would say, *a la mode*—but they were cut and made after *their own fashion*; that is, not so long as to conceal the *scarlet hose* covering their ancles, their small feet, or their moccasins, which were so ingeniously *beaded*, and manufactured by their own olive hands.

Nor must I omit saying, that the sobriety and correct demeanor of the Indians, and the modest deportment of the *squaws* merited the highest commendation.

At the commencement of each dance, or to borrow our own phraseology, each "set dance," a chief first rose, and began to sing the word "YAH-HO-WAH!" with a slow, sonorous and strong *syllabic* emphasis, keeping time with his feet, and advancing round the house; directly another rose, and then in regular succession, one after the other, rising and singing the same word and falling in the rear, until all the Indians had joined in the dance; next, the *squaws*, at a respectful distance in the

rear, in the same manner, by seniority, rose and united in the dance and the song. Now the step was quicker, and the pronunciation more rapid—all singing and all dancing, while *Jim*, the blind musician, struck harder and faster with his gourd on the undressed deer skin; thus they continued the same dance for more than one hour, without cessation!

The Indian boys who did not join in the dance, amused themselves the meanwhile, discharging heavy loaded muskets through the aperture in the roof, the reverberations of which were almost deafening. Taken altogether, to the eye and the ear of a stranger, it seemed like *frantic* festivity.

Tall Chief, who was confined to his bed by indisposition, felt it so much his duty to join in the dance with his people, that he actually left his bed, notwithstanding it was mid-winter, came to the council house, and took part in the dance as long as he was able to stand.

About the "noon of night," Hard-hickory invited Mr. D. and myself to accept of a bed at his residence; to this proposition we readily assented. Here we were hospitably provided for, and entertained in a style which I little anticipated. Even among many of our white inhabitants, at this early day, a *curtained* bed was a species of luxury not often enjoyed—such was the bed we occupied.

Shortly after our arrival at the house of this chief, Mr. D. retired; not so with our friendly host and myself—while sitting near a clean brick hearth, before a cheerful fire, Hard-hickory unbosomed himself to me unreservedly. Mr. D. was asleep, and the chief and I were the only persons then in the house.

Hard-hickory, among other things, told me it was owing chiefly to him that this feast was now celebrated; that it was in part to appease the anger of the *Good Spirit*, in consequence

of a *dream* he lately had, and as an explanation he gave me the following narration :

“He dreamed he was fleeing from an enemy—it was, he supposed, something *supernatural*, perhaps an *evil spirit* ; that after it had pursued him a long time, and for a great distance, and every effort to escape from it seemed impossible, as it was now just at his heels, and he almost exhausted ; at this perilous time he saw a large water, to which he made with all his remaining strength, and at the very instant when he expected each bound to be his last, he beheld, to his joy, a *canoe*, near the shore ; this appeared as his last hope ; breathless, and faint, he threw himself into it, and that moment, of *its own accord*, quick as an arrow from the bow, it shot from the shore leaving his pursuer on the beach.”

While relating this circumstance to me, which he did with earnestness, trepidation, and alarm, strongly expressed in his countenance, he took from his bosom something neatly and very carefully enclosed in several distinct folds of buck-skin. This he began to unrol, laying each piece by itself, and on opening the last, there was enclosed therein, a canoe in miniature.

On handing it to me to look at, he remarked that no other person save himself and me, had ever seen it, and that, as a memento, he would wear it in his bosom as “long as he lived.”

It was a piece of light wood, resembling cork, about six inches long, and, as intended, so it was, a perfect model of a canoe. \* \* \* \* \*

The night now being far advanced, he pointed to the bed, and told me to sleep there ; but that he must go to the council house to the dance, for his people would not like it, if he would stay away, and wishing me good night, he withdrew.

The proceedings of the next day, have already been related. ||  
[See conclusion of Chapter II.]

## CHAPTER XII.

Death of Hard-hickory—Benjamin F. Warner—Peter Pork—Charlieu—  
Jacob Nicely.

An annuity of sixteen hundred dollars was due, from the state of New York, for a limited number of years, to certain families of Cayugas, of which Hard-hickory's, was one, and previous to their removal, was regularly paid to them at their old home, upon the Sandusky river.\* By an arrangement with the government in their treaty at Washington, that annuity was to be forwarded to them, at their new home, on the Nesho, through the hands of the government agents.

In the year 1834, a draft, for the sum due them from the state of New York, was forwarded and received by them; and in order to make a distribution of the money amongst those entitled to receive it, it was necessary to have the draft cashed, for which purpose Hard-hickory, with George Herrin, for interpreter, were delegated to go to Fort Gibson. They went—sold their draft, and received the money.

Hard-hickory then proposed to Herrin; a trip to Washington city to see after the business of the tribe, relative to the sale of their lands in Ohio. Said he, "let us go while we have this money; it will make no difference to our people, as our great-father, the president, will pay us back all the money

\* For this statement relative to the death of Hard-hickory, I am indebted to Henry C. Brish. He received it personally, from Small-cloud-Spicer, a chief of the Senecas, in the year 1836.

we spend in going there, and returning home, as he did when we went to make our treaty." So off they started for Washington. For more than a month they revelled in all the luxuries and dissipation of that city, until they were tired of them, when they determined to return to their homes. They then requested the commissioner of Indian affairs to reimburse the amount they had expended, and furnish means for their return, which could not be complied with.

On arriving at home, their money was nearly gone. Hickory was then called before his people to give an account of himself. He stated that there was something wrong about the draft, and he had to go to Washington to arrange it—that the president said it should all be made right, and they would get the money soon, all in silver.

Doubting this statement, they sent a messenger to Fort Gibson, to ascertain the truth. He reported, on his return, that Hickory had drawn the money for the draft, and consequently, the chief's statement to the contrary, was false. A solemn council was called, before which he was summoned to appear, and this he did accordingly. To the charge of falsehood he plead guilty, and attempted not to palliate the offense or to justify it, but threw himself upon the mercy of his people, offering at the same time, to surrender all his horses and other property, as an indemnity for the money spent, which would have been sufficient, or nearly so, to have satisfied the amount. For several days the council went on, and some were for saving his life; but a large majority were against him. He had betrayed his trust, and dishonored his high station as a chief. At length the verdict came that *Hard-hickory was sentenced to die.*

If Hickory had stood forth before his people, and asserted at once the truth of the matter, he would have preserved his honor; and from my knowledge of the tribe to which he be-

longed, says Mr. Brish, I have no doubt, but that he would have saved his life.

In hopes that they would come to terms, and spare him; and believing that no one would attempt to kill him in the presence of his wife, who was much respected by the tribe, he confined himself to his house, heavily armed. For several days and nights, his house was surrounded. At length the notorious *Shane*, (who was one of the murderers of Seneca John,) volunteered to kill him in his house. Shane, having just returned from the Cherokee country, went that night to the house of Hickory, who was his uncle, and rapped at the door. Hickory recognized his voice, and supposed he would have one friend who would try to save him.

On being assured that no one accompanied him, Hickory directed his wife to unbar the door, and let him in, which she did. Shane wore a blanket, and approached Hickory in the middle of the room, holding out his *left* hand, whilst his right was under his blanket, holding the handle of a long knife. Hickory held out his *right* hand to Shane, and as soon as their hands were grasped, Shane drew his knife, and stabbed Hickory through the body, and then dragged him out of doors, where several Indians stabbed and tomahawked him! Thus perished the renowned chief, Hard-hickory, with the seal of falsehood stamped upon his hitherto unblemished name.

In the previous chapter, mention was made of *Benjamin F. Warner*. Judging from the dress of that individual—says Mr. Brish—which was entirely Indian, and the fact that he was almost constantly with Hard-hickory, and other chiefs, of whom he was a great favorite, my friend, Samuel Crowell, might readily have supposed, that he was *part* Indian, as well as a *sub-chief*—such, however, was not the case. He neither spoke their language at that time, nor had a drop of Indian blood in him—he was a Yankee.



*Ben.* was a good fellow, as will be shown by a circumstance, which I will hereafter relate. He came among the Senecas but a short time previous to their removal to their new homes, having, for a wife, a *Mohican* woman, from Green Bay, whose name was *Betsey Kon-ke-pot*, and was adopted with his wife and child into the Seneca tribe, and in common with them, drew a proportion of the annuity money due from the government. He became a sort of *Major Domo* of the tribe, making their bargains, and adjusting their settlements of business transactions with their white neighbors. If a horse was missing, *Ben.* could track him with unerring precision, till he found him. He could stock a gun or a plow, build a house, tan a skin, in short was always ready for sport, or work, and withal, remarkable for sobriety.

He emigrated with the Senecas. His wife died on the journey soon after crossing the Mississippi river, and *Ben.*, with his child, went on with the tribe to their new homes upon the Neosho.

On reaching the west part of the state of Missouri—continues Mr. Brish—we came to a solitary cabin, far beyond any other habitation, which we found occupied by a woman and three or four children, all of whom had been sick of the fever, of which the husband of the woman, and father of the children had but recently died, and was buried by his own family near the door. They were in an utter state of destitution, almost without clothing, and totally without provisions.

We supplied them abundantly with such things as they needed. At that time, Warner was acting as one of my teamsters, and had with him a cow, which he bought of a frontier settler, and was driving her to the Indian country for his own use. After we had left the cabin some distance, I heard the woman call out—“*you have left a cow behind.*” On looking back, I saw Warner’s cow in a small picket enclosure, near the house,

and immediately drew his attention to the fact. His reply was, "I put her there—guess the woman 'll want her worse than I shall!" So the cow was left, and *Benjamin Franklin Warner* proved, that under a rough exterior, he carried a noble and generous heart.

There were many Indians among the Senecas, who were highly esteemed, for their uprightness and honesty, by their white neighbors—many that were respected for their kindness, hospitality and civility—yet there was *one*, who was, in every respect, a savage—a perfect monster; delighting in the shedding of blood, whether of friends, or foes. This was *Peter Pork*, the Indian who caused the death of *Benajah Parker*.

*Pork* was a Cayuga, and the terror of his nation. *Strong-arm-Tequania*, an Indian of his tribe, was killed by him. It occurred just before the fatal affray with *Parker*. Both had been at Lower Sandusky, and as they were returning home, somewhat intoxicated, they concluded to try the speed of their horses. A race ensued, which ended in a regular fight—or duel—between them. The weapons chosen were *axes!* *Tequania* was mangled in a terrible manner. His wounds, which were deep and fatal, were dressed by *Dr. Ely Dresbach*, of *Tiffin*. After nine days' suffering he expired.

An Indian woman, usually known as "Thomas Brandt's old wife," was also killed by this Indian. She was then at a very advanced age, and lived in a log hut, at some distance from any of her tribe, entirely alone. She was met one day by *Peter Pork*, (who had accused her of witch-craft,) who tomahawked her without farther ceremony. He then covered her remains with brush, near the spot where she had fallen. A search was instituted, and her body found some distance from the place where it had been left, horribly mangled by the wolves! We are informed, that since the Senecas removed to the west, he has killed another Indian, named *Joseph Silas*, who

was greatly beloved by the whites while living upon the Sandusky. As many as eight Indians, in all, are known to have been slain by this savage.

There was an old Indian living upon the Vanmeter tract, a Mohawk, whose name was Charlieu, who was famous for his animosity to the Americans. At the age of about twenty-five, he fought with the rest of the Canadian Indians, under Montcalm, upon the heights of Abraham, where the brave and generous Wolfe was killed. At that time he was married, and had one child. He fought during the last war, on the side of the British, and had a large number of scalps in his possession when in this county, which he had taken during the war. He joined the Seneca Indians, with the rest of his tribe, in 1829, and with them, started for the west. At St. Louis, he was taken sick, and died on the 26th of April, 1832. As he wore several crosses suspended from his long hair, he was claimed by the Roman Catholics, and received a Christian burial in the Catholic church-yard of that city. He was supposed to be over one hundred years of age when he died. He spoke French fluently and was well known to the first settlers of this county.

It has already been stated, that the frontiers of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, during the Revolutionary war, were continually harassed by the murderous incursions of the savages from the region of the Sandusky, and from Canada.

Besides those captive whites, whose homes were formerly within the limits of this county, and who had a quantity of land granted to each, at the treaty of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, in 1817, there was one to whom no land was granted, whose history is somewhat remarkable. He was a son of a Mr. Nicely, then a resident of the state of Pennsylvania, on the banks of the Loyal Hannah river, and was captured by the Wyandot Indians.

It was a pleasant day in the summer, and two daughters of Mr. Nicely proceeded to a hay-field, not far away, for the purpose of gathering berries. Taking with them their youngest brother, who was then about three years of age, they placed him upon a pile of hay, and went some distance to seek for berries. While thus employed the child was discovered and carried off by a band of Wyandots, who were lurking about the settlements in that vicinity.

But the little fellow cried so loud, and, as the Indians said, "made a noise so much like a crow," that they gave him the name of that bird.\* By this title, he was ever after known among the Indians. He was adopted by the Wyandots, and educated in all the arts of savage warfare.

Many years subsequent, his father learning that there were captives residing upon the banks of the Sandusky river, determined to visit this country, in hopes of finding his long lost son. He came to Upper Sandusky, and after visiting all the whites among the Wyandot Indians, without receiving any intelligence of him, and with hopes well nigh exhausted, he proceeded down the river to the home of the Senecas.

After first calling upon Spicer, he went to the residence of "the Crow." The instant the old man fixed his eyes upon him, he exclaimed — "*You are my son!* Is your name Jacob?" The Crow replied in the affirmative; as he had never forgotten his name. The anxious father then examined one of the *arms* of his son, and found a scar, produced by a burn, when a child. This was a sufficient identity; and we can imagine the heart-felt joy of the old man as he gazed long upon his swarthy features.

He then tried to persuade his son to leave the Indians and return with him to his home. But no: there was too much

\* In Indian he was called Che-kaw-wa.

pleasure in roaming the deep wild-woods—too much glory and delight in the excitement of the chase! The unfettered, unrestrained indulgences of an Indian's life, were far more congenial to his feelings, than the habits, manners and forced restraints of civilized society. No persuasion—no argument, was for a moment listened to, as all that was dear to *him* was *here*; and to leave them all forever, he could—he would not. His father was wealthy and offered him land. But what cared he for riches or lands? Freedom in the “far west” was all he desired; and the hunting-grounds of his youth were much more to be preferred, than the fenced and cultivated fields of his native state.

But after much importunity, he consented to return and make his mother a *short* visit. Accordingly, both started on their journey; but the first night, at the house where they had put up, and when all were asleep around him, the recollection of by-gone days, and years spent in tranquil security upon the banks of the Sandusky, made the Crow already anxious to return. While these things were revolving in his mind, the idea occurred to him, that, when he had once reached the place of his nativity, his relations would strive to *compel* him to remain. He immediately resolved to return; and before day-break, he arose and retraced his steps to his family and his home. His father proceeded on, dispirited and discouraged; and soon after died of a *broken heart*! Such is the force of education; and such the power of paternal affection.

The Crow's place of residence was in Pleasant township—this county—upon the farm at present owned by the heirs of the late Israel P. Haines. He emigrated with the Senecas to the west, and died of the cholera, in 1833, on the banks of the Neosho river. A truly honest man, he was highly res-

pected by all who knew him; although a perfect Indian in habits and manners. He spoke Indian and French fluently, and the English intelligibly, and was often employed as interpreter by the Americans.

### CHAPTER XIII.

Murder of Drake—Seneca township—Berwick—Hopewell township—  
Bascom—Loudon township—Rome—Risdon—Liberty township—  
Bettsville—Jackson township.

It has been stated that at the time of establishing the first post-office at Oakley, there was but one mail-route through the county, leading from Lower Sandusky to Columbus. Many years ago, the mail was carried along this route, by a young man, (a son of Judge Drake, of Marion,) who was killed, as was supposed at that time, by an Indian. He was found, torn by the wolves; and there were marks of a knife also discovered upon his body.

In 1830, Judge Drake came to this county to find out, if possible, who the murderer of his son was; or to what tribe he belonged. He called upon Mr. Brish, then agent of the Senecas; and, in company with the latter, proceeded to the residence of Jacob Nicely or "the Crow." The interpreter employed, was Martin Lane. Upon being interrogated, the Crow stated that the son of Judge Drake was killed by an Indian whose name was "*Big Kettles*," and that, as soon as he committed the murder, he fled to Canada. The judge returned home, fully satisfied that his son was murdered by a Canadian Indian. But such was not the fact. Mr. Brish, some time subsequently, asked George Herrin what Indian was called "Big Kettles." The reply was, that it was *Spicer*, the white man who lived upon the banks of the Sandusky.

It appears that the young man had passed over to the east side of the river ; and, when near Spicer's residence, was met by him and accompanied to the place where he was to cross back to the west side of the river. Spicer mounted the horse behind him ; and as soon as they had reached the opposite bank, he drew his knife, and reaching around the young man, with one effort cut him nearly in twain !

He then dragged him behind an old log near a spring, which is just below the dam of John Keller, on the Sandusky river. As soon as this was done, he proceeded to Crow's house, who, observing that he was covered with blood, inquired if he had killed a deer. Spicer replied, that he had killed a white man, whereupon Crow ordered him to be gone, as, in all probability, he would be pursued ; and if traced to his (Crow's) residence, they might suspect him as being accessory to the murder. Spicer fled to Canada, but after a while returned. These particulars, until related to Mr. Brish, were kept a profound secret.

Soon after the Senecas concentrated upon the Sandusky, they erected their first council house upon the river bank on the farm at present owned and occupied by General Treat, in what is now Sandusky county. This tribe had several burying-grounds, the principal of which was at the old council house, and contained, about 20 acres of land within the enclosure. The majority of the Seneca Indians lived in log cabins, while the chiefs, generally resided in good comfortable houses. They usually hunted over all this section of country—on the Maumee, and sometimes around the marshes near New Haven.

But now these sons of the forest are gone ; and truly can the early settlers of this county exclaim that, we are now surrounded by a new race of inhabitants. The almost unprecedented influx of population which has poured in upon us from the east, and the south, has gathered around us a new genera-



tion, so that we of the "olden time," seem now to live in the midst of strangers! The *red men* of the forest have disappeared—the pioneer, shunning the society of the refined and intelligent, has gone to the *ultima thule* or the "far west," and the squatter has followed his footsteps!

On the 8th day of May, 1820, the commissioners of Sandusky county set off a township, in this county, which included all of the land west of a line drawn south to the base-line from the south-east corner of the Seneca reservation, and to which they gave the name of *Seneca*.

Portions have been taken from this township at various times, to form new ones, so that at present it comprehends the original surveyed township No. 1, in the 14th range, only. The land included within its present limits was surveyed into sections and quarter sections by J. T. Worthington in 1820.

The *first* election for township officers was held on Monday, the 1st day of June, 1820. At the next annual election the following officers were chosen: W. Barney, John Lay, and David Risdon, trustees; John Eaton, clerk; Benjamin Barney, treasurer; Joseph Keller and David Rice, overseers of the poor; James Montgomery, Erastus Bowe, and Joel Chaffin, supervisors; P. Wilson, lister; Asa Pike, appraiser; Thomas Nicholson, and Abner Pike, fence-viewers; John Boughton, and Joel Lee, constables. At the state election in the fall of the same year, the whole number of votes polled in Seneca township, which comprehended at that time about three-fourths of the whole county, was *twenty-six*!

In 1830 the population of this township was 369. In 1840, it had augmented to 1,393. It has since steadily and rapidly increased in population and in wealth—numbering among its enterprising farmers, Hon. Henry St. John, Wm. McCormick, Alexander Bowland, John Galbreth, Peter Wickert, Joseph Conaghan, William Kerr, Caleb Brundage, Daniel Hoffman,

John Yambert, David Foght, William Harmon, Jacob Steib, Benjamin Harmon, John Blair, George Heck, Jacob Wolfe, John Waggoner, James Aiken, James Brinkerhoff, John Crocker, Jacob Kroh, and many others.

In addition to the other Indian grants made at the treaty held at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, in 1817, there was likewise granted to Catharine Walker, a Wyandot woman, and to John B. Walker, her son, who was wounded in the service of the United States, a section of 640 acres of land, lying mostly within the present limits of this township, and directly west of, and adjoining the tract in Eden township, granted to John Vanmeter, which is owned by Lloyd Norris.

On the 15th day of April, 1845, Henry F. Kastner, William Brinkerhoff, and John Campbell, caused to be surveyed on section *nineteen*, in this township, a town, to which was given the name of *Berwick*. It was surveyed and platted by Thomas Heming. It contains nine dwellings, two stores, one tavern, one steam saw-mill, one wagon-shop, one shoe-shop, one tailor-shop, and one blacksmith's-shop. Its population is seventy.

Berwick is situated on the Tiffin and Findlay, and on the Bucyrus and Perrysburg state road. It is located also upon the Mad River and Lake Erie Rail-road, nine miles from Tiffin, the county seat of the county.

On the 7th day of December, 1824, the original surveyed township, No. 2, in the 14th range, was constituted a legal township, and received the name of *Hopewell*. The first election for township officers was held on Christmas-day of the same year, at the house of Joseph Pool.\*

This township was surveyed into sections and quarter sections by J. T. Worthington, in the year 1820. Among the

\* There were chosen at this election the following officers: John Rosenberger, John Stoner, and Nathan Cadwallader, trustees; James Gordon, clerk; John Stoner, treasurer.

*first* settlers of this township, were Robert Shippy, John Chaney, and Nathan Shippy. In 1830, its population was 549.— In 1840 it had augmented to 913. Since that time it has rapidly increased in population and wealth; numbering among its enterprising farmers, A. G. Ingraham, Jacob S. Jennings, John Sleeper, David Cover, James Mathews, John A. Rosenberger, George Shaul, John Kimes, Henry Creager, Abraham Miller, Christian Mussetter, Andrew Wolf, William Rickets, William Kimes, John Mowser, John Baughman, A. R. Bachtel, John Anderson, Aaron Ruse, S. Watson, Solomon Ruse, Thomas Elder, John Briner, Philip King, Peter Weaver, Hiram Hart, Peter Young, and others.

The land in this township is remarkably rich, producing all kinds of grain and grass in abundance. The surface is very level, and well watered.

On the 1st day of February, 1837, George W. Gist surveyed on section 17, in this township, a town, to which the proprietor, John Miller, gave the name of *Bascom*.

This town contains twelve dwellings, one store two taverns, one cabinet-shop, one wagon-shop, one tannery, one blacksmith's-shop, and a district school-house. In 1840, its population was 6. Since that time it has increased to 60.

Bascom is situated on the Tiffin and Defiance state road, six miles from the former place.

On the 6th day of August, 1836, James Durbin surveyed a town on section 16, in this township, to which the proprietor, Samuel Waggoner, gave the name of Hopewell. This town has never been improved.

On the 5th day of March, 1832, by order of the board of commissioners, the original surveyed township, No. 2, in range 13, was constituted a legal township, to be known by the name of *Loudon*. It was surveyed into sections and quarter sections, in 1820. The *first* election for township officers was held at

the house of Benjamin Hartley on the 2d day of April, 1832.\*

Loudon is very well watered, and possesses a rich and fertile soil. In 1840 its population was 763. Since that time it has increased steadily and rapidly in population and importance; numbering among its enterprising farmers, Samuel Bear, Jacob Rumble, Benjamin Stevens, Martin Adams, Benjamin Hartley, Abner Wade, Philip Hennessy, Robert Rainy, Jacob Fruth, George Hemming, Peter Ebersole, Henry Sheller, David Youngs, Conrad Rumble, Jacob Kaiser, John Good, Peter T. King, John Rinebolt, Jacob Dillon, Thomas Dillon, Nathan Shippy, and many others.

On the 31st day of August, 1832, Roswell Crocker caused to be surveyed on section 6, in this township, a town, to which was given the name of *Rome*.

It was surveyed and platted by David Risdon. Rome is pleasantly situated, and is surrounded by a beautiful country. It contains fifty dwellings, two churches, three stores, two taverns, two steam saw-mills, two tanneries, two steam grist-mills, one warehouse, two cabinet-shops, three shoe-shops, three tailors'-shops, two saddlers'-shops, and five blacksmiths'-shops. There are three physicians, residents of this town—Alonzo Lockwood, George Patterson, and Simon Bricker.

In 1840 the population was 80. At this time, it is about 300 and is rapidly increasing in population and wealth. Its appearance is pleasant, and there is probably no town in the county, away from the line of the Rail-road, which is more favorably situated for business, than Rome. It is located upon the Lower Sandusky and Fort Findlay state road; upon the

\* There were TEN electors present at this election; the vote for each officer was unanimous. The following was the successful ticket: Abner Wade, justice of the peace; John Tennis, clerk; Benjamin Stevens, Peter T. King, and John Rickets, trustees; Samuel Carbaugh, constable; Benjamin Hartley, supervisor; Abner Wade and Nathan Shippy, overseers of the poor; Benjamin Stevens, treasurer; Nathan Shippy, John Ruse, and John Sheller, fence-viewers.

Defiance and Tiffin state road ; and upon the Bucyrus and Perrysburg state road.

It is 22 miles from Lower Sandusky, the county-seat of Sandusky county ;  $14\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Findlay, county-seat of Hancock county ; 14 from Tiffin, the county-seat of this county ; 66 miles from Defiance, county-seat of Defiance county ; 36 miles from Bucyrus, county-seat of Crawford county ; 31 miles from Perrysburg, county-seat of Wood county ; 25 miles from Upper Sandusky, county-seat of Wyandot county ; 12 miles from Van Buren, Hancock county ;  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Springville, this county ; and 80 rods east of the Hancock county line.

On the 6th day of September, 1832, J. Gorsuch caused to be surveyed on section *one*, in township No. 2, in the 12th range, in Hancock county—and on section *six*, in Loudon township, this county, a town, to which the proprietor gave the name of *Risdon*. It was surveyed and platted by William L. Henderson, of Hancock county, and David Risdon, of this county. It was thus named, in compliment to the latter gentleman, who is at present, a resident of New Fort Ball.

Among the *first* settlers of Risdon, were Henry Welch, Jeremiah Mickey and John P. Gordon. It contains 30 dwellings, one church, one tavern, three stores, one carding-machine propelled by steam, one steam saw-mill, one foundry, one tannery, one cabinet-shop, one wagon-shop, two shoe-shops, two saddlers'-shops and three blacksmiths'-shops. In 1840, its population was 39. It is now 200. There are two physicians, residents of the place—Marcus Dana, and R. C. Caples. Risdon is a post-town—the present post-master, is William Thomas. The town is pleasantly situated on the bank of the east branch of the Portage river ; and is steadily increasing in population and wealth.

On the 5th day of June, 1832, the commissioners of the

county constituted the original surveyed township, No. 3, in range 14, a legal one, to be known by the name of *Liberty*.\*

The land comprehended within the limits of this township, was surveyed into sections and quarter sections, by J. T. Worthington, in 1820. In 1840 its population was 1,084. Since that time it has steadily and rapidly increased in population and wealth—numbering among its enterprising farmers, Jonathan Abbott, George Puffenbarger, John Mickels, Jacob Null, Reuben Lott, John Powl, Jacob Fleck, John Shaul, Lewis Fleck, John Baughman, Daniel Lynch, George Feasel, Thomas Huse, Henry Feasel, John Berky, Jacob Sise, Henry Craul, John Sigler, Martin Edwards, Joseph Fry, Barney Zimmerman, John Beck, Robert Powl, Israel Smith, R. Littler, E. Brooks, Levi Creasy, Orrin Betz, Philip Myers, E. Rogers, Isaac Myers, George Dunbar, Jacob Myers, John Betz, Frederick Rosenberger, and many others.

In the north-eastern part of this township, is a tract of land about three miles in length, and three-fourths of a mile in width, *remarkably stony*. In some places, the lime-stone rock literally covers the ground. In others, it is not so thickly covered, and tolerable crops are raised. The lime-stone, by being exposed to the weather, becomes white, giving to the land a singular appearance. This tract is the more remarkable, as the county in general, is so very free from any thing of the kind.

The balance of the township, is quite level, possessing a rich soil, and producing an abundance of grass, and all kinds of grain. The west branch of Wolf creek passes in a north-easterly direction through this township, upon which several

\* At the election for township officers, held April 1st, 1833, the following was the successful ticket:

John Rosenberger, Evan W. Brook, and Jacob Kime, trustees; John Craun, clerk; Eben Conway, and Nicholas Rumbaugh, constables; Adam Fleck, Isaac Heartsoek, James Hudson, Levi Crissy, and Joseph H. Conway, supervisors.

saw-mills have been erected. Water runs sufficient, in this stream, to drive these mills over six months of the year.

*Middleburg*, a town surveyed by David Risdon, on the 8th of September, 1832, is situated on section *nine*, in this township. It is located on the land of Jacob Kessler, and has never been improved.

On the 12th day of April, 1838, John Betz caused to be surveyed on section *three*, in this township, a town, to which he gave the name of Betzville. It was surveyed and platted by David Risdon, surveyor.

Betzville is pleasantly situated on the south side of the west branch of Wolf creek, and contains seven dwellings, two churches, one cabinet-shop, and one shoe-shop. In 1840, its population was 23. Since that time it has increased to 40.

On the 4th day of December, 1832, the original surveyed township, No. 3, in range 13, was constituted a legal township, and named *Jackson*. The land comprised within its limits, was surveyed into sections and quarter sections, by J. Glasgow, in 1820. The *first* election for township officers, was held on the 3d of April, 1833, at the house of Abraham Rinebolt.\*

In 1840, the population of this township was 586. Since that time it has rapidly increased. The land is generally very level, and the soil is rich and fertile. Among its enterprising farmers, are Jonas Hampshire, Michael Stahl, Enoch Trumbo, Abraham Rinebolt, C. Foster, George Stoner, John Lambricht, Jacob Stahl, Frederick Feble, Henry Swoap, John Lynch, Daniel Swoap, James Robertson, Conrad Myers, Gideon Jones, Jacob Kimmel, Henry Huffman, George Stahl,

\* The officers chosen at this election, were as follows: Christian Foster, John Stombaugh and Michael Stahl, trustees; Henry Huffman and Abraham Rinebolt, supervisors; Samuel Rinebolt, Andrew Ferrier and Daniel Swoap, overseers of the poor; Enoch Trumbo, clerk; Daniel Williams, treasurer; Joseph Hampshire and Jacob Holinger, fence-viewers.

John Bear, William Stahl, Isaac Miller, John W. Hollopeter, Mathias Hollopeter, and others.

On the 7th day of December, 1844, Isaiah Hollopeter caused to be surveyed on section *seventeen*, in this township, a town, to which he gave the name of *Rehoboth*. It was surveyed and platted by Thomas Heming.



## CHAPTER XIV.

Big-spring township—Springville—Oregon—Productions of the county—  
Conclusion.

On the 6th day of March, 1833, the original surveyed township No. 1, in the 13th range, was constituted a legal township, and received the name of *Big-spring*. It was thus named from the circumstance of there being a large spring of water within its limits. The *first* election for township officers was held on the 4th day of April, of the same year.\*

Hugh Mulholland, E. Bogart, John Peer, Hiram Bogart, Philip Peer, and Austin Knowlton, were among the first settlers of this township. Big-spring was surveyed into sections and quarter sections, by J. Glasgow, in 1820, except that part of the township which was then owned by the Wyandot Indians, and which was surveyed by C. W. Christmas in 1832. The population of Big-spring, according to the census of 1840, amounted to 925. Since that time it has rapidly increased in population and in wealth, numbering among its enterprising *farmers*—Jacob Boucher, Peter Lantz, John Jenkins, Isaac DeWit, Frederick Waggoner, Ira Taft, William Blue, Israel Harmas, John Hile, W. Burgess, Nathan L. Huling, George Kline, Austin Knowlton, Peter Wenner, M. Clark, John Wag-

\* The officers chosen at this election, were as follows: William Brayton, clerk; E. Bogart, and Richard Reynolds, trustees; Hugh Mulholland, treasurer; Cornelius Bogart, Andrew Springer, and Joshua Watson, fence-viewers; Elijah Brayton and Charles Henderson, overseers of the poor; Austin Knowlton, constable.

goner, Francis Etchey, Michael Waggoner, Lewis Shaney, James W. Laughead, William Clark, Sen., and many others.

The land in Big-spring township is generally level, but the soil is rich, producing all kinds of grain and grass in abundance.

At the treaty held at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, September 28th, 1817, the United States granted to the Wyandot Indians, then residing at Solomon's town, and on Blanchard's fork, sixteen thousand acres of land, which was laid off in a square form, the center being at Big-spring, (now the town of Springville,) on the trailed road from Upper Sandusky to Fort Findlay.

At a supplementary treaty, held September 17th, 1818, with the Indians, a very wise provision was made to protect them from imposition, which had so often been practiced upon them by the avaricious whites. It was stipulated, that all lands granted them by the United States, could not be disposed of except by the consent of the president.

Part of the land in Big-spring township consists of prairie; and in the southern section is a ridge, which is quite stony. The land is heavy timbered and well watered.

On the 20th of September, 1825, Elijah Brayton, then a resident of Crawford (now Wyandot) county, who resides near Springville, in this township, lost a child, a lad about eight years of age, who has never since been heard of.\* It appears that the boy had followed an elder brother and a neighboring friend, who were seeking for some cattle that had strayed away, when the little fellow was directed to a house near by, while the others proceeded onward. He followed the path which had been pointed out to him, but a short distance, when it is supposed he became bewildered, and immediately

\* We have the particulars of this event orally, from a sister of the lost child, the wife of David Burns, of Springville.

took to the woods. On the return of the others to the house where they expected to find him, they learned to their surprise, that he had not been seen. Alarm was immediately given. The inhabitants for many miles around turned out, and the whole country for a considerable distance, in every direction was thoroughly searched. The Indians were particularly assiduous in their generous endeavors to find the child, but all to no avail.

A large reward was offered to the one who should find him, or any of his remains; but after many days, as no traces of the little fellow had ever been discovered, the search was finally abandoned. Some imagined he had been torn to pieces by wolves; some, that he had been stolen by the Indians; while others were of the opinion, that he had died of want in some secluded spot. What became of the unfortunate child, will, in all probability, remain forever unknown!

During this search, Neal McGaffey and other citizens of Fort Ball, who had likewise left their homes upon this occasion, encamped for the night upon the site of the present town of Rome, in Loudon township, which was then a dense wilderness. Being highly pleased with the spot of ground, and the appearance of the woods around, they jocosely called it "Fort McGaffey."

In the month of May, 1834, David Risdon surveyed, on section twenty-nine, in Big-spring township, a town, to which the proprietors, Benjamin and John Jenkins, gave the name of *Springville*. It was thus named, as there is a large spring of water immediately west of the town. Unlike those in Adams township, the water from this spring, has no traces of sulphur, but is clear, cold, and impregnated with lime. The site of this town, which was formerly an Indian village, is very beautiful. It contains twelve dwellings, two taverns, one wagon-shop, two blacksmiths'-shops, and two tailors'-shops. In

1840, Springville contained thirty-five inhabitants. It has since about doubled. There are two practicing physicians, residents of this town—D. Peters, and George H. Scoles.

*Oregon*, a town surveyed, February 17th, 1844, on sections thirty-five and thirty-six, in Big-spring township, by R. M. Shoemaker, is situated on the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad, ten and a half miles from the county seat of the county. Its proprietors were Erastus H. Cook and D. C. Henderson. Among the first settlers upon the site of this town, were Eli Gehr, Adam Fetter, John Gantz, and Charles Foster.

Oregon contains twenty-three dwellings, one large forwarding house, one tavern, three stores, one saw-mill, propelled by steam, one cabinet-shop, one tailor-shop, one blacksmith's-shop, two wagon-shops, and two shoe-shops. The post-office at this place is called "Foster's Mill." The first post-master was William White. The office is now held by John Carr. There is a practicing physician, a resident of this place—Samuel B. Owens.

The population of this town is over one hundred, and is rapidly increasing. It is three and a half miles from McCutchenville, and five miles from Carey, in Wyandot county.

It has now been nearly thirteen years, since Big-spring was constituted a legal township, which was the last one organized of the fifteen townships of the county. In 1830 the whole number of inhabitants in the several townships, amounted to 5,148. According to the census of 1840, the population had augmented to 18,128. At the present time it is probably about 22,000.

Seneca, compared with the counties that surround it, is second to none in the fertility of its soil, number of streams, activity, intelligence and morality of its inhabitants, and in the increase of its population.

The staple production of this county is wheat, large quan-

tities of which are raised annually, and transported by means of the rail-road, out of the country. The average yield throughout the county, of this grain, may be estimated at about *twenty* bushels to the acre.

Indian corn is grown in abundance, especially along the margin of the numerous streams, where the soil, consisting of a rich loam, is calculated in a high degree, for its growth. All of the other coarser grains, together with potatoes and other vegetables, are produced in large quantities. Apples, peaches, pears, and other fruit, thrive remarkably in all parts of the county.

On the 15th of May, 1834, a severe frost destroyed all the fruit, and proved fatal also to the potatoe crop. Wheat was considerably injured, and flour at one time, in Tiffin, was held at *fourteen dollars* per barrel.

In most parts of the county, the soil is well adapted to the raising of grass, which, however, is sometimes injured by dry weather. In 1838, a year remarkable for the "great drouth," which prevailed in nearly the whole of northern Ohio, the clover crop was a total failure, and corn was likewise much injured. The channels of most of the smaller streams became dry, and many wells failed for the first time.

The farmer, however, relies with a great degree of certainty upon good crops when his grain is well sown, being almost certain to reap an abundant harvest, as the reward for his toils.

Seneca county produces some excellent horses, and many of the farmers have large stocks of cattle. Sheep, also, have been brought from the east, which produce the finest quality of wool. William Fleet and other enterprising farmers of Eden township, have been actively engaged in this undertaking; and we can but commend so laudable an enterprise as is the introduction of a superior breed of these valuable domestic animals into the county.

Besides those streams which have been described, there are numerous others in the county, some of which are deserving of notice. There are several east of the Sandusky, that fall into this river, below the mouth of Honey creek. The most considerable of these, are *Rocky creek*—taking its name from the *rocky* appearance of the bed of its stream—which falls into the river at Tiffin—*Tyber creek*, which empties into the Sandusky on section seventeen, in Clinton township—*Spicer's creek*—taking its name from the captive white, before spoken of, which falls into the river near the north-west corner of the "Spicer section," in Pleasant township—and *Sugar creek*, which empties into the Sandusky on section twenty-two, in the same township.

"At the time of the organization of the county, money was very scarce, as produce would neither sell for it, nor purchase goods. *Whiskey* was about the only commodity in market. Since then the county has progressed rapidly in every kind of improvement. Indeed, at present, the general sobriety of its inhabitants is truly remarkable, especially when compared with the state of society, in this particular, a few years since. To estimate the condition of morality and Christianity among its inhabitants, we have only to look at the multiplicity of *churches*, which are now to be found in every township.

What then may not be anticipated from a county that has its whole surface covered with the richest soil? That has a climate, temperate and healthy, and streams rapid and numerous? With so much intelligence, activity, and zeal among its farmers, mechanics, and merchants, with a few years that have passed as a precedent, we may safely conclude that it will still continue to increase in population and wealth, ever ranking among the *first*, with the counties that surround it, in all that appertains to greatness and importance. Such is the condition—and such are the prospects of SENECA COUNTY.

# APPENDIX.

---

## CONSTITUTION OF OHIO.

Done in convention, begun and held at Chillicothe, on Monday, the 1st of November, A. D. 1802, and of the independence of the United States the 27th.

WE, the people of the eastern division of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, having the right of admission into the general government, as a member of the Union, consistent with the constitution of the United States, the ordinance of Congress of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and the law of Congress entitled, "An act to enable the people of the eastern division of the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original states, and for other purposes;" in order to establish justice, promote the welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish the following constitution or form of government, and do mutually agree with each other to form ourselves into a free and independent state, by the name of *The State of Ohio.*

## ARTICLE I.

§ 1. The legislative authority of this state shall be vested in a general assembly, which shall consist of a senate and house of representatives, both to be elected by the people.

2: Within one year after the first meeting of the general assembly, and within every subsequent term of four years, an enumeration of all the white male inhabitants above twenty-one years of age shall be made, in such manner as shall be directed by law. The number of representatives shall, at the several periods of making such enumeration, be fixed by the legislature, and apportioned among the several counties, according to the number of white male inhabitants of above twenty-one years of age in each; and shall never be less than twenty-four nor greater than thirty-six, until the number of white male inhabitants of above twenty-one years of age shall be twenty-two thousand; and after that event, at such ratio that the whole number of representatives shall never be less than thirty-six, nor exceed seventy-two.

3. The representatives shall be chosen annually, by the citizens of each county respectively, on the second Tuesday of October.

4. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and be a citizen of the United States, and an inhabitant of this state; shall also have resided within the limits of the county in which he shall be chosen, one year next preceding his election, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States, or of this state, and shall have paid a state or county tax.

5. The senators shall be chosen biennially, by qualified voters for representatives; and, on their being convened in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided by lot from their respective counties or districts, as near as can be, into two



classes ; the seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year, and of the second class at the expiration of the second year ; so that one-half thereof, as near as possible, may be chosen annually forever thereafter.

6. The number of senators shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration before mentioned, be fixed by the legislature, and apportioned among the several counties or districts to be established by law, according to the number of white male inhabitants of the age of twenty-one years in each, and shall never be less than one-third, nor more than one-half of the number of representatives.

7. No person shall be a senator who has not arrived at the age of thirty years, and is a citizen of the United States ; shall have resided two years in the county or district immediately preceding the election, unless he shall have been absent on the public business of the United States, or of this state, and shall, moreover, have paid a state or county tax.

8. The senate and house of representatives, when assembled, shall each choose a speaker, and its other officers ; be judges of the qualifications and elections of its members, and sit upon its own adjournments ; two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members.

9. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them. The yeas and nays of the members, on any question, shall, at the desire of any two of them, be entered on the journals.

10. Any two members of either house shall have liberty to dissent from and protest against any act or resolution which they may think injurious to the public or any individual, and have the reasons of their dissent entered on the journals.

11. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior ; and, with the con-

currence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause ; and shall have all powers necessary for a branch of the legislature of a free and independent state.

12. When vacancies shall happen in either house, the governor, or the person exercising the power of the governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

13. Senators and representatives shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the general assembly, and in going to and returning from the same ; and for any speech or debate, in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

14. Each house may punish, by imprisonment, during their session, any person, not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence ; provided such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed twenty-four hours.

15. The doors of each house, and of committees of the whole, shall be kept open, except in such cases as, in the opinion of the house, require secrecy. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than two days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

16. Bills may originate in either house, but may be altered, amended, or rejected by the other.

17. Every bill shall be read on three different days, in each house, unless, in case of urgency, three fourths of the house where such bill is so depending, shall deem it expedient to dispense with this rule ; and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the speakers of their respective houses.

18. The style of the laws of this state shall be, "*Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Ohio.*"

19. The legislature of this state shall not allow the following officers of government greater annual salaries than as follows,

until the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, to wit : the governor not more than one thousand dollars ; the judges of the supreme court not more than one thousand dollars each ; the presidents of the courts of common pleas not more than eight hundred dollars each ; the secretary of state not more than five hundred dollars ; the auditor of public accounts not more than seven hundred and fifty dollars ; the treasurer not more than four hundred and fifty dollars ; no member of the legislature shall receive more than two dollars per day during his attendance on the legislature, nor more for every twenty-five miles he shall travel in going to and returning from the general assembly.

20. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this state which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such time.

21. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law.

22. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public moneys, shall be attached to and published with the laws, annually.

23. The house of representatives shall have the sole power of impeaching, but a majority of all the members must concur in an impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the senate ; and when sitting for that purpose, the senators shall be on oath or affirmation to do justice according to law and evidence. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the senators.

24. The governor and all other civil officers under this state, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office ; but judgment, in such case, shall not extend further than removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office.

of honor, profit, or trust, under this state. The party, whether convicted or acquitted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

25. The first session of the general assembly shall commence on the first Tuesday of March next; and forever after, the general assembly shall meet on the first Monday in December in every year, and at no other period unless directed by law or provided for by this constitution.

26. No judge of any court of law or equity, secretary of state, attorney-general, register, clerk of any court of record, sheriff, or collector, member of either house of Congress, or person holding any office under the authority of the United States or any lucrative office under the authority of this state, (provided that appointments in the militia, or justices of the peace, shall not be considered lucrative offices,) shall be eligible as a candidate for, or have a seat in, the general assembly.

27. No person shall be appointed to any office, within any county, who shall not have been a citizen and inhabitant therein, one year next before his appointment, if the county shall have been so long erected; but if the county shall not have been so long erected, then within the limits of the county or counties, out of which it shall have been taken.

28. No person who heretofore hath been, or hereafter may be, a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of the general assembly, until such person shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be accountable or liable.

#### ARTICLE II.

§1. The supreme executive power of this state shall be vested in a governor.

2. The governor shall be chosen by the electors of the members of the general assembly, on the second Tuesday of October, at the same places, and in the same manner that they

shall respectively vote for members thereof. The returns of every election for governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of government, by the returning officers, directed to the speaker of the senate, who shall open and publish them in the presence of a majority of the members of each house of the general assembly; the person having the highest number of votes shall be governor; but if two or more shall be equal and highest in votes, one of them shall be chosen governor by joint ballot of both houses of the general assembly. Contested elections for governor shall be determined by both houses of the general assembly, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

3. The first governor shall hold his office until the first Monday of December, one thousand eight hundred and five, and until another governor shall be elected and qualified to office; and forever after, the governor shall hold his office for the term of two years, and until another governor shall be elected and qualified; but he shall not be eligible more than six years in any term of eight years. He shall be at least thirty years of age, and have been a citizen of the United States twelve years, and an inhabitant of this state four years next preceding his election.

4. He shall, from time to time, give to the general assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient.

5. He shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons, after conviction, except in cases of impeachment.

6. The governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected.

7. He may require information in writing, from the officers in the executive department, upon any subject relating to the

duties of their respective offices, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

8. When an officer, the right of whose appointment is, by this constitution, vested in the general assembly, shall during the recess die, or his office by any means become vacant, the governor shall have power to fill such vacancy, by granting a commission, which shall expire at the end of the next session of the legislature.

9. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the general assembly by proclamation, and shall state to them, when assembled, the purposes for which they shall have been convened.

10. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of this state, and of the militia, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States.

11. In cases of disagreement between the two houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, the governor shall have the power to adjourn the general assembly to such time as he thinks proper, provided it be not a period beyond the annual meeting of the legislature.

12. In case of the death, impeachment, resignation, or removal of the governor from office, the speaker of the senate shall exercise the office of governor until he be acquitted, or another governor shall be duly qualified. In case of the impeachment of the speaker of the senate, or his death, removal from office, resignation, or absence from the state, the speaker of the house of representatives shall succeed to the office, and exercise the duties thereof, until a governor shall be elected and qualified.

13. No member of Congress, or person holding any office under the United States or this state, shall execute the office of governor.

14. There shall be a seal of the state which shall be kept by

the governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called the great seal of the state of Ohio.

15. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the state of Ohio, sealed with the seal, signed by the governor, and countersigned by the secretary.

16. A secretary of state shall be appointed by a joint ballot of the senate and house of representatives, who shall continue in office three years, if he shall so long behave himself well. He shall keep a fair register of all the official acts and proceedings of the governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, and all papers, minutes, and vouchers, relative thereto, before either branch of the legislature; and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law.

#### ARTICLE III.

§ 1. The judicial power of this state, both as to matters of law and equity, shall be vested in a supreme court, in courts of common pleas for each county, in justices of the peace, and in such other courts as the legislature may from time to time establish.

2. The supreme court shall consist of three judges, any two of whom shall be a quorum. They shall have original and appellate jurisdiction, both in common law and chancery, in such cases as shall be directed by law: provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the general assembly from adding another judge to the supreme court after the term of five years, in which case the judges may divide the state into two circuits, within which any two of the judges may hold a court.

3. The several courts of common pleas shall consist of a president and associate judges. The state shall be divided by law into three circuits: there shall be appointed in each circuit, a president of the courts, who, during his continuance in office, shall reside therein. There shall be appointed in

each county not more than three, nor less than two associate judges, who during their continuance in office shall reside therein. The president and associate judges, in their respective counties, any three of whom shall be a quorum, shall compose the court of common pleas, which court shall have common law and chancery jurisdiction in all such cases as shall be directed by law; provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the legislature from increasing the number of circuits and presidents after the term of five years.

4. The judges of the supreme court, and courts of common pleas shall have complete criminal jurisdiction in such cases and in such manner as may be pointed out by law.

5. The court of common pleas of each county shall have jurisdiction of all probate and testamentary matters, granting administration, the appointment of guardians, and such other cases as shall be prescribed by law.

6. The judges of the court of common pleas shall, within their respective counties, have the same powers with the judges of the supreme court, to issue writs of *certiorari* to the justices of the peace, to cause their proceedings to be brought before them, and the like right and justice to be done.

7. The judges of the supreme court shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the state. The presidents of the courts of common pleas, shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace in their respective circuits; and the judges of the court of common pleas shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace in their respective counties.

8. The judges of the supreme court, the presidents, and the associate judges of the courts of common pleas, shall be appointed by a joint ballot of both houses of the general assembly, and shall hold their offices for the term of seven years, if



so long they behave well. The judges of the supreme court, and the presidents of the courts of common pleas, shall, at stated times, receive for their services an adequate compensation, to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office ; but they shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit or trust under the authority of this state or the United States.

9. Each court shall appoint its own clerk, for the term of seven years ; but no person shall be appointed clerk, except *pro tempore*, who shall not produce to the court appointing him a certificate from a majority of the judges of the supreme court, that they judge him to be well qualified to execute the duties of the office of clerk to any court of the same dignity with that for which he offers himself. They shall be removable for breach of good behavior, at any time, by the judges of the respective courts.

10. The supreme court shall be held once a year in each county ; and the courts of common pleas shall be holden in each county at such times and places as shall be prescribed by law.

11. A competent number of justices of the peace shall be elected by the qualified electors in each township in the several counties, and shall continue in office three years ; whose powers and duties shall from time to time be regulated and defined by law.

12. The style of all process shall be : "The state of Ohio ;" all prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the state of Ohio ; and all indictments shall conclude "against the peace and dignity of the same."

#### ARTICLE IV.

§ 1. In all elections, all white male inhabitants, above the age of twenty-one years, having resided in the state one year

next preceding the election, and who have paid, or are charged with, a state or county tax, shall enjoy the right of an elector; but no person shall be entitled to vote, except in the county or district in which he shall actually reside at the time of the election.

2. All elections shall be by ballot.

3. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

4. The legislature shall have full power to exclude from the privilege of electing, or being elected, any person convicted of bribery, perjury, or any other infamous crime.

5. Nothing contained in this article shall be so construed as to prevent white male persons, above the age of twenty-one years, who are compelled to labor on the roads of their respective townships or counties, and who have resided one year in the state, from having the right of an elector.

#### ARTICLE V.

§ 1. Captains and subalterns in the militia shall be elected by those persons in their respective company districts subject to military duty.

2. Majors shall be elected by the captains and subalterns of the battalion.

3. Colonels shall be elected by the majors, captains, and subalterns of the regiment.

4. Brigadiers-general shall be elected by the commissioned officers of their respective brigades.

5. Majors-general and quarter-masters-general shall be appointed by joint ballot of both houses of the legislature.

6. The governor shall appoint the adjutant-general. The majors-general shall appoint their aids, and other division staff offi-

cers. The brigadiers-general shall appoint their brigade-majors, and other brigade staff officers. The commanding officers of regiments shall appoint their adjutants, quarter-masters, and other regimental staff officers; and the captains and subalterns shall appoint their non-commissioned officers and musicians.

7. The captains and subalterns of the artillery and cavalry shall be elected by the persons enrolled in their respective corps, and the majors and colonels shall be appointed in such manner as shall be directed by law. The colonels shall appoint their regimental staff, and the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers and musicians.

#### ARTICLE VI.

§ 1. There shall be elected in each county, one sheriff and one coroner by the citizens thereof, who are qualified to vote for members of the assembly; they shall be elected at the time and place of holding elections for members of assembly; they shall continue in office two years, if they shall so long behave well, and until successors be chosen and duly qualified; provided, that no person shall be eligible as sheriff for a longer term than four years in any term of six years.

2. The state treasurer and auditor shall be triennially appointed, by a joint ballot of both houses of the legislature.

3. All town and township officers shall be chosen annually, by the inhabitants thereof duly qualified to vote for members of assembly, at such time and place as may be directed by law.

4. The appointment of all civil officers, not otherwise directed by this constitution, shall be made in such manner as may be directed by law.

## ARTICLE VII.

§ 1. Every person who shall be chosen or appointed to any office of trust or profit under the authority of the state shall, before entering on the execution thereof, take an oath or affirmation to support the constitution of the United States and of this state, and also an oath of office.

2. Any elector who shall receive any gift or reward for his vote, in meat, drink, money, or otherwise, shall suffer such punishment as the law shall direct; and any person who shall directly or indirectly give, promise, or bestow any such reward to be elected, shall thereby be rendered incapable for two years to serve in the office to which he was elected, and be subject to such other punishment as shall be directed by law.

3. No new county shall be established by the general assembly, which shall reduce the county or counties, or either of them, from which it shall be taken, to less contents than four hundred square miles, nor shall any county be laid off of less contents. Every new county, as to the right of suffrage and representation shall be considered as a part of the county or counties from which it was taken, until entitled by numbers to the right of representation.

4. Chillicothe shall be the seat of government until the year one thousand eight hundred and eight. No money shall be raised until the year one thousand eight hundred and nine, by the legislature of this state, for the purpose of erecting public buildings for the accommodation of the legislature.

5. That after the year one thousand eight hundred and six, whenever two-thirds of the general assembly shall think it necessary to amend or change this constitution, they shall recommend to the electors, at the next election for members to the general assembly, to vote for or against a convention; and if it shall appear that a majority of the citizens of the state,

voting for representatives, have voted for a convention, the general assembly shall, at their next session, call a convention, to consist of as many members as there be in the general assembly, to be chosen in the same manner, at the same place, and by the same electors that choose the general assembly, who shall meet within three months after the said election, for the purpose of revising, amending, or changing the constitution. But no alteration of this constitution shall ever take place so as to introduce slavery, or involuntary servitude into this state.

6. That the limits and boundaries of this state be ascertained, it is declared, that they are as hereafter mentioned— that is to say, bounded on the east by the Pennsylvania line; on the south by the Ohio river, to the mouth of the Great Miami river; on the west by the line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami aforesaid; and on the north by an east and west line, drawn through the southerly extreme of Lake Michigan, running east after intersecting the due north line aforesaid, from the mouth of the Great Miami, until it shall intersect Lake Erie or the territorial line, and thence with the same through Lake Erie to the Pennsylvania line aforesaid: Provided, always, and it is hereby fully understood and declared by this convention, that if the southerly bend, or extreme of Lake Michigan should extend so far south, that a line drawn due east from it, should not intersect Lake Erie, or if it should intersect the said Lake Erie east of the mouth of the Miami river of the lake, then, and in that case, with the assent of the Congress of the United States, the northern boundary of this state shall be established by, and extended to a direct line running from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the most northerly cape of the Miami Bay, after intersecting the due north line from the mouth of the Great Miami river as aforesaid, thence north-east to the ter-

ritorial line, and by the said territorial line to the Pennsylvania line.

ARTICLE VIII.

That the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized, and forever unalterably established, we declare,

§ 1. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, among which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; and every free, republican government, being founded on their sole authority, and organized for the great purpose of protecting their rights and liberties, and securing their independence—to effect these ends they have at all times a complete power to alter, reform, or abolish their government whenever they may deem it necessary.

2. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state, otherwise than for the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; nor shall any male person, arrived at the age of twenty-one years, or female person, arrived at the age of eighteen years, be held to serve any person as a servant under the pretense of indenture, or otherwise, unless such person shall enter into such indenture while in a state of perfect freedom, and on condition of a bona fide consideration received or to be received for their service, except as before excepted. Nor shall any indenture of any negro or mulatto hereafter made and executed, out of the state, or if made in the state, where the term of service exceeds one year, be of the least validity, except those given in the case of apprenticeships.

3. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to wor-

ship Almighty God according to the dictates of conscience ; that no human authority can in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience ; that no man shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry, against his consent ; and that no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious society or mode of worship : and no religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office of trust or profit. But religion, morality, and knowledge, being essentially necessary to good government, and the happiness of mankind, schools, and the means of instruction, shall forever be encouraged by legislative provision, not inconsistent with the rights of conscience.

4. Private property ought, and shall ever be held inviolate, but always subservient to the public welfare, provided a compensation in money be made to the owner.

5. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unwarrantable searches and seizures ; and that general warrants, whereby an officer may be commanded to search suspected places, without probable evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person or persons, not named, whose offenses are not particularly described, and without oath or affirmation, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be granted.

6. That the printing presses shall be open and free to every citizen who wishes to examine the proceedings of any branch of government, or the conduct of any public officer ; and no law shall ever restrain the right thereof. Every citizen has an indisputable right to speak, write, or print, upon any subject, as he thinks proper, being liable for the abuse of that liberty. In prosecutions for any publication respecting the official conduct of men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may al-

ways be given in evidence ; and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

7. That all courts shall be open, and every person, for any injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by the due course of law ; and right and justice administered without denial or delay.

8. That the right of trial by jury shall be inviolate.

9. That no power of suspending the laws shall be exercised unless by the legislature.

10. That no person arrested or confined in jail shall be treated with unnecessary rigor, or be put to answer any criminal charge, but by presentment, indictment, or impeachment.

11. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof ; to meet the witnesses face to face ; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor ; and in prosecutions by indictment or presentment, a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the offense shall have been committed ; and shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself—nor shall he be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense.

12. That all persons shall beailable by sufficient sureties unless for capital offenses, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great, and the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

13. Excessive bail shall not be required, excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

14. All penalties shall be proportioned to the nature of the offense. No wise legislature will affix the same punishments



to the crime of theft, forgery, and the like, which they do to those of murder and treason. When the same undistinguished severity is exerted against all offenses, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do the slightest offenses. For the same reasons, a multitude of sanguinary laws are both impolitic and unjust; the true design of all punishments being to reform, not to exterminate mankind.

15. The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditor or creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

16. No *ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing the validity of contracts, shall ever be made; and no conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

17. That no person shall be liable to be transported out of this state for any offense committed within the state.

18. That a frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of civil government is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty.

19. That the people have a right to assemble together, in a peaceable manner, to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to the legislature for redress of greivances.

20. That the people have a right to bear arms for the defense of themselves and the state; and as standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty, they shall not be kept up, and that the military shall be kept under strict subordination to the civil power.

21. That no person in this state, except such as are employed in the army or navy of the United States, or militia in ac-

tual service, shall be subject to corporeal punishment under the military law.

22. That no soldier in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in the manner prescribed by law.

23. That the levying taxes by the poll is grievous and oppressive ; therefore, the legislature shall never levy a poll tax for county or state purposes.

24. That no hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors shall ever be granted or conferred by this state.

25. That no law shall be passed to prevent the poor in the several counties and townships within this state, from an equal participation in the schools, academies, colleges and universities within this state, which are endowed, in whole or in part, from the revenue arising from donations made by the United States for the support of schools and colleges ; and the doors of the said schools, academies, and universities, shall be open for the reception of scholars, students, and teachers of every grade, without any distinction or preference whatever, contrary to the intent for which the said donations were made.

26. That laws shall be passed by the legislature which shall secure to each and every denomination of religious societies, in each surveyed township, which now is, or may hereafter be formed in the state, an equal participation, according to their number of adherents, of the profits arising from the land granted by Congress for the support of religion, agreeably to the ordinance or act of Congress, making the appropriation.

27. That every association of persons, when regularly formed within this state, and having given themselves a name, may, on application to the legislature, be entitled to receive letters of incorporation, to enable them to hold estates, real and personal, for the support of their schools, academies, colleges, universities, and for other purposes.

28. To guard against the transgression of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that all powers not hereby delegated, remain with the people.

## SCHEDULE.

§ 1. That no evils or inconveniences may arise from the change of a territorial government to a permanent state government; it is declared by this convention that all rights, suits, actions, prosecutions, claims, and contracts, both as it respects individuals and bodies corporate, shall continue as if no change had taken place in this government.

2. All fines, penalties, and forfeitures, due and owing to the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, shall inure to the use of the state. All bonds executed to the governor or any other officer in his official capacity in the territory, shall pass over to the governor, or the other officers of the state, and their successors in office, for the use of the state, or by him or them to be respectively assigned over to the use of those concerned, as the case may be.

3. The governor, secretary, and judges, and all other officers under the territorial government shall continue in the exercise of the duties of their respective departments, until the said officers are superseded under the authority of this constitution.

4. All laws and parts of laws now in force in this territory, not inconsistent with this constitution, shall continue and remain in full effect until repealed by the legislature, except so much of the act entitled "An act regulating the admission and practice of attorneys and counsellors at law; and of the act made amendatory thereto, as relates to the term of time which the applicant shall have studied law, his residence within the territory, and the term of time which he shall have practiced as

an attorney-at-law, before he can be admitted to the degree of a counsellor-at-law.

5. The governor of the state shall make use of his private seal until a state seal be procured.

6. The president of the convention shall issue writs of election to the sheriffs of the several counties, requiring them to proceed to the election of governor, members of the general assembly, sheriffs, and coroners, at their respective election districts in each county, on the second Tuesday of January next, which elections shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the existing election laws of this territory; and the members of the general assembly then elected, shall continue to exercise the duties of their respective offices until the next annual or biennial election thereafter, as prescribed in this constitution, and no longer.

7. Until the first enumeration shall be made, as directed in the second section of the first article of this constitution, the county of Hamilton shall be entitled to four senators and eight representatives; the county of Clermont one senator and two representatives; the county of Adams, one senator and three representatives; the county of Ross two senators and four representatives; the county of Fairfield one senator and two representatives; the county of Washington two senators and three representatives; the county of Belmont one senator and two representatives; the county of Jefferson two senators and four representatives; and the county of Trumbull one senator and two representatives.

Done in convention, at Chillicothe, the 29th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and two, and of the independence of the United States of America the twenty-seventh.

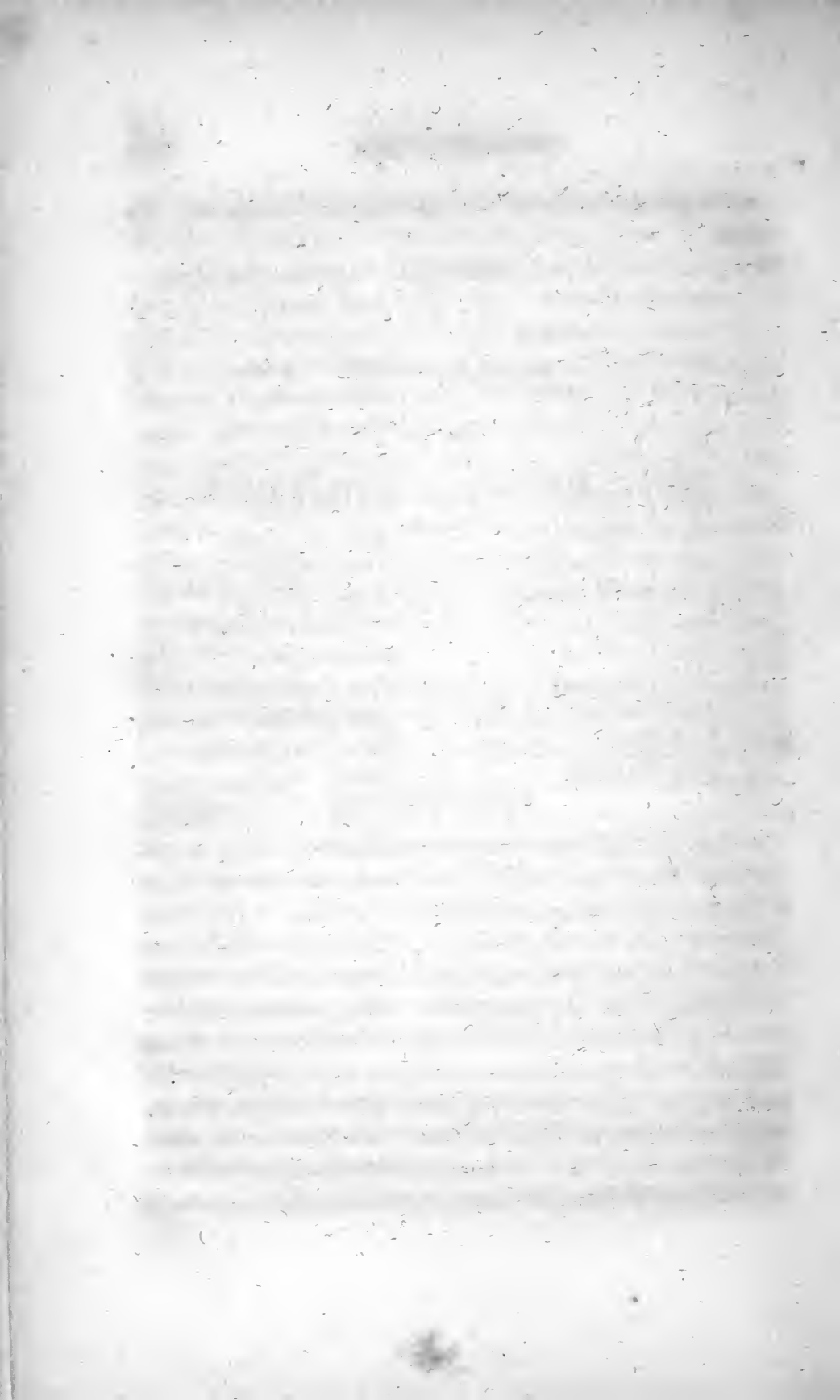
In testimony whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names.

EDWARD TIFFIN, *President.*

JOS. DARLINGTON,  
ISRAEL DONALDSON,  
THO. KERKER,  
JAMES CALDWELL,  
ELIJAH WOODS,  
PHILIP GATCH,  
JAMES SARGENT,  
HENRY ABRAMS,  
EM. CARPENTER,  
JOHN W. BROWNE,  
CHARLES W. BYRD,  
FRA. DUNLAVY,  
WM. GOFORTH,  
JOHN KITCHELL,  
JER. MORROW,  
JOHN PAUL,  
JOHN M'INTIRE,

JOHN REILLY,  
JOHN SMITH,  
JOHN WILSON,  
RUDOLPH BEAR,  
GEO. HUMPHREY,  
JOHN MILLIGAN,  
NATH. UPDEGRAFF,  
BAZ. WELLS,  
MICH. BALDWIN,  
JAMES GRUBB,  
NATH. MASSIE,  
T. WORTHINGTON,  
DAVID ABBOTT,  
SAM. HUNTINGTON,  
EPH. CUTLER,  
BEN. IVES GILMAN,  
RUFUS PUTNAM,

*Attest:* THO. SCOTT, *Secretary.*



**CONSTITUTION**  
**OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES.**

---

WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this **CONSTITUTION FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

**ARTICLE I.**

§ 1. All legislative powers herein granted, shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a senate and house of representatives.

2. The house of representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year, by the people of the several states; and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states, which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers; which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons.

The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative: and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three; Massachusetts eight; Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one; Connecticut five; New York six; New Jersey four; Pennsylvania eight; Delaware one; Maryland six; Virginia ten; North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The house of representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers; and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

§ 3. The senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years; and each senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled, in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided, as equally as may be, into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year; of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year; and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year; so that one third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies hap-



pen, by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments, until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The vice president of the United States shall be president of the senate, but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided.

The senate shall choose their other officers, and also a president pro tempore, in the absence of the vice president, or when he shall exercise the office of president of the United States.

The senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the president of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit, under the United States; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.

4. The times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law, make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year;

and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

5. Each house shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business ; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may, in their judgment require secrecy ; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

6. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to or returning from the same ; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time, and no person holding any office under the United

States shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office.

7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives ; but the senate may propose, or concur with amendments; as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the house of representatives and the senate, shall, before it become a law, be presented to the president of the United States ; if he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill, shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the president within ten days, (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of the senate and house of representatives may be necessary, (except on a question of adjournment,) shall be presented to the president of the United States ; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be re-passed by two-thirds of the senate and house of representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

8. The Congress shall have power :

To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises; to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States:

To borrow money on the credit of the United States:

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states and with the Indian tribes:

To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States:

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures:

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States:

To establish post-offices and post-roads:

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing, for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries:

To constitute tribunals inferior to the supreme court:

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations:

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water:

To raise and support armies; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years:

To provide and maintain a navy:

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces:

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions:

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed, in the service of the United States, reserving to the

states respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district, (not exceeding ten miles square,) as may by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards and other needful buildings—and

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers and all other powers vested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

9. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing, shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress, prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight; but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder or *ex post facto* law shall be passed.

No capitation, or other direct tax, shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state. No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to, or from one state, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in con-

sequence of appropriations made by law ; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States ; and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

10. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation ; grant letters of marque and reprisal ; coin money ; emit bills of credit ; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts ; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws ; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States ; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress. No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

#### ARTICLE II.

§ 1. The executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years ; and together with the vice president, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows :

Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature

thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress: but no senator or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States shall be appointed an elector.

[The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves: and they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the senate. The president of the senate shall, in the presence of the senate and house of representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the house of representatives shall immediately choose by ballot, one of them for president; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list, the said house shall, in like manner, choose the president: but in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the president, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the vice president. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the senate shall choose from them, by ballot, the vice president.]

[*This clause altogether altered and supplied by the XIIth amendment.*]

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice president, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the president and vice president, declaring what officer shall then act as president, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a president shall be elected.

The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected; and he shall not receive, within that period, any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States.”

2. The president shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States: he may require the opinion in writing, of the princi-



pal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the supreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper, in the president alone, or in the courts of law or the heads of departments.

The president shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the senate by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session.

3. He shall from time to time, give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient: he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them; and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper: he shall receive ambassadors and other public officers: he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

4. The president, vice president, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

## ARTICLE III.

§ 1. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may, from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

2. The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states; between a state and citizens of another state; between citizens of the same state, claiming lands under grants of different states; and between a state or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be a party, the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

3. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giv-

ing them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason; but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

#### ARTICLE IV.

§ 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other state. And the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts records, and proceedings, shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

2. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labor in one state under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor; but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

3. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state; nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all

needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.

4. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union, a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature or of the executive, (when the legislature cannot be convened,) against domestic violence.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution; or on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as a part of this constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the senate.

#### ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted, and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this constitution, as under the confederation.

This constitution, and the laws of the United States, which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or

which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by an oath or affirmation, to support this constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

## ARTICLE VII.

The ratification of the conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in convention, by the unanimous consent of the states present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have subscribed our names,

GEORGE WASHINGTON

*President, and delegate from Virginia.*

*New Hampshire*—John Langdon, Nicholas Gilman.

*Massachusetts*—Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King.

*Connecticut*—Wm. Samuel Johnson, Roger Sherman.

*New York*—Alexander Hamilton.

*New Jersey*—William Livingston, William Patterson, David Brearly, Jonathan Dayton.

*Pennsylvania*—Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, Thomas Fitzsimons, James Wilson, Thomas Mifflin, George Clymer, Jared Ingersoll, Gouverneur Morris.

*Delaware*—George Read, Gunning Bedford, Jr., John Dickinson, Richard Bassett, Jacob Broom.

*Maryland*—James McHenry, Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer, Daniel Carroll.

*Virginia*—John Blair, James Madison, Jr.

*North Carolina*—William Blount, Richard Dobbs Spaight, Hugh Williamson.

*South Carolina*—John Rutledge, Charles Pinckney, Pierce Butler, Chas. Cotesworth Pinckney.

*Georgia*—William Few, Abraham Baldwin.

Attest, WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary*.

---

## AMENDMENTS.

### ARTICLE I.

First Congress, first session, March 4, 1789.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

### ARTICLE II.

A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

### ARTICLE III.

No soldier shall in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

## ARTICLE IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated ; and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

## ARTICLE V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger ; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense, to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb ; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law : nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

## ARTICLE VI.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed ; which disirct shall have been previously ascertained by law ; and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation ; to be confronted with the witnesses against him ; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

## ARTICLE VII.

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved; and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States than according to the rules of common law.

## ARTICLE VIII.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed; nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

## ARTICLE IX.

The enumeration in the constitution of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

## ARTICLE X.

The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

## ARTICLE XI.

Third Congress, second session, December 2, 1793.

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

## ARTICLE XII.

Eighth Congress, first session, October 17, 1803.

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote, by ballot, for president and vice president, one of whom, at



least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves ; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as president, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as vice president ; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as president, and of all persons voted for as vice president, and of the number of votes for each ; which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of government of the United States, directed to the president of the senate ; the president of the senate, shall, in the presence of the senate and house of representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted ; the person having the greatest number of votes for president shall be the president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed ; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest number, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as president, the house of representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the president ; but in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote ; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice ; and if the house of representatives shall not choose a president, whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the vice president shall act as president, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the president.

The person having the greatest number of votes as vice president, shall be the vice president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed ; and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the senate shall choose the vice president ; a quo-

rum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of senators; and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice.

But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of president, shall be eligible to that of vice president of the the United States.

## TABULAR VIEWS, &C.

---

NAMES of all county officers from the organization of the county down to the present year, with the time of the election of each.

[NOTE. Those officers having the letter *c*, annexed were appointed by the county commissioners. Those having the letters *c p*, were appointed by the court of common pleas, pursuant to the laws *then* in force.]

### SHERIFS.

NAMES.	YEAR. ELECTED.	NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.
Agreen Ingraham,	1824	Levi Keller,	1838
" "	1826	" "	1840
William Patterson,	1828	Uriah P. Coonrod,	1842
David Bishop,	1830	" "	1844
" "	1832	Eden Lease,	1846
Joel Stone,	1834		
" "	1836		

### CORONERS.

Christopher Stone,	1824	George Flack,	1832
" "	1826	Eli Norris,	1834
William Toll,	1828	Levi Keller,	1836
" "	1830	Henry McCartney,	1838

## TABULAR VIEWS.

NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.	NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.
Daniel Brown,	1840	Gerge H. Show,	1844
George H. Show,	1842	Samuel Herrin,	1846

## AUDITORS.

David Smith,	1824	Levi Davis,	1836
“ “	1826	“ “	1838
“ “	1828	Gabriel J. Keen,	1840
“ “	1830	“ “	1842
David E. Owens,	1832	Frederick W. Green,	1844
“ “	1834	“ “	1846

## TREASURERS.

Milton McNeal, <i>c</i>	1824	John Gooden,	1835
“ “ <i>c</i>	1825	“ “	1837
“ “ <i>c</i>	1826	Joshua Seney,	1839
Agreen Ingraham, <i>c</i>	1827	“ “	1841
Jacob Plane, <i>c</i>	1828	Richard Williams,	1843
“ “	1829	“ “	1845
“ “	1831	George Knupp,	1847
John Gooden,	1833		

## PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS.

Rodolphus Dickinson, <i>c p</i>	1824	John J. Steiner,	1839
Abel Rawson, <i>c p</i>	1826	Joel W. Wilson,	1840
Sidney Smith,	1833	“ “	1842
Selah Chapin, Jr.	1835	William Lang,	1844
John J. Steiner,	1837	“ “	1846

## COMMISSIONERS.

NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.	NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.
Thomas Boyd,	1824	Lorenzo Abbott,	1834
Benjamin Whitmore,	1824	Benjamin Whitmore,	1835
Doctor Dunn,	1824	John Seitz,	1836
Thomas Boyd,	1825	Lorenzo Abbott,	1837
Timothy P. Roberts,	1826	John Terry,	1838
James Gorden,	1826	Andrew More,	1839
Case Brown,	1827	George Stoner,	1840
James Gorden,	1828	John Terry,	1841
Timothy P. Roberts,	1829	Joseph McClelland,	1842
Case Brown,	1830	Morris P. Skinner	1843
David Risdon,	1831	Jacob Decker,	1844
John Keller,	1832	Joseph McClelland,	1845
John Crum, 1 year,	1833	Morris P. Skinner,	1846
Marcus Y. Graff, 2 yrs.	1833	Jacob Decker,	1847
John Seitz, 3 years,	1833		

## COUNTY SURVEYORS.

David Risdon,	1824	Jonas Hershberger,	1839
George W. Gist,	1836	Thomas Hemming,	1842
James Durbin,	1837	“ “	1845

## RECORDERS.

Neal McGaffey, <i>c p</i>	1824	William H. Kessler,	1842
Abel Rawson, <i>c p</i>	1828	“ “	1845
“ “	1836	Robert M. C. Martin,	1846
William H. Kessler,	1839		

## ASSESSORS.

NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.	NAMES.	YEAR ELECTED.
David Risdon,	1827	John W. Eastman,	1836
“ “	1829	Robert Holley,	1837
John Wright,	1831	Samuel S. Martin,	1838
Reuben Williams,	1833	Benjamin Carpenter,	1840
John Welch,	1835		

## ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

William Cornell,	1824	Henry C. Brish,	1838
Jacques Hulbert,	1824	Andrew Lugenbill,	1838
Mathew Clark,	1824	Lowell Robinson,	1838
Agreen Ingraham,	1831	Andrew Lugenbill,	1845
Benjamin Pittenger,	1831	William Toll,	1845
Selden Graves,	1831	Henry Ebert,	1845

NOTE. Associate judges are appointed by the legislature.

## CLERKS OF COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

Neal McGaffey,	1824	Charles F. Dresbach,	1840
Joseph Howard,	1830	Henry Ebert,	1847
Luther A. Hall,	1834		

(At the October term of this year, *Samuel Stoner* was appointed clerk *pro tem.*)

NOTE. Clerks of the court of common pleas are appointed by the judges.

## AN ACT,

Incorporating the Seneca county Academy, passed March 4th, 1836.

§ 1. *Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Ohio,* That Samuel Waggoner, Sidney Smith, Joshua Maynard, Chancey Rundell, Timothy P. Roberts, Sela Chapin, Jun., and Calvin Bradley, of the county of Seneca, together with such persons as may be associated with them for the purpose of establishing an academy in the town of Republic, be and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate, with perpetual succession, by the name of the "Seneca County Academy," and by that name shall be competent to contract and be contracted with, to sue, and be sued, answer, and be answered unto, in all courts of law and equity; and to acquire, possess and enjoy, and to sell, convey, and dispose of property both personal and real; and shall possess all the powers usually incident to such corporations. *Provided,* that the annual income of such property shall not exceed two thousand dollars.

2. That any three of the above named persons shall have power to call a meeting by giving ten days previous notice thereof, by advertisement set up at three of the most public places in the township of Scipio, aforesaid.

3. That said corporation shall have power to form a constitution and adopt by-laws for its government, to prescribe the number and title of its officers and define their powers and duties, to prescribe the manner in which members may be admit-

ted and dismissed, and other powers necessary for the efficient management of its corporate concerns.

4. That any future legislature may modify or repeal this act.

WILLIAM MEDILL,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

ELIJAH VANCE,

*Speaker of the Senate.*



The following table contains the names of each township in the county; also, the names of the gentlemen by whom they were surveyed into sections and quarter-sections, and the time of the survey of each

TOWNSHIPS.	SURVEYORS.	YEAR SURV'D.
Adams,	Sylvanus Bourne,	1820
	C. W. Christmas, (Indian Grant,)	1832
Big Spring,	J. Glasgow,	1820
	C. W. Christmas, (Indian Grant,)	1832
Bloom,	Sylvanus Bourne,	1820
Clinton,	J. T. Worthington,	1820
Eden,	J. T. Worthington,	1820
Hopewell,	J. T. Worthington,	1820
Jackson,	J. Glasgow,	1820
Loudon,	J. Glasgow,	1820
Pleasant,	J. T. Worthington,	1820
	C. W. Christmas, (Indian Grant,)	1832
Reed,	Price J. Kellogg,	1820
Scipio,	Sylvanus Bourne,	1820
	C. W. Christmas, (Indian Grant,)	1832
Thompson,	Price J. Kellogg,	1821
Venice,	Price J. Kellogg,	1820
Seneca,	J. T. Worthington,	1820
Liberty,	J. T. Worthington.	1820

Tabular view of the several towns in the county—the townships in which they are located—names of surveyors of each and time of the survey.

TOWNS.	TOWNSHIPS.	SURVEYORS.	YEAR SURV'D.
Oakley,	Clinton,	Joseph Vance,	1819
Tiffin,	Clinton,	James Hedges,	1821
Fort Ball,	Clinton,	David Risdon,	1824

TOWNS.	TOWNSHIPS.	SURVEYORS.	YEAR SURV'D.
Melmore,	Eden,	James Kilbourne,	1824
Caroline,	Venice;	James Kilbourne,	1828
Rome,	Loudon,	David Risdon,	1832
Risdon,	Loudon,	David Risdon,	1832
Middleburg,	Liberty,	David Risdon,	1832
Attica,	Venice,	David Risdon,	1833
Sulphur Spring,	Adams,	David Risdon,	1833
Springville,	Big Spring,	David Risdon,	1834
Republic,	Scipio,	R. M. Shoemaker,	1834
Fort Seneca,	Pleasant,	David Risdon,	1835
Hopewell,	Hopewell,	James Durbin,	1836
New Fort Ball,	Clinton,	James Durbin,	1837
Bloomville,	Bloom,	Julius Treat,	1837
Bascom,	Hopewell,	George W. Gist,	1837
Bettsville,	Liberty,	David Risdon,	1838
Elizabethtown,	Bloom,	James Durbin,	1838
Lodi,	Reed,	James Durbin,	1838
Green Spring,	Adams,	David Reeves,	1839
		David Risdon,	"
Thompstontown,	Thompson,	Jonas Hersberger,	1840
Lewisville,	Thompson,	Jonas Hershberger,	1841
Rehoboth,	Jackson,	Thomas Heming,	1844
Oregon,	Big Spring,	R. M. Shoemaker,	1844
Berwick,	Seneca,	Thomas Heming,	1845
Adamsville,	Adams,	Thomas Heming,	1846

## TABULAR VIEWS.

## AN ABSTRACT,

Of the value of personal property in this county, subject to taxation in the years 1825-35, and at the present time.

	1825.		1835.		1847.	
	No.	VALUE.	No.	VALUE.	No.	VALUE.
Horses.....	322	\$13,160	1691	\$67,640	6369	\$225,242
Houses.....	.....	1,750	49	20,340	.....	.....
Cattle.....	1,079	9,890	4,223	33,784	14,212	114,214
Mules.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	155
Sheep.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46,349	25,665
Hogs.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,120	26,092
Carriages.....	.....	.....	18	1,110	394	17,764
Watches.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	906	8,198
Pianos.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	1,775
Unenumerated articles.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56,188
Manuf'ct's & Merch. stock..	.....	12,500	.....	44,109	.....	152,925
Credits and moneys.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	278,923
<b>Total,</b>		<b>\$37,300</b>		<b>\$166,983</b>		<b>\$907,141</b>

Appraisalment and purchase price of the school section (16) in each township of the county.

TOWNSHIPS.	APPRAISEMENT.	PURCHASE PRICE.
Adams,	\$3,200	\$4,443
Big Spring,	(not sold.)	
Bloom,	3,120	3,691
Clinton,	(no records.)	
Eden,	1,254	1,254
Hopewell,	(part unsold.)	
Jackson,	4,950	5,229
Liberty,	(unsold.)	
Loudon,	"	
Scipio,	(no records.)	
Seneca,	800	800
Pleasant,	1,042	1,042
Reed,	2,230	2,943
Thompson,	9,300	11,090
Venice,	2,780	2,783

The following is a tabular view of the whole *whole* and *fractional* school districts in each township, together with the number of youth entitled to draw public money in each, for the year 1847.

TOWNSHIPS.	WHOLE DISTRICTS.	FRACTIONAL DISTRICTS.	NO. OF YOUTH.
Adams,	7	4	677
Bloom,	9	2	749
Clinton,	11	1	1,296
Eden,	10	1	663
Hopewell,	8	1	520
Liberty,	9	0	631
Loudon,	9	2	650

TOWNSHIPS.	WHOLE DISTRICTS.	FRACTIONAL DISTRICTS.	NO. OF YOUTH.
Pleasant,	8	0	604
Reed,	11	4	676
Seneca,	9	1	718
Scipio,	11	3	953
Thompson,	9	3	700
Venice,	8	4	686
Big Spring,	6	0	645
Jackson,	8	1	406
21*			

# NAMES OF THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THIS WORK.

---

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
E. Dresbach,	Tiffin,	Jacob Roth,	Tiffin,
T. P. Graves,	do	George W. Black,	do
W. H. Gibson, 3 copies,	do	A. A. Gardner,	do
Fred'k Singer,	do	J. E. Webster,	do
William Lang,	do	W. A. Kershiser,	do
Sidney Sea, 2 copies,	do	Albert Beilhartz,	do
Warren P. Noble 2	do	John L. Graves,	do
Robert M. C. Martin,	do	Dennis C. Stoner,	Clinton,
H. Gross,	do	Adaline Buskirk,	Melmore,
Samuel Stoner,	do	Maria Colman,	do
J. W. Wilson, 2 copies,	do	Angeline Arnold,	do
Richard Williams, 2	do	Amanda Arnold,	do
Joshua Seney,	do	Laura Buskirk,	do
J. P. Pillars,	do	Maria Ireland,	do
George E. Seney,	do	Emily Butterfield,	do
George Ebert,	do	Robert McD. Gibson,	do
L. W. Pillars,	do	John Lambertson,	do
Lloyd Frees,	do	James F. Newton,	do
William Hobbs,	do	P. J. Price, 3 copies,	do
W. M. Anderson,	do	Isaac Arnold,	do
R. G. Pennington, 2	do	Dennis P. Edgar,	do
S. P. Gross,	do	John C. Kinzer,	do
Josiah Roop,	Republic,	John Williamson,	Republic,
S. W. Shephard,	do	A. W. Littler,	do
D. C. Myers,	do	Wm. R. Fleming,	do
George H. Show,	do	Gad Goodspeed,	do
Robert Chamberlain,	do	E. A. Sloat,	do

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
T. M. Smith,	Melmore,	John Lawrence,	Eden,
Nathan M. Wright,	do	Levi Chamberlain,	do
William Lightcap,	do	John L. Downs,	do
Jacob C. High,	do	George Kennedy,	do
William C. Stephens,	do	Isaiah Cline,	do
E. B. Kinzer,	do	George R. Weeks,	Melmore,
H. J. Roberts,	do	Jacob Krauss,	do
Francis W. Butterfield,	do	Horace Arnold,	do
Scudder Chamberlain,	do	E. J. Chamberlain,	do
Jacob Chamberlain,	do	John Osenbraugh,	Eden,
Emanuel Trimer,	Eden,	Harry Blackman,	do
Richard Jayna,	do	John Wolf,	do
John Crum,	do	Ransom Holmes,	do
James Gray,	Melmore,	Nelson E. Merrell,	do
Sylvanus Arnold,	do	John Kinzer,	do
Hiram Pratt,	do	M. C. Gibson,	do
Daniel M. Bate,	do	Philip Springer,	do
James M. Stevens,	do	Joseph Hall,	do
William Melroy,	do	William Dilley,	do
George W. Chamberlain,	do	Lloyd Norris,	do
Harding Smith,	do	Michael Kern,	do
Henry Kline,	do	Samuel Herrin,	do
A. Seitz,	do	Amos Nichols,	do
Jas. C. R. Eastman,	do	John Kagy,	do
Jacob Weeks,	do	Edward S. Bellamy,	do
Moses King,	do	Joel Wright,	do
H. K. Burg,	do	John G. Patterson,	do
G. A. Blackwell,	do	R. W. Bellamy,	do
James M. Chanche,	do	George Swigart,	do
Henry Ladd,	do	Samuel Garber,	do
William Wing,	Eden,	Seneca C. Wing,	do
Samuel Seitz,	do	William B. Mathewson,	do

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
Henry L. Blackman	Eden,	James Davis 2	Republic
Edward Talman,	do	W. M. Dildine,	do
Robert L. Speer,	do	P. M. Smith,	do
R. H. Squier,	do	A. Burrill,	do
Samuel Grelle,	do	Timothy Craft,	do
Benjamin Brundage,	do	E. S. Stickney,	do
Gamaliel Cowles,	do	A. G. Sargent,	do
D. W. Graves,	do	O. E. Page,	do
Elizabeth Graves,	do	Daniel Brown,	do
James B. Watson,	do	H. P. Benton,	do
William Watson,	do	David Lawton,	do
William Brown,	do	W. A. Barns,	do
Isaac Bretz,	do	Ezra Brown,	do
A. K. Bretz,	do	R. W. M'Cartney,	do
George Beaver,	Bloom,	N. Church,	do
Robert McClelland,	do	Wm. Parker,	do
Jacob Black,	do	W. W. Culver,	do
Noah Rhinehart,	do	A. H. Westbrook,	do
Chester Brown,	Crawf'd co.	Paul DeWitt,	do
Hugh Welch,	Wyandot co.	Henry D. Wilson,	do
H. B. Martin,	do	F. S. Kendall,	do
J. Maynard,	Republic.	G. W. Haxton,	do
Calvin P. Ransom,	do	David Maltby,	do
J. P. Maynard,	do	L. D. Mc Ardle,	do
G. G. Smith,	do	R. F. Parks,	do
N. P. Calwell,	do	Nathan Foster,	do
Jason Parmenter,	do	Job Pettys,	do
W. C. Cole,	do	Abr'm. T. Miller,	do
John S. Smith,	do	Peter Rumsey,	do
Jonas Roop,	do	D. S. Reynolds,	do
W. A. Parks,	do	John B. Frary,	do
G. H. Spangle,	do	Jonathan Pettys,	do
H. R. Allison,	do		



# CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION—	PAGE.
Origin and signification of the word <i>Ohio</i> .....	7
Discovery of the Mississippi river.....	8
Expedition of M. de la Salle.....	9
Expedition of M. D'Iberville.....	10
English charters.....	11
Expedition of Crawford.....	12
Treaty with the Indians.....	25
First settlement in Ohio.....	26
Survey of Cincinnati.....	27
Building of Fort Washington.....	28
Expedition of General Harmar.....	29
Defeat of Arthur St. Clair.....	32
Expedition of General Wayne.....	38
Treaty of Greenville.....	42
First territorial legislature convened.....	43
Framing of the constitution.....	44
Ohio admitted into the Union.....	46
Alteration of laws.....	47
Battle of Tippecanoe.....	48
Croghan's victory.....	49
Seat of the state government removed to Columbus,	51
CHAPTER I. Aborigines—War between the Wyandots and Senecas—Naval fight—The Wyandots settle upon the Sandusky—Treaty with the Indians— Grant of land to the Seneca Indians—Their remov- al to the west—An execution for witchcraft.....	53

CHAPTER II. Simon Girty—His character—Attack on Fort Henry—Girty's harangue—Attack upon Bryant's station—Girty's speech—Answer of Reynolds—Girty's cruelty to Crawford corroborated—His death—Seneca Indians sacrificing two dogs to the Great Spirit.....	62
CHAPTER III. Erection of counties—The new purchase—Land district—Sale of lands—Seneca county—Roads—Oakley—Sandusky river—Honey-creek—Wolf-creek—Organization of the county—First annual election.....	70
CHAPTER IV. Camp Ball—First settler in Seneca county—Clinton township—Fort Ball—Robert Armstrong—William McCulloch—Tiffin—Land-offices—Mad River and Lake Erie Rail-road.....	79
CHAPTER V. Seneca Patriot—Printing press—Independent Chronicle—Tiffin Gazette—Van Burenite—Seneca Advertiser—Whig Standard—Cholera—Court-house—Jail and Sheriff's house—Bank.....	89
CHAPTER VI. Journey of the Welches—John Vanmeter—Eden township—First physician—Melmore;	97
CHAPTER VII. Camp Seneca—Indian council—Fort Meigs—Fort Stephenson—General Harrison at camp Seneca—Grand camp—Perry's victory.....	105
CHAPTER VIII. Attempt to assassinate Gen. Harrison—James Montgomery—Pleasant township—Fort Seneca—Peter Pork—William Spicer—Bloom township—Elizabethtown—Bloomville—Silver-creek—Scipio township—Republic—Seneca County Academy.....	118
CHAPTER IX. Thompson township—Sink-holes—Cave—Lewisville—Reed township—Lodi—Venice township—Caroline—Attica.....	131

CHAPTER X. Sale of school sections—Free-schools— Present condition—Obstacles retarding their progress.....	147
CHAPTER XI. Adams township—Sulphur-spring—Festival of the Seneca Indians.....	155
CHAPTER XII. Death of Hard-hickory—Benjamin F. Warner—Peter Pork—Charlieu—Jacob Nicely..	166
CHAPTER XIII. Murder of Drake—Seneca township—Berwick—Hopewell township—Bascom—Loudon township—Rome—Risdon—Liberty township—Bettsville—Jackson township.....	175
CHAPTER XIV. Big-spring township—Springville—Oregon—Productions of the county—Conclusion..	185
Appendix.....	191

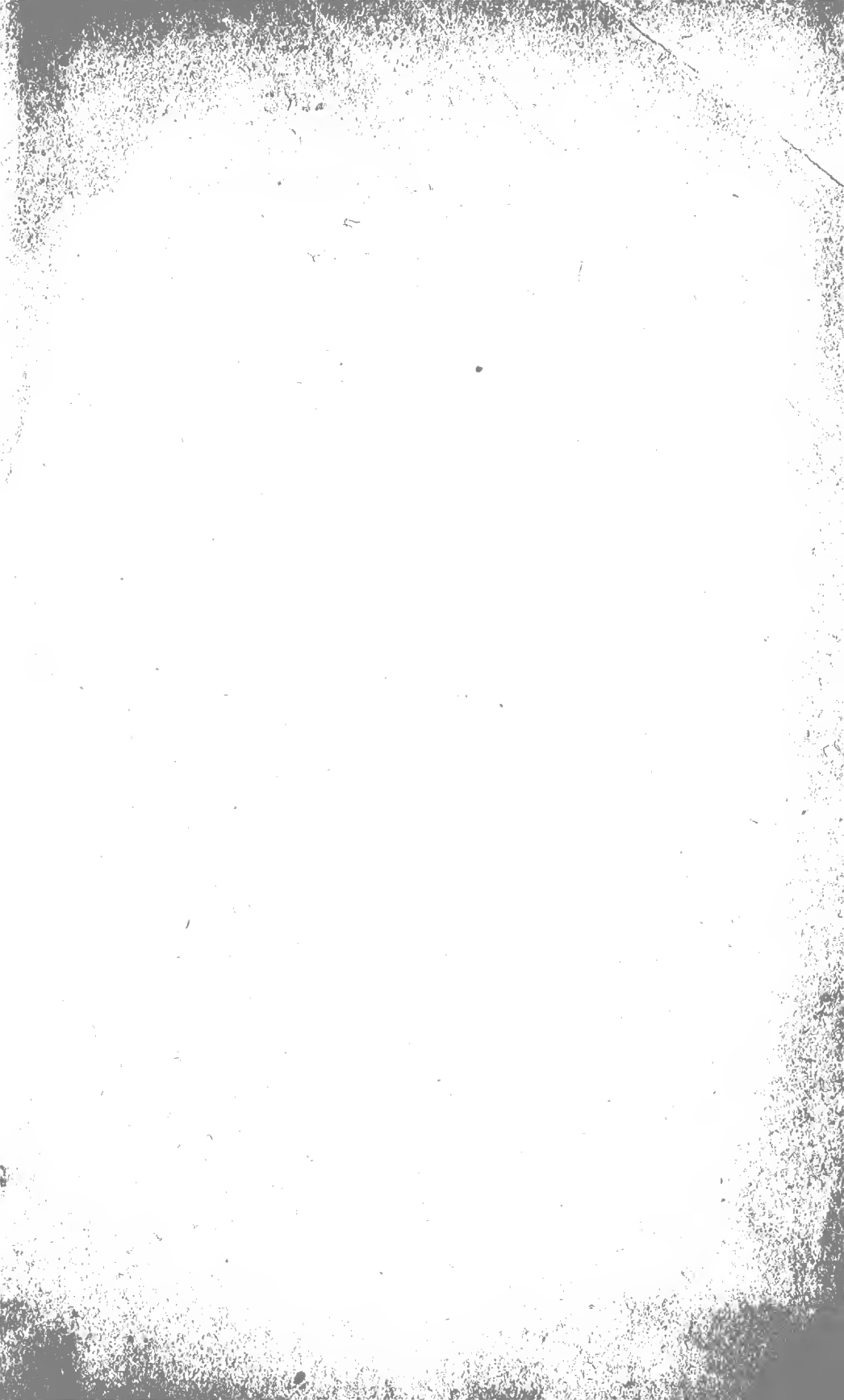
## ADVERTISEMENT.

---

Most of the works which have been consulted, and from which extracts have been made in collecting materials for this work, have been mentioned in the proper place. The author, however, has made free use of the "Western Adventure," "Chase's Statutes," and several other valuable works in compiling the *Introduction*, which were not thus acknowledged.

In gathering materials from such a multiplicity of sources, it is hardly to be expected but that *errors* have found their way into this history; although great pains have been taken to get at *facts*, and to give *dates* as correct as possible. Should any errors be discovered, they will be promptly corrected in another edition, (if the sale of the present one warrant its publication,) and where such are discovered by readers, they will confer a great favor by sending a communication with corrections, to the author, at Tiffin.

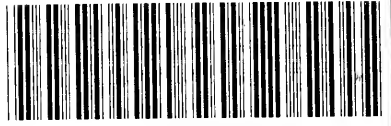
THE END.







LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 574 730 2 ●