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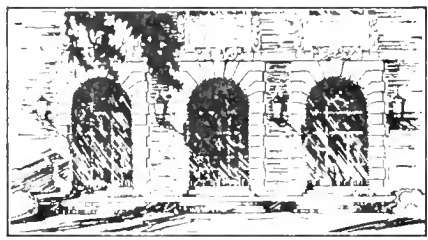


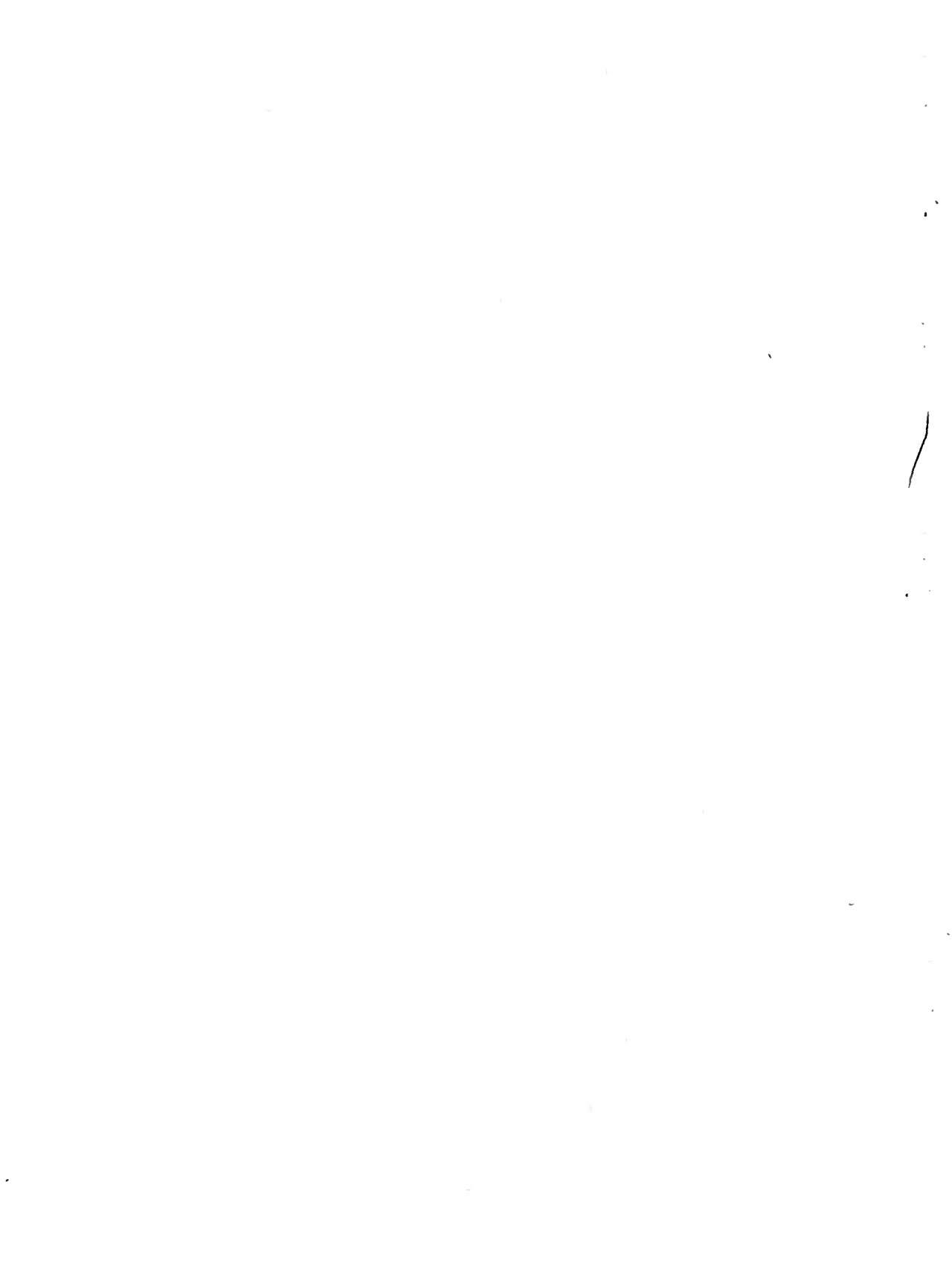
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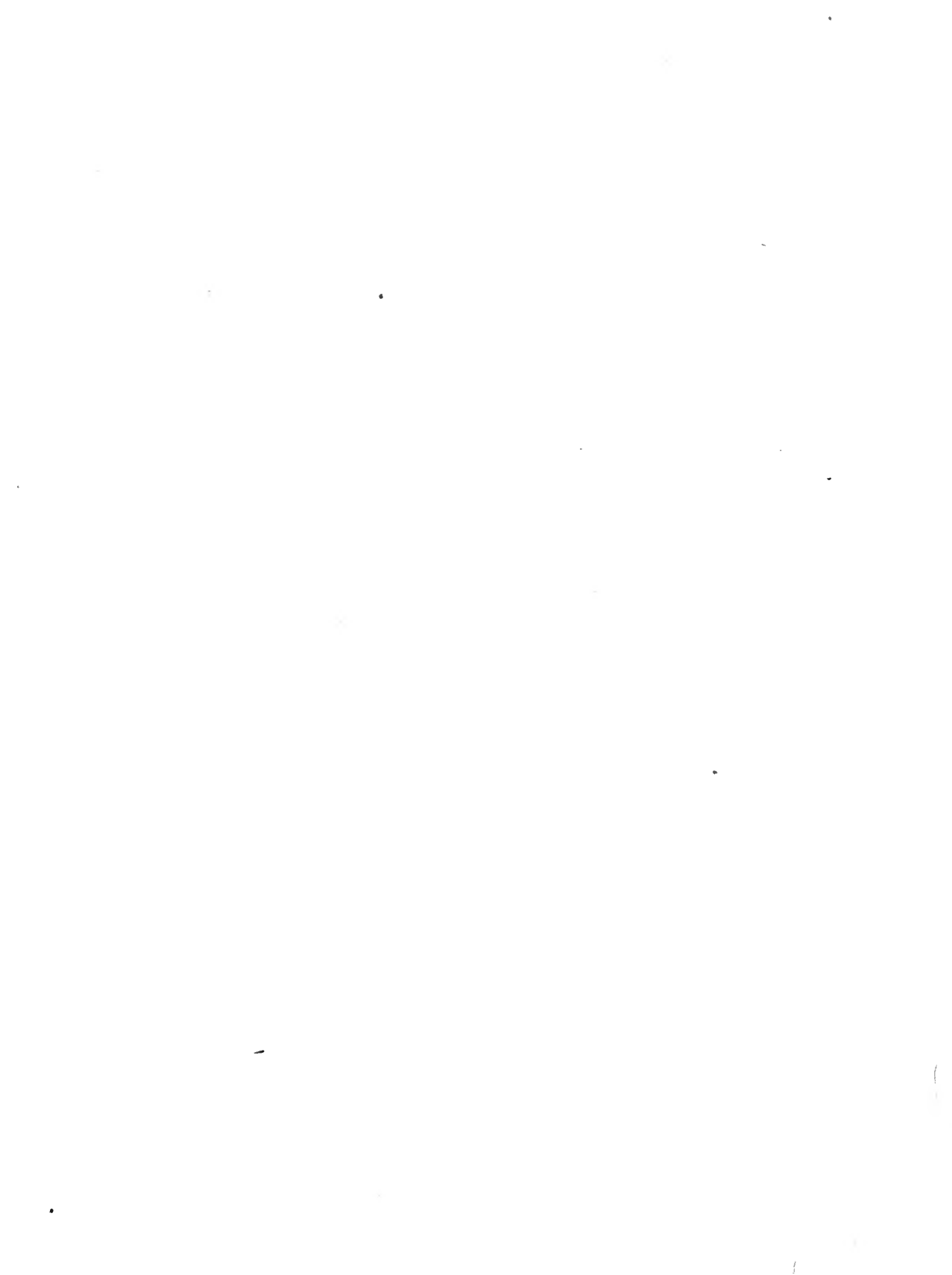
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RECORDS

OF

THE OLDEN TIME;

OR,

FIFTY YEARS ON THE PRAIRIES.

EMBRACING

SKETCHES OF THE DISCOVERY, EXPLORATION AND
SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTRY,

THE

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTIES OF PUTNAM AND MARSHALL,
INCIDENTS AND REMINISCENCES CONNECTED THERE-
WITH, BIOGRAPHIES OF CITIZENS, POR-
TRAITS AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

BY SPENCER ELLSWORTH.

LACON, ILL.

HOME JOURNAL STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

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Ill. Hist. Survey

P R E F A C E .

In the following pages we have endeavored to trace the early settlement of that portion of our State embraced in the counties of Putnam and Marshall, gathering up the forgotten records of each township and neighborhood, and telling for the benefit of their descendants the story of the brave men and women who wrested their homes from the savage, and turned a desert into the fairest land that beams beneath the sun.

It is not a "history," and does not claim to be, nor should it be judged as such, but in its pages we have sought to tell in plain, simple language, the story of our ancestors' lives, and string together for the amusement and instruction of their descendants the incidents and happenings—solemn, grotesque or ludicrous as they were—that made up the warp and woof of their daily existence.

The old settlers are fast passing away. Many prominent actors in the scenes here depicted have paid the debt of nature, and the story of their lives is well nigh forgotten. But a few years more, and we shall see the last of that noble band carried to their final home. Much that is valuable has already passed into oblivion, and to rescue what remains has been our study. The faithfulness with which it has been performed can best be judged by the public.

At the outset of our task it was found that to reconcile dates and even statements of the same occurrence was impossible. Our sole dependence was restricted to the uncertain memory of a few feeble men and women, who had reached the stage of life when the "grasshopper is a burden," and forgetfulness is courted rather than deprecated. Human nature is weak, and forty years of slowly revolving time dims the brightest images graven on the tablets of the mind. At first we strove to reconcile these conflicting variations and strike a balance of probabilities, but the task was so hopeless that it was abandoned, and the plan adopted of giving each statement as received and allowing it to pass for what it was

9th Nat. Survey
1892-1894
Ill. Hist. Survey

worth. Circumstances have compelled a more hurried preparation of the literary portion of the work than was intended or desirable, but such as it is we send it forth.

Success in life is not the effect of accident or of chance; it is the result of the intelligent application of certain fixed principles to the affairs of every day. Each man must make this application according to the circumstances by which he is surrounded, and he can derive no better assistance or encouragement in his struggles than from the example of those whose advantages were meagre and worthless compared with ours. He who peruses the records of those early pioneers will surely find principles which he can safely carry into his own life and use for his own advancement.

In these latter days, when every acre nearly is appropriated by the husbandman or covered with thriving towns and cities, it seems strange to read of the trials of those who first broke the soil and opened the way for them that followed. It seems so far back when these incidents occurred that one can hardly imagine it was only the fathers of the people of to-day of whom we write.

With every comfort the mind of man can devise, with every want supplied by the creations of these later years, we look back upon the lives of our nearest ancestors as tales of an olden time, coeval almost with the days when "Adam delved and Eve span." But those deeds of heroism, those days of toil, those nights of danger were all experienced, were all accomplished by the sires whose descendants we are.

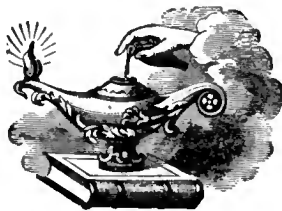
There lives to-day but a remnant of that pioneer band, fast drifting on to the confines of time, where they shall leave behind forever the recollections of those early days, and pass beyond into the glorious rewards of their trials and sorrows. But their good deeds will live after them; they will not be "interred with their bones." The record of their lives is the property of their descendants, and in the pages of this volume we shall endeavor to tell their story so that "he who runs may read," and take some useful lessons from the experience of those gone before.

In conclusion we desire to thank all who have aided in furnishing the information desired. Everywhere we met nothing but kindness, and gladly would we name them, were it not that it would involve another volume to contain them all. Individually they are due, and we desire to thank J. G. Armstrong, who industriously assisted in collecting and collating our information; the Revs. J. G. Evans, Price and Bruce; John

Bettis, of Truckee, Cal.; Jas. G. Allen, of Omaha; Thomas Judd, of Evans; Nathaniel Smith, of Nineveh, N. Y.; and the Hon. G. L. Fort; also Frank B. Hazleton, of Chicago, overseer of the mechanical part, who has patiently and faithfully performed his work; and finally the compositors, one and all, who assisted in its preparation. We desire likewise to express our indebtedness to Henry A. Ford's "History of Marshall and Putnam Counties," "Ford's History of Illinois," N. M. Matson's "Reminiscences of Bureau County," Baldwin's "History of La Salle County," and A. N. Ford for access to his newspaper files.

As regards the literary value of the work we have nothing to say, and do not now expect to see it appreciated; but there will assuredly come a time when the information laboriously sought and perhaps clumsily given will be valued, and then our labors will be appreciated.

THE AUTHOR.





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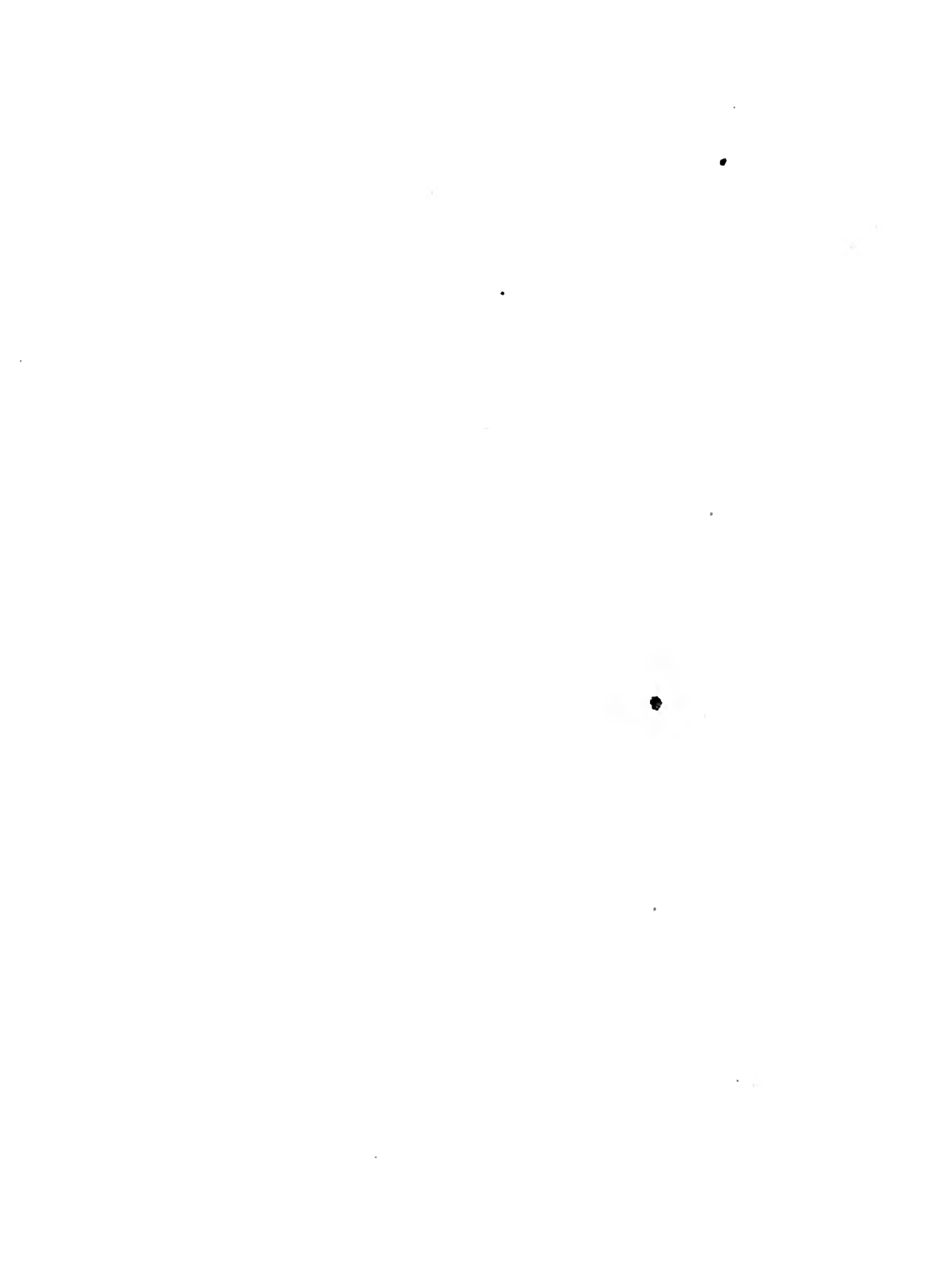
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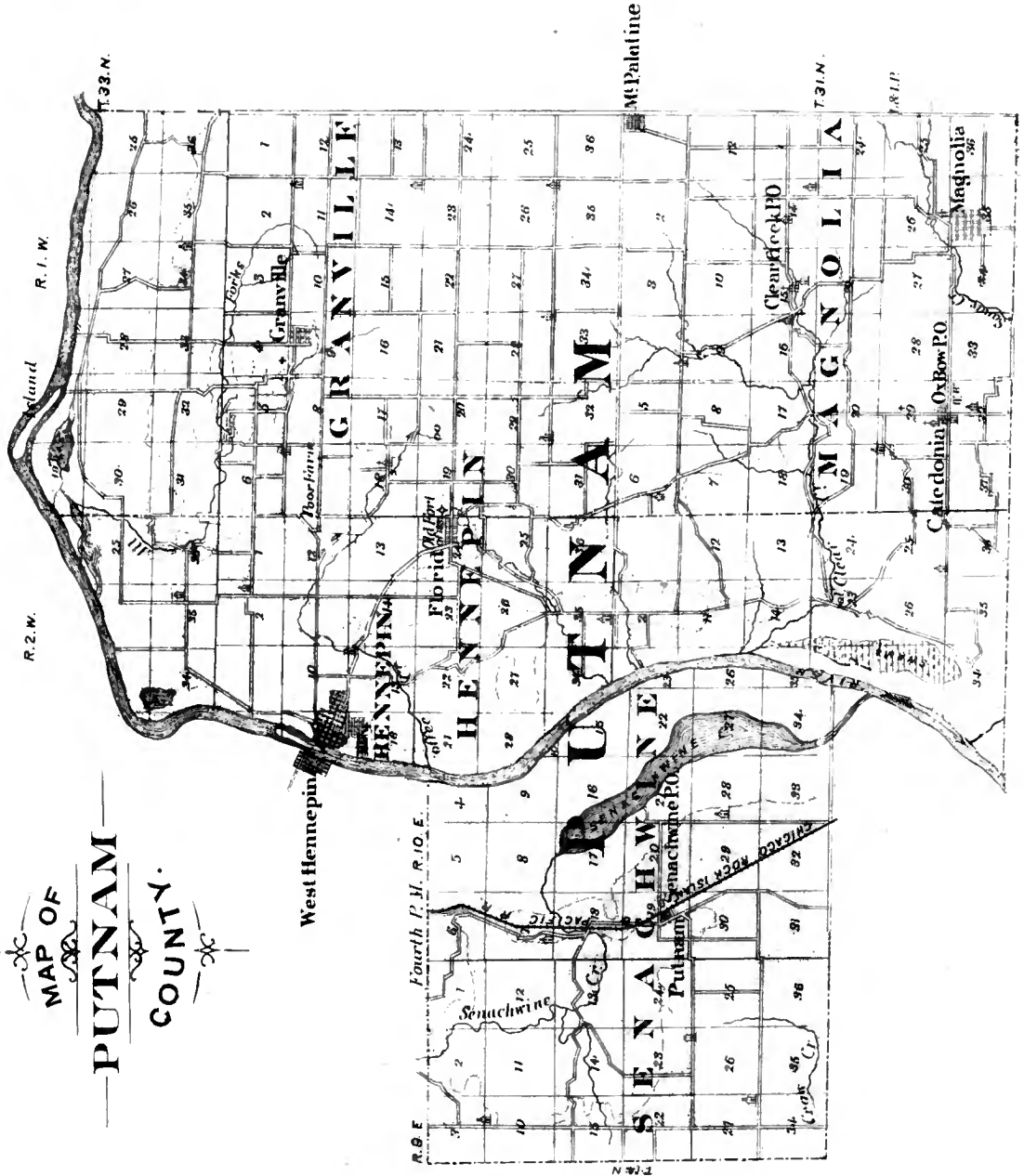
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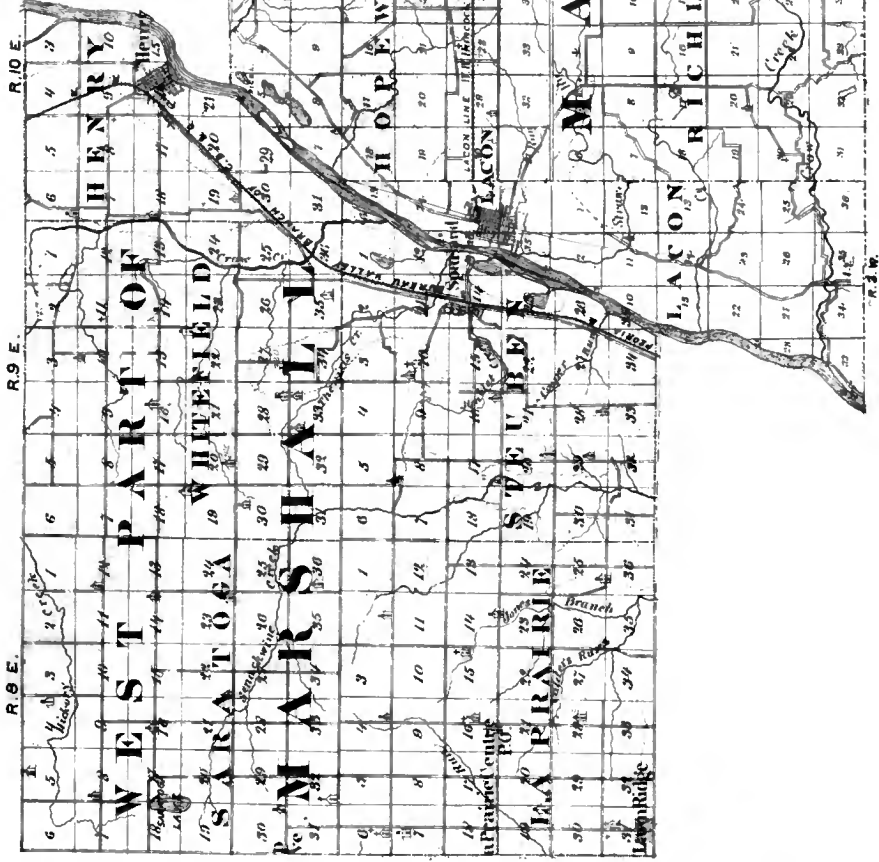




MAP OF
PUTNAM
 COUNTY.



MAP OF MARSHALL COUNTY.



RECORDS OF THE OLDEN TIME;

—OR,—

FIFTY YEARS ON THE PRAIRIES.

DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

CHAPTER I.

VOYAGES OF COLUMBUS.



IN the 14th of October, 1492, Christopher Columbus, a Genoese mariner in the service of the King of Spain, while sailing westward in search of a new route to the Indies, discovered the island of San Salvador, then believed to be a new continent. This voyage of Columbus, in its results of so vast importance to the civilized world, was inspired by a firm belief in the theory of the earth's rotundity, and an enthusiastic desire to demonstrate its correctness; for though in the year 1356, one hundred and thirty-six years before, Sir John Mandeville, in the first English book ever written, had advanced this idea, and clearly proved its correctness by astronomical observations and deductions of remarkable accuracy; and though others had vaguely entertained a similar belief, none possessed the hardihood to attempt its practical demonstration. For ten years Columbus, an enthusiast upon the subject, abandoning his profession, had traveled from court to court throughout Europe, seeking a patron of intelligence, enterprise and means, and finally succeeded in securing for his plans the earnest sympathy and approval of the noble Isabella, Queen of Castile, and her husband Ferdinand, King of Spain, through whose material aid he was enabled to test the correctness of his views.

Immediately upon the result of this wonderful expedition becoming known, different nations vied with each other in endeavors to advance their knowledge of this strange land, and each sought to secure to itself

the greatest possible advantages to be derived from conquering, subduing and colonizing the new world. To Columbus was due the honor of finding, if not the lost and long sought Atlantis, what was of greater consequence,—vast countries, destined in time to contain half the population of the whole earth. While he discovered San Salvador, Cuba, Hayti and Jamaica—the rich West Indies—he merely got a glimpse of South America, at the mouth of the Orinoco, and never saw any portion of the northern half of the continent, the future seat of empire of the new world. Though he was the actual discoverer of the Western Hemisphere, to which his name should have been given, he was denied that honor. He first landed upon San Salvador, after which he visited Conception, Cuba and Hayti. On the shores of the Bay of Caracola, in the last-named island, was erected out of the timbers of one of his vessels a fort, the first structure built by white men in the new world.

While correct in his opinions regarding the figure of the earth, Columbus made a great mistake in his estimate of its size, believing it to be not more than ten or twelve thousand miles in circumference; and upon this assumption he was confident that by this route he could reach,—if, indeed, he had not already reached—China and the East Indies. Encouraged by his partial success, in September of 1493 he sailed on a second voyage, which resulted in the discovery of the Windward group of islands. On this voyage, also, he established a colony in Hayti, appointing his brother Governor.

After an absence of three years, he returned to Spain, to find himself the victim of jealousies and suspicions, but so far overcame them as to organize another expedition. On this third voyage he discovered Trinidad and the main land of South America at the mouth of the Orinoco. Sailing thence to Hayti, he found his colony in disorder, his brother deposed, and was himself seized by Bobadilla, the usurping Governor, and sent to Spain in irons. A disgraceful imprisonment followed, but through the influence of friends he was liberated and sent on his fourth and last voyage. He coasted along the main shore of South America for some time, but disappointed in the object of his search—a route to the East Indies—he returned to Spain, and soon after died, a broken-hearted old man.

After Columbus, the work of discovery was prosecuted with untiring energy. One of his captains was Americus Vespucci, who in 1499 visited the main land and coasted along its shores for several leagues; but beyond demonstrating that the land to the west of the Windward group of islands

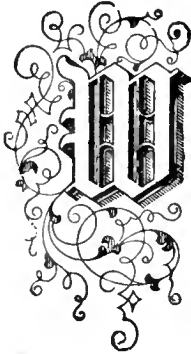
was not connected with them or with the Bahamas, he accomplished very little. He was a pompous man, with a plausible way of expressing himself, and on his return gave glowing accounts of his achievements, in which he adroitly omitted all reference to Columbus, and took the credit to himself of having discovered the new continent, likewise ignoring the fact that it was the genius of Columbus which had organized the first expedition, his courage that sustained the enterprise, brought the voyage to so successful a termination, and rendered further discoveries an easy matter. It was Columbus who demonstrated that the earth was round, and that islands, and even continents—yes, a hemisphere, was to be found in the world of waters toward the setting sun. The wily Spaniard undermined the worthy Genoese, and won the honor due alone to him. The New World was named America, but the great, the lasting fame of its discovery remains with him whose prow first ploughed the Western seas.

While the adventurous of all nations participated in the exploration of the New World during the succeeding century, the Spaniards, disappointed in their thirst for gold and plunder among the natives of North America, their rapacity inflamed by glowing accounts of the wealth of the Incas, and doubtless also influenced by the more congenial climate, directed their attention almost wholly to Mexico and South America, inflicting upon those countries to this day the enervating heritage of their own indolent, lawless and revolutionary propensities. Important discoveries within the territory now embraced by the United States were made by Spanish explorers, of which brief mention will be made in their proper connection, but the colonization and development of North America was fortunately left almost wholly to hardy pioneers from the more northerly European countries.



CHAPTER II.

ANCIENT EXPLORERS.



WHILE to Spain is accorded the honor of having discovered the new world, there is a strong probability that the little sea-girt, ice-bound island in mid-ocean between Greenland and Norway, appropriately named Iceland, may justly dispute this distinguished claim. Away back as far as A. D. 986, an Icelandic navigator named Herjulfson, who had made a few voyages for trading purposes between his country and Greenland, while heading toward the land of the Esquimaux, was caught in a storm and driven on the coast of Labrador. He saw there a low outline of rocky and wooded shore, far different from that of Greenland. Although sufficiently near, a heavy sea prevented him from landing, and he coasted along until a favorable wind bore him homeward to tell to incredulous ears the wonderful story.

Fourteen years afterward Lief Erickson, another Icelder, inspired by the story of Herjulfson, determined to test its truth, and gathering a crew of hardy Norse sailors, embarked, and in the spring of 1001 touched the coast of Maine, and thence drifted southward. Here he saw wonderful woods and flowers and wild game such as he had never before beheld, besides strange red men, wholly unlike the Esquimaux. This to him was a tropical clime, a region of enchanting loveliness, and his crew were loth to leave it.

His brother Thorwald came in the following season, and died near Fall River, Massachusetts. Afterward others followed, including Thorfin Karlsefne, who, with a crew of 150 men, explored the entire coast of the New England States, entered New York Harbor, and established friendly relations with the Indians, giving the region the name of Vinland.

From time to time as late as 1437, Icelandic explorers visited the north-eastern shores of this continent, but failed to establish permanent commercial relations with the Indians, having little to exchange, and small demand for what the aborigines had to barter. The gradually increasing

severity of the arctic climate finally caused all Icelandic voyages hither to cease; but the story of their adventures and discoveries exists in legend and history, and the claim that they first discovered America has a substantial basis of fact to rest upon.

Subsequently, in various places along the New England coast have been found relics of a strange race, such as spears and shields, helmets, lances, battle axes, and other weapons of war such as the Northmen used in the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth centuries. Culinary utensils have likewise been found of the exact pattern of those of ancient Norway.

The people of Iceland, unlike the Esquimaux, are clearly Europeans, in form, habits, religion and color, and their resemblance to their neighbors of Norway, six hundred miles eastward, is unmistakable. Between Iceland and the northernmost point of Scotland the distance is about five hundred miles, with the Faroe Isles intervening midway. But there seems little question of the Norwegian descent of the Icelanders. They connect themselves by their chronicles with the former country, which they left in open boats ages ago. They have old legends, religious beliefs and superstitions and ancient traditions in common with the mother country, and trace themselves to European ancestry. Their chronicles of the discovery of America are equally clear and credible. That they could have crossed from Norway 500 or 600 miles of sea, in open boats, with island resting places between shores, is no longer doubtful, since only recently the broad Atlantic was crossed in a frail craft navigated by a single daring mariner and his adventurous wife.

A few years ago, beneath a rock near the coast was found the skeleton of a man encased in armor; and an ancient paper among the archives of Iceland tells how a sailor was killed in a skirmish with the natives, and his remains buried where he fell, at the foot of a precipice.



THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

CHAPTER III.

THE GARDEN SPOT OF THE WORLD.



THE discovery of America was an event of great consequence to Europe. It not only marked out a new career for many of her people, but changed the destinies of whole nations. The safety of a tyrant lies in the ignorance and superstition of his subjects. Knowledge is not only power, but freedom itself. The people were becoming enlightened, and in proportion as they advanced in wisdom, so the chains of political servitude became more galling, and far-off America, with her grassy plains, broad savannahs, leafy woods and crystal streams, loomed up before the oppressed as a land of promise. Monarchy was in danger when the spirit of freedom was aroused, and it became a question of Revolution or Emigration; and both the people and their rulers saw in the latter the surer, safer course.

The people who first settled here found a wonderful contrast between the sterile soil of the old world, where the farmer forced a scanty subsistence from land not his own, and the broad forest regions of New England or the mountainous declivities of Virginia or North Carolina; for the land, though hilly, was rich virgin soil; and above all, it was *free*. Whatever the farmer raised was his own beyond the reach of rapacious tithes-gatherers. To fell and clear these vast forests and remove from the sunny hillsides the stone was joyful work, since it was to make free homes for free men and their children forever. This labor of love would cause the wilderness to blossom as the rose.

Luckily, the hardy pioneers who cleared the bleak hills of New England little dreamed of the far-off Eden of the West, made by nature ready for the plow,—the richest, freest soil under the sun. For thousands of years, ever since man began to till the soil to get from it his bread, it had lain unturned, waiting the white man's coming. No soil had heretofore been found so rich as to require no dressing. No farm was believed possible until some one cut down the trees and removed the stumps and roots, or

dug up and carried away or suuk out of sight and reach of the plow the larger stones that cumbered the surface. To tell the Puritans of a land still more perfect than their own was to insult their judgment with a fictitious impossibility!

And yet here lay this broad, beautiful, unsurpassably rich garden spot of the world. Here, extending from the copper mines and along the southern shore of the largest fresh water lake in the world—Lake Superior,—stretching around to the base of the Rocky Mountains, and thence eastward to the Alleghanias and south to the Gulf of Mexico, enclosing the mightiest lakes and the longest rivers of the world—the peerless Mississippi, the turbulent but even larger Missouri, the Platte, the Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Tennessee, and many others, forming together a perfect system of drainage and fertilization,—lay this grand country, the great Mississippi Valley, the richest agricultural region under the sun, so far as human knowledge goes.

A great discovery was that of this grand central plain, once the basin of a vast inland sea long ages ago, when hideous monsters of the coal period disported themselves among the luxuriant weeds that grew as trees, and gigantic saurians hid beneath their branches or lazily wallowed in the oozy marsh. Long cycles of time have passed since this great inter-continental ocean between the rising hills of the East and the frowning mountains of the West subsided its flood and slowly, by degrees marked by centuries, the finished world emerged from its chaotic beginning. During that vast intermediate space what mighty throes of nature has it witnessed, what Titanic convulsions has it experienced? Then came great floods of water and intense heat, followed by the glacial or cold period, when for centuries fields of ice hundreds of feet in depth ploughed up the surface and harrowed down the hills till, after eons of ages, came man—not historic man, with his progressive faculties, but the pre-historic first attempt of nature toward the *genus homo*,—the dweller in caves, possessing an abundance of low cunning, and fighting his way with sticks and stones among the swarming monsters of earth and sea. Then came the mound-builders and what is known as the Stone Age, supplemented by what are termed the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. Whether these periods resulted from gradual progress, or were rudely broken off by long intervals of time, is not certain. History tells that after the fall of Greece and Rome came the Dark Ages, and man seemed to have degenerated thousands of years. So between the strongly marked characteristics of pre-historic races there

may have been wide gaps of time, and nations rose and fell unnoted and unknown.

The Indians whom our ancestors found here, in arts and sciences were far behind the ancient people who once inhabited this country. They did not have the sagacity to provide for inclement weather or old age. Each day was for itself; and so their lives ran, either a feast or a famine. They had no traditions of former races, and knew nothing of their own previous history. The numerous mounds that covered the country excited neither interest nor enthusiasm, and the red man is best described by Pope in the following lines:

“To be, contents his natural desire;
He asks no angel's wing nor seraph's fire,
But thinks, admitted to that equal sky,
His faithful dog shall bear him company.”

THE FATHER OF WATERS.

The Mississippi River was first discovered by the Spaniards, in the year 1541, at a point near its entrance into the Gulf of Mexico. Two years later Father Hennepin voyaged down the Illinois River to its confluence with the Mississippi, and launching his craft upon its rapid current, journeyed to the falls of St. Anthony, and returning, went as far southward as the thirty-third parallel, near the mouth of the Arkansas. These long voyages were prompted by utopian dreams, the Spaniards seeking the fabled fountain of eternal youth, and the French a shorter route to China.

In 1512, Juan Ponce de Leon, Spanish Governor of Porto Rico, one of the West India Islands, rich and avaricious, but growing old, fitted out a fleet and sailed in search of the fabled spring. On the 27th of March, he came upon the coast of a wonderful land, abounding in limpid springs and wood-crowned hills, gay with gorgeous flowers, and tenanted by gaudy plumaged birds. He named this enchanting country Florida, “the land of flowers.” Landing near the site of what is now the city of St. Augustine, the oldest town built by white men on this continent, and claiming the country for the King of Spain, he promptly organized and vigorously prosecuted his search for the fabulous fountain. After many weeks of fruitless exploration among the everglades and flower-laden groves, he turned southward, discovered and named the Tortugas, doubled Cape Florida, and returned to Porto Rico. The king, to compensate him for the discovery,

made him Governor of Florida, and sent him to establish a colony. He returned in 1521, to find the natives intensely hostile, instead of friendly and hospitable as before, and had scarcely landed ere they fell upon him in overwhelming numbers and drove his men to their ships, Ponce de Leon himself being so severely wounded that he died soon after reaching Cuba, for which point his expedition sailed in precipitate haste.

In A. D. 1528, Narvaez was appointed Governor of Florida by the King of Spain, and sailed for that province with a force of two hundred and sixty footmen and forty horsemen. He landed at Tampa Bay in April, and went northward in search of gold and conquest; but where he hoped to find ancient cities and vast empires abounding in wealth, he discovered only morasses, lagoons and savages. After weeks of peril and hardship they reached the coast, built light barges, and put to sea, but were driven by storms again upon the shore. Here Narvaez died. His lieutenant, De Vaca, at length reached the Spanish settlements in Mexico with a handful of men, having, as some historians allege, discovered the Mississippi on his way. As he seems not to have claimed that honor, however, and failed to formally take possession of it in the name of the King of Spain, as other Spanish discoverers were wont to do, his government never accredited him with that achievement.

In 1537, Ferdinand de Soto, a distinguished cavalier of Spain and bosom friend of Pizarro, who as conqueror of Peru had just returned loaded with the wealth of the Incas, was made Governor of Florida, and came with six hundred men to conquer and subdue the country, expecting to find it a second Peru in wealth. His men were representatives of the nobility of Spain, clad in knightly armor, and they came with all the pomp and circumstance of conquerors, bringing shackles for slaves, bloodhounds for hunting, and priests to conduct their religious exercises. In June, 1539, they first caught sight of land, but instead of the wondrous beauty delineated in Ponce de Leon's painting, they beheld but a silent beach of marshy waste and gloomy morass. Some of the men deserted and returned to Cuba. Landing with the remainder of his force, De Soto marched northward, wading swamps, swimming rivers, and fighting the Indians who hovered about his line of march, harrassing his column and seeking to impede his progress. They wintered in the country of the Apalachians, on the left bank of Flint River, and in the spring of 1540 resumed their tedious journey, wandering through the interminable wilderness until about April or May of 1541, when they reached the lower Chickasaw Bluff, a

little north of the thirty-fourth parallel, where they discovered the Mississippi River. After crossing the "Father of Waters," a tedious process, requiring several weeks' time, they journeyed to the north-west through Arkansas to the southern limits of Missouri, in the vicinity of New Madrid, thence west about two hundred miles, then south to the Hot Springs, where they arrived in the winter of 1541-2. They were guilty of many cruelties to the Indians, who were superstitious, and became easy victims to the duplicity of the gaudily attired Spaniards. Disappointed in finding wealth and spoils, they destroyed Indian towns and villages on their route, and cruelly mutilated their captives or burned them alive in punishment for real, imaginary or pretended offences. But in the meantime De Soto and his followers suffered terribly, sickness and death rapidly decimating their ranks. At length they turned eastward and again reached the Mississippi River, where De Soto, broken in health and spirits, gave way to melancholy, succumbed to the malarial fever incident to the climate and country, and finally died. His body was taken to the middle of the stream by his sorrowing companions, a requiem was chanted, and in a rustic coffin enclosing them, the remains of Ferdinand De Soto were buried beneath the rolling waters of that mighty river whose discovery was the only important result of all his weary wanderings. His companions, after many months of further desultory travel over Texas, again reached the Mississippi, near the mouth of Red River, where they built seven brigantines. In these they floated down the river to its mouth, whence they steered southwesterly across the Gulf of Mexico, and after fifty-five days' buffeting the terrible coast waves, three hundred and eleven survivors of this ill-fated expedition reached a Spanish settlement at the mouth of the River of Palms.

Other Spanish expeditions, notably those of Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon, Pamphilo de Narvaez and Pedro Melendez, visited portions of North America now comprised within the limits of the United States, mainly instigated by greed and characterized by atrocious cruelties, but devoid of important results. Spain retained possession of Louisiana, Florida and Texas, the former until the year 1800, when it was ceded to France and in turn purchased by the United States; Florida until Feb. 22, 1819, when it was likewise purchased by the United States; and of Texas until 1821, when it passed into the nominal possession of Mexico, only, however, to raise the standard of insurrection, achieve speedy independence and sue for admission to the glorious sisterhood of States when the galling hand of despotism bore too heavily upon the rights and liberties of her people.

SETTLEMENT OF CANADA.

CHAPTER IV.

EXPLORATIONS OF THE FRENCH.



AS EARLY as 1504, fishermen from the north of France sought the shores of New Foundland to ply their trade. A well executed map made in 1506, and found among the archives of the nation, defines the outlines of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the fishing grounds very accurately. In 1508 two Indians picked up at sea were carried to France and educated, afterward becoming very serviceable as interpreters.

In 1501 Gaspar Cortereal, a Portuguese seaman, sailed on a voyage of discovery, and striking the continent somewhere near the latitude of Maine, coasted northward a distance of seven hundred miles, until near the fiftieth parallel, when floating ice stopped further progress. Returning, he captured about fifty Indian fishermen, and took them to Portugal, where they were sold as slaves.

In 1523 an expedition was fitted out in France, consisting of four small vessels, three of which were wrecked in a storm before leaving the coast, but the fourth, the *Dolphin*, reached the coast of North Carolina, from whence the commander sailed northward as far as New Foundland, where he landed and took possession of the country in the name of the king, his master, and named it New France.

In 1534 France sent a new and successful explorer to further view her new possessions here, in the person of James Cartier, who, after cruising about Nova Scotia and New Foundland, went north and westward, entering the estuary of a broad river, which he named, in honor of his patron, St. Lawrence. He sailed up this great river past the island of Orleans, and extending his journey, reached a beautiful village at the foot of a hill in the middle of an island, the location of which had been described to him by captive Indians. Ascending the hill and discovering the surroundings fully confirmative of what had been described by his Indian guides, he named the place Mont Real, and with the usual ceremony took possession in the name of the King of France.

In 1541, about the date of De Soto's discovery of the Mississippi River, Cartier organized a new expedition from France. The fabulous stories of great wealth to be had without labor in the new world were now exploded, and the spirit of adventure was dying out; volunteers were slow to offer their services, and the king being appealed to, opened the prisons, filled with vermin from all parts of Europe, and proclaimed a free pardon for all who enlisted, excepting only such as were under sentence for counterfeiting or treason. By this means Cartier's complement was speedily made up, and with a crew of thieves, robbers and cut-throats, the future founders of a western empire, he reached the present site of Quebec, where he passed the winter.

For the next fifty years the French seem to have made no effort to colonize New France, or to explore its territory. In 1603 De Monts was appointed Governor of the country from the latitude of Philadelphia to one degree north of Montreal. In 1604 he arrived, and after some reverses of fortune, in 1605 founded a permanent settlement on the northwest coast of Nova Scotia, and the whole country and surrounding islands, with the mainland as far south as the St. Croix River, was named Acadia.

In 1608 Champlain, discoverer of the lake which bears his name, foreseeing in the fur trade of that region a profitable business, susceptible of unlimited expansion, established trading posts for the advancement of that industry, and founded Quebec. He vigorously prosecuted this industry, the new world's contribution to commerce, yearly extending it up the river until 1624, when Fort St. Louis was completed, securing the French in their permanent occupancy of the St. Lawrence Valley.

During this period the Jesuits of France were turning their attention to the far-off region of the then Northwest in America, with a view to planting the cross of the Catholic Church and converting to its tenets the inhabitants of this benighted wilderness. While priests had accompanied every expedition here, none had come as missionaries; but in 1632 Paul Le Jeune, De Noue, and a lay brother named Gilbert sailed from Rouen for "that miserable country," as they called it, arriving at Quebec in the month of July.

Le Jeune's first missionary effort was made while seated on a log, an Indian boy on one side, and a little negro, an attache of the garrison, on the other. As neither understood the language of the others, their progress in spiritual matters must have been small.

After learning the Indian language, he was better satisfied with his

labors. Others joined him, ambitious young missionaries from the mother country, and sometimes following, more often preceding the fur traders up to and around the chain of the great lakes, they founded posts and missions throughout the far North-west to the southern shores of Lake Superior. Brave, resolute and self-sacrificing men were those pioneer missionaries. Voluntarily forsaking home, friends and country, they went out into the far-off wilderness before untrodden save by savage feet, devoting their lives to the propagation of their religious faith. Sublime faith, indeed, which prompted these heroic apostles of Christianity to place their lives in momentary jeopardy, with death in its most terrible form a continual menace. The death of Jean De Brebeuf, the founder of the Huron Mission in Canada, together with his companion, Lalemont, was horrible beyond description, and has never been exceeded in brutal ferocity or intensity of suffering. Savage ingenuity in torture could no farther go than in the horrible maiming, flaying alive and burning of these martyr pioneers.

In 1632, four years before the missions were formed among the lake tribes, a grand council of Indian tribes was held at the falls of St. Mary, at the outlet of Lake Superior. In 1660 Mesnard established a station near the lake, but perished in the woods soon after. In 1668 Claude Dablon and James or Jacques Marquette, afterward a leading character in the history of Western exploration, established the mission of Sault Ste. Marie, and two years later Nicholas Perrot, agent for M. Talon, Governor General of Canada, explored Lake Michigan (then Lake Illinois) to its southern limits, or near the present site of Chicago. Marquette also founded a mission at Point Saint Ignace, across the Strait of Mackinaw.

During Marquette's residence in that region he learned of the existence of a great sea or river away to the west, the Indian descriptions of which varied greatly; also, that great tribes of Indians inhabited this far off region, among them the Winnebagoes, or sea tribe, who had never seen the face of white man, nor heard of the Gospel.

In 1634 Jean Nicolet, a Frenchman who had come to Canada in 1618, was sent to the Green Bay country to visit the Winnebagoes. He was the first white man they had ever seen. To produce the greatest possible effect, "when he approached their town he sent some of his Indian attendants to announce his coming, put on a robe of damask, and firing his pistols, advanced to meet the expectant crowd. The squaws and children fled, screaming that it was a manitou [god] or spirit, armed with

thunder and lightning; but the chiefs and warriors regaled him with so bountiful a hospitality that a hundred and twenty beavers were devoured at a single feast."

Paul Le Jeune in 1640 also wrote of the sea tribe, or Winnebagoes, and their mighty water, or sea.

Nicolet undertook to visit this far away region. Ascending Fox River, he crossed the portage to the Wisconsin, and thence floated down to where his guides assured him he was "within three days of the great water," which he mistook for the sea; but he returned without visiting it.

About this time the Governor of New France, excited by vague reports of a great unknown river in the far West, and believing it might empty into the Pacific or the South Sea, set on foot an expedition to solve the question and open up new territories for his sovereign. He cast about for some one qualified to undertake this expedition, and settled upon Louis Joliet, a daring fur trader of Quebec and a native Canadian, educated by the Jesuits for the priesthood; and to accompany him as priest, the equally venturesome and brave Marquette was chosen. Their outfit was simple, consisting of two birch-bark canoes and a supply of smoked meat and Indian corn. On the 17th of May, 1673, they set out from Mackinaw with five French Canadians as assistants, and passing the straits, and along the northern shores of Lake Michigan, reached Green Bay and sailed up Fox River to a village of the Miamis and Kickapoos. Here Marquette was delighted to find a beautiful cross in the middle of the town, ornamented with white skins and bows and arrows, offerings of the heathen to their Manitou, or god. The pioneers were regaled with mineral waters, and instructed in the secrets of a root which cured the bite of the rattlesnake. Marquette assembled the chiefs and pointed out Joliet to them as an envoy of France, while he introduced himself as an ambassador of God to enlighten them with the Gospel. Two guides were furnished to conduct them to the Wisconsin River. The guides led them across the portage between the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and left them to launch their barques on its unknown waters and float to regions where white men had never yet ventured. As they started on that strange voyage, they remembered the warnings received at an Indian village a few days before, on Fox River, where they tarried. The chiefs advised them "to go no further; that the banks of the great river were inhabited by ferocious tribes, who put all strangers to death; that the river was full of frightful monsters, some of which were large enough to swallow a canoe with all its

contents; that at a high cliff by the river side lived a demon, whose roar was so loud as to shake the earth and destroy all boats passing up or down the stream; and that the great river was full of cataracts and whirlpools which would surely engulf and destroy them."

But Father Marquette had before starting put all his trust in the "Blessed Virgin," and made a solemn vow that if he discovered the great river he would give it the name of "The Conception," in her honor. So the voyagers floated on, and were not afraid. After four days of rapid sailing they reached the mouth of the river, and on their right lay the terraced plain afterward the site of the fort and city of Prairie du Chien. A couple of days they tarried, and then launched their frail barques on the broad bosom of the "Father of Waters," "with a joy that could not be expressed."

Turning southward, they paddled down the rapid stream, their voyage unrelieved by the faintest trace of civilized life, but encountering at intervals and viewing with wonder great herds of buffalo. Marquette describes the fierce yet stupid and bewildered look, the mixture of fear and defiance of the old bulls of the herds who stood staring at the intruders through the tangled manes of their bushy heads as the canoes floated past.

They proceeded with extreme caution, not knowing what moment the savage war-whoop might startle their ears, the prelude to their capture or speedy death; landing at night to cook their meals, and hiding their retreat as well as they could, or anchored in the stream, always keeping a sentinel on watch.

Thus they journeyed a fortnight without meeting a human being, when on the 25th of June they saw foot-prints of men in the mud on the west branch of a stream. Joliet and Marquette followed the trail at a hazardous venture across a prairie two leagues, when they discovered an Indian village on the banks of a river, probably near the present site of Burlington, Iowa. Here they found a tribe of Illinois Indians, and were welcomed in the fashion of these people. "An extensive feast of four courses was set. First came a wooden bowl of Indian meal, boiled with grease, the master of ceremonies feeding his guests like infants, with a spoon; next a platter of fish, the same functionary carefully removing the bones with his fingers and blowing on the morsels to cool them before placing them in the strangers' mouths. A large dog, killed for the occasion, furnished the next course; but not relishing this, a dish of fat buffalo meat ended the feast."

Next morning, escorted by six hundred of the people, the Frenchmen returned to the river and resumed their journey.

They passed the mouth of the Illinois, discovering "The Ruined Castles," as they named the fantastic markings of the rocks at that point, produced by the action of the elements. The superstitious fears of the Canadian attendants were here aroused by the sight on the face of the rock of a pair of painted monsters, "with horns like a deer, red eyes, and a beard like a tiger; the face resembled that of a man, the body was covered with scales, and the tail was so long that it passed entirely around the body, over the head and between the legs, ending like that of a fish." This rock was near the site of the present city of Alton, and represented the Indian manitou, or god.

Soon after passing these monsters they encountered another terror,—a torrent of yellow mud, rushing across the current of the clear, blue Mississippi, boiling, surging, and sweeping in its course logs, branches, and uprooted trees. "This was the great Missouri River, where that savage stream, descending in its mad career through a vast unknown region of barbarism, poured its turbid floods into the bosom of its gentle sister." Their light canoes were whirled on the surface of the muddy vortex like dry leaves in the eddies of an angry brook.

They passed the lonely forest which covered the site of the future city of St. Louis, passed the mouth of the river upon which the Indians bestowed the well-deserved name of "Ohio," meaning "Beautiful River," and still floating onward, reached the region of perpetual summer, the reedy, marsh-lined shores buried in dense forests of cane, with its tall, straight stems and feathery foliage,—the land of cotton and sugar.

Above the mouth of the Arkansas they found a tribe of Indians who had evidently been in communication with Europeans, for they were armed with guns, knives and hatchets, wore garments of cloth, and carried their gunpowder in bottles of thick glass. Here they were cheered by the intelligence that they were only ten days from the mouth of the great river, when in fact more than one thousand miles remained to be traversed ere its waters found an outlet and mingled with those of the Gulf of Mexico.

Floating down the stream day after day, past marsh-lined shores covered with evergreens, from which depended long streamers of funereal moss, the dreary monotony and awful stillness almost frightened them, and they grew strangely superstitious. Near the mouth of the Arkansas River they landed at an Indian village, and found the inhabitants intensely

hostile, threatening extermination; but a little strategy saved them. A few days later they encountered another tribe of naked savages, who proved as hospitable as the others were hostile. They were feasted profusely, and in return Marquette made them some simple presents and set up a large cross on shore.

By this time they were convinced the Mississippi neither flowed into the Pacific Ocean nor the Gulf of California, and disheartened by reports of savage tribes below, and wearied with their long voyage, Marquette determined on returning, and on the 17th of June the voyagers turned their prows up the stream. The fierce rays of the sun beat upon their unprotected heads, and Marquette was prostrated with dysentery, which came near ending his life; but his strong constitution carried him through until a healthier climate was reached, when he rapidly recovered.

VOYAGE UP THE ILLINOIS RIVER.

These intrepid travelers had discovered the Mississippi, and rode upon its broad bosom from the Wisconsin to within a few hundred miles of its mouth, passing successively, at the confluence of each with the majestic stream upon which they journeyed, the Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Arkansas and other mighty rivers, and were now about to extend their discoveries by a voyage up the Illinois, whose limpid waters and wood-crowned hills no white man had ever yet beheld. They entered its mouth probably in August, 1673, and followed its course, "charmed as they went with its placid waters, its shady forests, and rich plains grazed by the bison and the deer."

The beauty of the river was highly extolled by Marquette. He says: "Nowhere on this journey have I seen a more pleasant country than on the banks of that river. The meadows are covered with wild oxen, stags, wild goats, and the rivers and lakes with bustards, swans, ducks and beavers. We saw, also, an abundance of parrots. Several small rivers fall into this, which is deep and broad for sixty-five leagues, and therefore navigable all the year long."

On the way they stopped at a place ever afterward famous in the annals of western discovery,—the great Illinois Town (near Utica, in

LaSalle County), called "Kaskaskia," a name afterward transferred to a French village in another part of Illinois. Here a young chief with a band of warriors offered to guide the explorers to Lake Illinois (now Lake Michigan), whither they went, and coasting its shores, reached Green Bay at the end of September, having, in an absence of about four months, paddled in their canoes a distance of over two thousand five hundred miles, traversed the Wisconsin, the Illinois and Lake Michigan, discovered the Mississippi, and explored the great valley for two-thirds of its entire length from north to south.

Marquette rested awhile from the severe strain to his mental and physical organization resulting from his long and perilous expedition, and then resumed his labors among the Indians. He visited the Illinois tribes again, established "missions" at several places in the Northwest, and finally, when, old and worn out, as he was traversing the southern shore of Lake Michigan, death overtook him. Retiring to pray, as was his wont, and being absent longer than usual, his attendants sought his retreat and found him dead upon his knees. His faithful Indians placed the remains in a rude bark coffin and bore him upon their shoulders for sixty miles, to his friends, where he was accorded Christian burial. Afterward the little chapel beneath which he was interred was burned down, the mission was moved elsewhere, and for many years the site of his grave was lost, until accident revealed it. Nearly two hundred years later a project was set on foot to erect a monument to his memory, but which has not at this writing been carried into effect.

It is said that for many years after the death of Marquette, French sailors on the lakes kept his picture nailed to the masthead of their vessels, as a guardian angel, and when overtaken by storms, would pray to him, beseeching him to calm the winds and still the troubled waters, that they might reach port in safety.

Joliet, on leaving Marquette at Green Bay, at the conclusion of their eventful voyage, started to Quebec to make his official report to Governor Frontenac; but at the foot of the rapids of La Chine his canoe was overturned, two of his men drowned and all his papers lost, himself narrowly escaping. In his letter to Count Frontenac, he says: "I have escaped every peril from Indians, I have passed forty-two rapids, and was on the point of disembarking, full of joy at the final completion of so long and difficult an enterprise, when my canoe capsized, and I lost two men and

my box of papers within sight of the French settlements which I had left two years before."

After a long and useful life in the employ of his government, he died in 1699 or 1700, and was buried on one of the Islands of Mignon.



CHAPTER V.

CAVELIER DE LA SALLE.



N 1643 was born at Rouen, France, Robert Cavelier, known as La Salle. He had wealthy parents, and was well educated. A Catholic, his training was conducted by the Jesuits, but he seems not to have been over-zealous in his religion. He had an older brother in Canada, and to him he sailed to view the new country and carve out a career for himself. Soon after his arrival his genius began to manifest itself. The priests of St. Surplice, of which order his brother was a member, desired to establish a line of posts along the great lakes to the farthest limits of French discovery, to secure the fur trade and control the Indians. Young La Salle was chosen to lead this enterprise. He did his work well, and in the meantime mastered the Iroquois and seven or eight other Indian languages and dialects. He had heard of a river which the Indians called the Ohio, which he was told by them rose in their country, flowing into the sea, but its mouth was eight or nine months' journey from them. He concluded that the Ohio and Mississippi merged into one, and, thus united, flowed into the "Vermillion Sea" or Gulf of California, and must be the long-sought route to China. After many delays, he succeeded in fitting out an expedition, descended the Ohio to the falls at Louisville, and returned. During the years 1669-70 and '71, La-Salle's whereabouts seem to have been an enigma to all historians. He has left records which establish a possibility that he discovered the Illinois and even the Mississippi Rivers, before Joliet and Marquette, but there is nothing positive to assure it. It is agreed that he seceded from an expedition of Jesuits organized at Fort St. Louis, Sept. 30, 1669, near the head of Lake Ontario, and, receiving the blessings of the priests, left them, ostensibly to return to Montreal. It seems that he busied himself in active explorations, kept a journal, and made maps, which were in existence in the hands of his niece, Madeline Cavelier, as late as 1756, and then disappeared. It is claimed that among these papers was a statement showing that after leaving the priests he went from Lake Erie down the

Ohio, and thence followed the Mississippi to the thirty-third parallel; also, another statement that in the winter of 1669-70 he embarked on Lake Erie, passed around to Lake Michigan, crossed over to a river flowing westward (the Illinois), and following it down, entered a larger one flowing south (the Mississippi), and descended it to the thirty-sixth degree of latitude, where he stopped, assured that it discharged itself, not into the Gulf of California, but that of Mexico. As he and the priests had started on the same mission, that of discovering the great river, it may be that this report was manufactured so as to take the glory of this first discovery away from them; but La Salle was a man of a far higher order of integrity and character than this supposition would imply. That he discovered the Ohio is certain, but whether he saw the Illinois before Joliet and Marquette is doubtful, and the alleged voyage by him to the Mississippi is still more so.

In 1678 La Salle seemed to have determined upon achieving what Champlain had vainly attempted—the opening of a passage across the continent to India and China, to occupy the Great West, develop its resources, and anticipate the English and Spanish in its possession; and now that he was convinced that the Mississippi flowed into the Gulf of Mexico, he would establish a fortified post at its mouth, thus securing the outlet for the trade of the interior, and check the progress of the Spaniards, the enemies of his king. Spain already laid claim to the mouth of the Mississippi and what afterward came to be known as Louisiana, by virtue of discovery, and the ambitious Count Frontenac, Governor General of Canada, determined to prevent an extension of their territory, worked out the plan before referred to, and selected La Salle as the right man to execute it.

He chose his men for the voyage, but when all was in readiness Frontenac had not the necessary means, and La Salle was obliged to seek aid in France. There, also, he received nothing better than the privilege of doing anything he could for the glory of France, at his own expense! Not only that, he was limited in the accomplishment of his mighty schemes to five years' time. His relatives, who were rich, finally helped him to money, and he sailed to Canada with thirty men, sailors, carpenters and laborers, among whom was the afterward famous Henry de Tonti, an Italian officer, one of whose hands had been blown off in the Sicilian wars, and he wore a substitute of iron.

La Salle needed a priest for his exploring party, and Father Louis

Hennepin was secured for that service. When arrayed for his journey the priest wore a coarse gray capote with peaked hood, sandals on his feet, the cord of St. Francis about his waist, and a rosary and crucifix hanging at his side. He carried a sort of portable altar with him, which he could strap on his back like a knapsack. The party rendezvous was at Fort Frontenac, where Kingston now stands. La Salle at once dispatched fifteen men in canoes to Lake Michigan, to open a trade with the Indians and collect provisions, while La Motte and Hennepin, with a crew of men in a small vessel, were sent up the Niagara River, and after many hardships discovered the Great Falls. In the meantime La Salle, sailing with the Tinto to bring supplies to the advance party at Niagara, had suffered the loss of his vessel, which was wrecked, and he reached the rendezvous at Niagara on foot. But not discouraged, he set about the construction of a fort and palisade, and also a new vessel, the Griffin. Leaving his men at work, he made his way back to Frontenac, a distance of two hundred and fifty miles, through snow and over ice, for fresh supplies. He returned in July, the Griffin was launched, and they sailed away August 7, 1679, in all thirty-four men. He made his voyage around the lakes to Green Bay, and loading the Griffin with furs, sent her back to appease his clamorous creditors. She foundered on the way, and was never more heard of.

La Salle, with fourteen men in four canoes, now started southward on Lake Michigan, and after escaping perils by storm and suffering from hunger and cold, reached St. Joseph, on the southern shore of the lake, in safety. Here Tonti was to have joined him with twenty men, but did not arrive until twenty days afterward, bringing a sad tale of disaster to his men and loss of supplies.

On the 8th of December, 1679, La Salle, with a party of thirty-three persons, ascended the St. Joseph until the well-known portage was reached, where they dragged their canoes a distance of five miles to the waters of the Kankakee, a confluent of the Illinois, down which they paddled. While looking for the crossing La Salle was lost in a snow storm, remaining out one day and a night before reaching camp.

“The stream, which at its source is narrow and fed by exudations from a spongy soil, widens quickly into a river, down which they floated through a lifeless solitude of dreary, barren oak openings. At night they built fires on the ground, made firm by frost, and bivouacked among the rushes. A few days brought them to the prevailing characteristic scenery of the

Illinois. On the right and left stretched boundless prairies, dotted with leafless groves and bordered by gray forests, scorched by the fires kindled in the dried grass by Indian hunters, and strewn with the bleached skulls and bones of innumerable buffalo. At night the horizon glowed with distant fires, and by day the savage hunters could be descried roaming on the verge of the prairies."

This soon changed to woody hills, which from their summits disclosed a rolling sea of dull gray prairie, recently swept by fire, and everywhere, as far as the eye could reach, a boundless pasture for vast herds of ruminant animals.

They passed the mouth of Fox River, the future site of Ottawa, saw Buffalo Rock towering isolated in the valley, and below it the far-famed Starved Rock, a lofty cliff, crested with trees that overhung the rippling current, while before them spread the broad valley of the river, along whose right bank was the "Great Illinois Town," or chief village of the Illinois Indians, containing, according to Hennepin, four hundred and sixty lodges. The town was deserted. The people had gone away on their annual fall hunt, but La Salle supplied himself with corn from their *caches*, and pursued his voyage to perhaps near the mouth of what is now Bureau Creek, where he landed, and sent out a party to hunt buffalo—a herd being seen a short distance from the river. Two animals were killed, when the hunters returned to camp. The following day being New Year's, Jan. 1st, 1680, the voyageurs went on shore at a point thought by some writers to have been in the vicinity of Hennepin, where they set up an altar and celebrated mass.

Re-embarking, the party passed down the river, through what are now Marshall and Putnam counties, on the 1st, 2d and 3d days of January, 1680, two hundred years ago, and on January 4th entered Lake Pimiboni, "a place where there are many fat beasts," or Peoria Lake, and thence down to the lower end, where La Salle proposed to erect a fort. The natives who met him were kind, but told of adjoining tribes who were hostile.

Continuing their journey, and passing through a somewhat narrow passage, they rounded a point, and beheld about eighty wigwams along the bank of the river. The Indians crowded the shore at the unwonted sight, while La Salle marshalled his men, and with the canoes abreast and every man armed, pulled into the bank and leaped ashore. The Indians were disposed to resent the strange intrusion, but La Salle held

aloft the calumet, the Indian sign of peace, and the amicable token was accepted, and a feast of welcome was spread for the weary voyagers.

The Indians, as a token of highest courtesy, conveyed the food to the mouths of their guests, and rubbed their feet with bear's grease. When these somewhat extravagant courtesies were over, and all had eaten to repletion, La Salle told whence he came and whither he was going; spoke of the great king, his master, who owned all the country, and graciously promised them protection provided they remained his friends; to all of which they assented.

La Salle had left behind him in Canada some bitter and relentless enemies, who had followed him even to this remote region in the West. During his first night here, an emissary from them, a Mascoutin chief, and four or five Miamis, came bringing knives, hatchets and kettles to the Illinois, and while La Salle was in his camp, after leaving the tribe who had been feasting him, and whose friendship he thought he had secured, these intriguers assembled the chiefs in secret conclave and denounced La Salle as a spy from the Iroquois, the deadly foe of the Illinois.

Hennepin, in his work printed in 1724, charges the Jesuits with being at the bottom of this work, naming Allouez, a prominent member of that order, and La Salle's enemy, as one of the prime movers.

In the morning, La Salle saw a change in the countenances and behavior of his hosts. They looked at him askance and sullen. At length one of them, whom the day before he had more completely won over than the rest, by liberal presents, came and gave him the secret. La Salle saw in this the device of his enemies, and his suspicions were confirmed at a feast given in the afternoon. The chief told the Frenchmen, before eating, that they had been invited there to refresh their bodies and *cure* their minds of the dangerous purpose of descending the Mississippi. Its shores were not only beset by savage tribes in fearful numbers, against whom their courage would avail nothing, but its waters were infested by serpents, alligators and unnatural monsters, while hidden rocks, whirlpools and other dangers awaited them. La Salle, however, cared not for these; he feared more the secret machinations of his enemies. He astonished them by a knowledge of the secret council of the previous night, and charged that the presents given by his enemies were at the very moment of his speech hidden under the floor where they sat. He demanded the presence of the spies and liars who had come in the night to traduce him,

and dare not meet him to his face, in the light of day. This speech quieted the chiefs, and the feast went on.

Next morning LaSalle found that six of his men, two of his best carpenters, had deserted and left him. This loss, together with the lurking, half mutinous discontent of others, cut him to the heart. Not only this, but an attempt was actually made to poison him. Tonti informs us, "that poison was placed in the pot in which the food was cooked, but LaSalle was saved by a timely antidote.

Feeling insecure in his position he determined to leave the Indian camp and erect a fort, where he could be better able to protect himself. He set out in a canoe with Hennepin to visit the site for this projected fort. It was half a league below on the southern bank of the river, or lake, and was intended to be a very secure place. On either side was a deep ravine, and in front a low ground, which overflowed in high water. It was completely isolated by the ravine and ditches, and surrounded by lofty embankments, guarded by a *chevaux de frise*, while a palisade twenty-five feet high surrounded the whole. This fort he called *Creve Cœur* (broken heart). The many disasters he had encountered—the toil, suffering and treachery, coupled with the attempt to take his life, were quite enough to suggest the idea of a broken heart. After a time he took courage, and not having abandoned his grand scheme of going down to the sea, collected and organized such scanty means as he had and began to build another ship. While engaged upon this work, he concluded that he might get more valuable service out of Hennepin as a voyageur than as a preacher, and much to that priest's surprise, remonstrance and regret, put him in a canoe, provided him with two men as companions, gave him food and presents for the Indians, and instructed him to explore the Illinois River to its mouth. Hennepin wrote, "Anybody but me would have been very much frightened at the dangers of such a journey, and, in fact, if I had not placed all my trust in God, I should not have been the *dupe* of LaSalle, who exposed my life rashly."

HENNEPIN'S EXPLORATIONS.

This intrepid explorer was inspired by extreme religious fervor, and possessed a courage almost superhuman. He left an extensive account of his experience in the wilderness, but historians are compelled to recognize

in him habits of exaggeration especially commendatory of his own lofty achievements, far above his merit. His vicious attempts to malign his commander, LaSalle, and defraud him of laurels justly won, have materially detracted from an otherwise glorious record.

He published a book soon after his return, and while LaSalle was still alive, in which he says he went down to the mouth of the Illinois River, and thence followed the Mississippi to the mouth of the Wisconsin, where he was captured by Indians. Fourteen years later, and after LaSalle was dead, he issued a new edition in which he makes a new and surprising revelation, claiming to have explored the whole course of the Mississippi to the sea, and returning went up the Wisconsin, where he was captured. He gives as a reason for not divulging this before, that "his personal safety required him to keep silent while LaSalle lived, who wished to retain all the glory and honor of the discovery. But the two statements conflict so materially as to dates and in other circumstances, and especially improbable is the time given for the accomplishment of his southern voyage and return, that he is very justly disbelieved. Enough, however, of both stories has been gathered and corroborated by other testimony to make it certain that the party of three men, of whom Accau, or Ako was the leader (and not Hennepin, as he pompously pretends), did proceed down the Illinois in the spring of 1680, to its mouth, and thence to the Wisconsin, where on the 11th or 12th of April, as they stopped one afternoon to repair their canoe, a war party of Sioux swept down and carried them off. The prisoners, after innumerable hardships, were taken up the Mississippi two hundred miles north-west of the falls of St. Anthony, and after two years, were released by a small party of fur traders under Greyson du Thut, or (Du Luth), who obtained their freedom, and Hennepin went to Canada, and thence to France, where he died at an advanced age.

LA SALLE RETURNS TO CANADA.

On the 2d of March, 1680, LaSalle, leaving Fort Creve Cœur in command of Tonti, with five men embarked for Canada. They reached Peoria Lake and found it sheeted with ice, and had to drag their canoes up the bank and through the forest lining its shores.

They constructed two rude sledges, placed the canvas and baggage upon them, and dragged them four leagues through the woods, till they

reached an open current above the lake. Launching their frail barks they paddled on until masses of ice too heavy to be broken stopped further progress, again they loaded their canoes and hauled them two leagues over a frozen marsh, where they encamped in a rain storm in an old Indian hut. On the morning of the 3d of March they pursued their way on land a league and a half further, then launched them and breaking the ice with hatchets, forced their way up stream. Thus on land and ice and in the water they plodded their weary way until at length they reached the great Illinois town, still without inhabitants. On the following day Chasagoac, the principal chief of the town, and two followers, returned from their hunt, and a friendly acquaintance was made, the chief promising to send fresh meat to Tonti at Creve Cœur.

Here LaSalle first observed the remarkable and afterwards historic cliff since called "Starved Rock," and determined to erect a fort thereon, sending word to Tonti of his intention, and instructing him to make it his stronghold in time of need. On the 15th he continued his journey. The trip was a repetition of their experience below. On the 18th they reached a point near the present site of Joliet, where they hid their canoes and struck across the country for Lake Michigan. This part of their route was even more laborious and difficult than what had been passed. For many miles the country was a vast morass covered with melting snow and ice. A river (the Calumet) and innumerable swollen streams had to be crossed ere they reached the shores of Lake Michigan, around which they passed, and traversing the peninsula of Michigan, arrived at Detroit, and finally on Easter Monday reached Niagara, after sixty-five days of severe toil. He had in the meantime received disastrous news from Tonti, whose men, described as "two faithful persons and twelve knaves," had revolted. "The knaves," after destroying Fort Creve Cœur, had followed La Salle, and having gained recruits—now numbering twenty men—had plundered the magazine at Niagara, and were on the road to waylay and murder LaSalle. Hastily gathering a few brave men, he went back to give them battle. Taking position where neither himself nor men could be seen, he watched the enemy slowly approach, their canoes widely separated. Attacking them in detail, he killed two men and took the rest prisoners, sending them to Fort Frontenac for trial.

LA SALLE'S SECOND VOYAGE.

With characteristic energy, La Salle prepared for another voyage of

discovery. With the aid of friends, he appeased his creditors and raised the means to equip an expedition; and with twenty-five men, on the 10th of August, he set out, taking his former course around the lakes and down the Kankakee, arriving at Starved Rock, Dec. 1, 1680, to find the great Indian town at its base in utter ruin and desolation. The Iroquois had, only a few days before, swept down upon its people and massacred them,—men, women and children, leaving their charred remains and ghastly skeletons only, to tell the awful tale. Six posts painted red, on each of which was drawn in black the figure of a man with eyes bandaged, led him to infer that these represented Tonti and his party, as prisoners.

He pushed on down to Fort Creve Cœur, which he found demolished, though the vessel which he had built was entire, save the nails and iron spikes, which had been drawn. Leaving this, he continued his voyage, until he reached the mouth of the Mississippi, the great object of his dreams and ambition.

Leaving a sign and a letter for Tonti, he returned the same way, to Canada.

LA SALLE'S THIRD VOYAGE.

Although failure and disaster had attended all previous efforts to carry out his grand scheme, the intrepid explorer determined on another effort. Much time was spent in organizing a new expedition. He had heard of Tonti's safe arrival among the Pottawatomies, near Green Bay, and sent for him. He next journeyed to the Miami Village, at the head of the Kankakee, made a speech to the Indians there assembled in grand council, and set forth some of his plans, going thence to Michilimacinae, where he found Tonti and his followers, and returned again to Fort Frontenac.

Some time was spent in organizing another expedition, but in the fall of 1681 his party, consisting of twenty-three Frenchmen, ten women, three children, and eighteen Indians who had fought with King Philip against the Puritans of New England — in all fifty-four persons — embarked, and reached the present site of Chicago December 21.

The rivers were tightly frozen up, and constructing sledges, they loaded up their canoes and hauled them over the ice and snow to Peoria. Dwellers along the river can appreciate the hardships of transporting a

party of fifty-four persons, with clothing, baggage and provisions, a distance of two hundred miles, in mid-winter.

On the 6th of February, 1682, LaSalle and his party entered the Mississippi, and sailed down to its mouth. They found a different reception from what was experienced upon former expeditions, and occasionally had to fight their way; but on the 6th of April they gained the sea, where La Salle erected a column bearing the arms of France, and in a formal proclamation took possession of the country of Louisiana in the name of the king, from the mouth of the Mississippi to the Ohio, and from the River of Palms (the Rio Grande) on the west, and all nations, peoples, provinces, etc., to the frozen northernmost limits. The Louisiana of La Salle stretched from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains, and from the Gulf of Mexico to British America—the great Mississippi Valley.

Here he rested until his recovery from a severe illness, and then returned to the Straits of Michilimacinae, where, hearing the Iroquois were about to renew their attacks on his friends the Illinois, he ordered Tonti to fortify Starved Rock, where he joined him in December, 1682. The work was named Fort St. Louis, and consisted of earthworks, with strong palisades in the rear, while wary sentinels mounted guard at the only practicable approach. The remains of these works are still visible, after a lapse of two hundred years.

La Salle proposed founding a colony and a trading depot for the West, where he should rule and reign like some great feudal lord, and thus control the entire country. The Illinois Indians were delighted at seeing such a redoubtable warrior begin to fortify here, not only to defend himself, but to protect them, as he had promised. They returned to their ruined city, and began to rebuild it on a larger scale than ever. Other tribes also came to join in a confederacy of peace and unity, and make the Indian town their capital. But La Salle was becoming the victim of new and complicated difficulties.

La Barre, the new Governor, a most despicable character, became his enemy, and began to undermine and traduce the great explorer to the king. La Salle was thus compelled to return to France, and lay the history of his many adventures before His Majesty. His character was fully vindicated, new honors were heaped upon him, and he was sent to the Gulf of Mexico to conquer the Spanish, then at war with France.

He sailed with four ships, two hundred and fifty men, and a good supply of provisions and materials with which to start a colony. Associated

with him in command was a man named Beaujeau, who proved the evil genius of the expedition. He quarrelled with La Salle, and did all in his power to thwart him.

One of the ships was lost on the way, another was taken by the Spaniards, and Beaujeau deserted with one ship and returned. La Salle was wrecked on the coast, and endured all manner of hardships while wandering in the interior of what is now Texas.

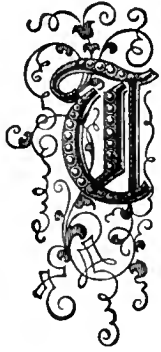
At length, while making his way overland to Canada, at a point supposed to be somewhere near Arkansas Post, he was assassinated by one of his followers, March 19, 1687.

Thus perished, at the age of 43, one of the most remarkable of men, whose history is embalmed in the imperishable records of the New World.



CHAPTER IV.

FROM MONARCHY TO REPUBLICANISM.



THE death of LaSalle practically ended the era of discovery on this continent. The great lakes had been located and the lines of the principal rivers marked out, and what remained to be done was hereafter to be accomplished by private enterprise. The English colonized New England and laid the basis of the great Republic, and the French settled Canada, establishing a series of military and trading posts in the Northwest to control the fur trade and hold possession of the country. The English colonists pushed across the Alleghanies, and in the deep forests of the Ohio encountered the French, and sharp contests ensued that were duly reported at the Court of St. James and at Versailles. Great events were rapidly ripening, and the French and Indian war of 1754–63, ending in the discomfiture of the French, and the transfer of the country to the English, was the result. In this contest, the few colonists in the Mississippi Valley, took little part or interest. The Northern Indian nations sympathised with the French, and parties from the prairies joined them in incursions against the New England colonists, but when peace came they returned to their homes, and the belligerent tribes submitted to the “long knives.”

For ten years or more peace reigned, and the few settlers pursued their avocations unmolested. A few remote frontier posts in the northwest were held by the English, and a plan was set on foot by Capt. Clark to surprise and capture them. Gathering his forces at what is now Louisville, he embarked his men and sailed down to the mouth of the Ohio, and thence up the Mississippi to Kaskaskia, which surrendered without a blow. Without delay he marched to surprise Vincennes, a fortified post on the Wabash, which also fell into his hands, and the influence of the British over the tribes of the prairies, was ended. They were not wholly pacified, however, and numbers of Illinois Indians fought Gen. Harmar and aided in defeating him near Fort Wayne, in 1789, and also Gen. St.

Clair, on the St. Mary, a tributary of the Maumee, where the latter lost six hundred men.

In 1794 "Mad Anthony" Wayne signally defeated them at the Rapids of the Maumee, and compelled them to sue for peace. In that battle, Black Partridge, Gomo, Black Hawk, Shaubena, Senachwine, and most of the Illinois Indians participated and lost heavily. Peace followed, and continued until British emissaries incited them to fresh massacres in the war of 1812.



PRE-HISTORIC RACES.

CHAPTER VII.

THE MOUND BUILDERS.



SOME notice, though a brief one, is due the mysterious people that inhabited the valleys of the Great West previous to the advent of the red man. From the shores of Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Alleghanies to the Pacific, are evidences of an extinct race, a mysterious people, far superior to those whom the first explorers found in possession of the country. They have passed away and left no records from which the historian can gather the story of their lives, except such as are disclosed in the singular mounds found along the great rivers and water courses of the West. Although their works are everywhere about us, whence they came, the age in which they flourished, and the time of their decay and fall are all buried in the unknown past. No poet has chanted their story; no adventurous Layard has unveiled their secrets. The cities they built have vanished; the temples they reared are overthrown, their names are forgotten, their records obliterated, and their very existence doubted!

This much is known, or rather conjectured. They were below the average stature of to-day—were a purely agricultural people, industrious, patient, easily governed, in strict subjection to their rulers, and dwelt in large communities. They possessed a knowledge of metals, and were probably the artisans who long ago toiled in the mines of Lake Superior, and left behind evidences of their work. They were peaceful and unwarlike, and to their incapacity for defence is probably due their overthrow.

When Peru was overran by the Spaniards, they found there a civilization as far advanced as their own. There were houses built of stone and wood, and great temples and public works. Excellent roads extended into every part of the empire; yet the people who reared these structures

were strangers to the soil, whom tradition said came from the far North, whence they were driven by a fiercely warlike people to found new homes in more propitious climes, and the theory is not difficult to maintain that the mound-builders of North America and the race inhabiting Mexico when Cortez invaded it are identical.

There is reason for the belief that after their exodus from the Mississippi Valley, their homes were for centuries in Central America, where they built the great cities of Uxmal, Palenque and Copan, and reared the vast temples whose remains rival even Thebes in extent and magnificence. A portion, meanwhile, settled in Arizona, and built the "Seven Cities" described by Major Powell and others, where, in their rocky fastnesses, dwell the Moquis to-day,—supposed descendants of the ancient mound-builders.

Numerous remains of this exiled race are found in the counties of Marshall and Putnam, but extensive explorations fail to discover in them aught more valuable than a few implements and ornaments of stone, with an occasional jar of clay, of rude manufacture.

Beneath the mounds are usually found one or more skeletons, with ashes, coals, and other evidence going to show the bodies were first burned. Prof. Gifford, who has given the subject careful study, finds, upon microscopical examination, blood crystals mixed in large quantities with the earth, and cites it to prove the mounds were for sacrifice as well as sepulture. The skulls found show low and receding foreheads, long from front to back, narrow at the top and wide toward the base, indicating a patient people, with some intelligence, but wholly different from the crania of modern Indians.

These remains indicate that this whole country was once populated with a race as old as those who built the pyramids of Egypt. While in some places a single mound is observable, in others they are in groups and series, in which some trace a resemblance to serpents, animals, etc., and term them mounds of worship; but such conclusions are at best fanciful, and rest solely on a basis of conjecture.

Some of these structures are of considerable extent, as witness the large mound north of Chillicothe, and the long line which crown the bluffs in the rear of 'Squire Taliaferro's, in Senachawine Township, in one of which the old chief of that name was buried.

In the immediate vicinity of Lacon are still to be seen these evidences of a remote ancestry, while on the bluffs of Sparland, extensive and well-

defined mounds are found, which have never been disturbed; and in the lower part of Lacon township, and across the line in Woodford county, near what is called "Low Gap," they are specially numerous.

The builders, it is supposed, used these works for the combined purposes of military defence, religious sacrifices and ceremonies, and burial places for the dead. The sites were carefully selected with reference to their surroundings of country, and generally near some large stream, though not always, for they crown the highest hills often, and when so found are called "mounds of observation," from which signals of danger were flashed in times of war.

In a few localities, groups of mounds are found, covering a large space of ground and laid out with some sort of system, as at Hutsonville, Ill., Fort Aztalan, Ind., and at different places in Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio. In some localities are found articles of finer manufacture, showing greater skill and proficiency, such as specimens of pottery, drinking cups, ornaments, pipes, etc., etc.

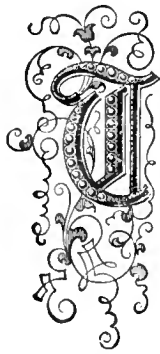
From all the data that can be gathered, the people of whom we have written were overcome and driven from the country by a more warlike race, at a period many hundreds of years before the advent of the white man. Their conquerers were the supposed ancestors of the Indians found in possession, and probably belonged to some Eastern tribe, crossing in their boats from the Asiatic shore, though evidence is not wanting that the continents were once united, and passage by land easily effected. But their triumph was not forever. The "pale faces" came, with engines of fire, and the red man, with his bow and arrows, contended in vain against the superior intelligence of the new foe. Backward, step by step, he was driven towards the great sea, and the time is not distant when the last Indian and the buffalo shall disappear together.



THE ABORIGINES AND EARLY SETTLERS.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE INDIANS.



THE red men whom the first discoverers found inhabiting this continent possessed neither records nor written language, and all themselves knew concerning their history was veiled in tradition. Some tribes made a slight approach to "picture writing," embraced in rough and stupidly devised hieroglyphics, at best vague and uncertain to those for whom they were intended, and quite as liable to mislead as to convey correct information. Their language, though rough and uncouth to educated ears, is said to have possessed singular beauty, flexibility and adaptability. It had a general plan of formation, and its similes were derived from nature, partaking of the flowery prairies, the winds of autumn, the blackened plains of spring, the towering cliff, the craggy bluff, and the great river. The deer was the representative of fleetness, the eagle of vision, the wolf of ferocity, the fox of cunning, the bear of endurance, the bison of usefulness. The passions were symbolized in the animals and birds around them. The elements—fire, water and air—were mysterious agents for their use; the thunder the voice of their terrible Manitou, or God, and the lightning His avenging spear!

While the different tribes, in habits, customs, and even dispositions, were marked by great contrasts, in their general characters they were alike. Some were more advanced toward civilization than others. Some were inclined to the pursuit of agriculture as a means of obtaining food, others rejected it totally, and relied upon the spear, or the bow and arrow for food. The Indians of Maine lived wholly upon the products of the waters; those who dwelt about St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario were all hunters. The Algonquins, though ordinarily hunters, often subsisted for weeks upon roots, barks, the buds of trees, and the foulest offal. Even cannibalism

was not unknown, but all historians agree it was never resorted to except upon occasions of dire necessity.

The Hurons, a numerous tribe that once peopled a part of Canada, built houses of bark and lived on corn, smoked fish, etc. Among them was individual ownership of land, each family having exclusive right to so much as it saw fit to cultivate. The clearing process was a toilsome one, for Indians, like the first settlers in the West, preferred a field in the timber or oak and hazel barrens, rather than one cleared by nature. The clearing was done by cutting off branches, piling them together with brushwood around the foot of standing trunks, and setting fire to them. The squaws worked with hoes of wood and bone, raised corn, beans, pumpkins, tobacco, sunflowers, etc. At intervals of from ten to thirty years the soil was exhausted, and firewood difficult to obtain, so the village was abandoned and fresh soil and timber found. They pounded their corn in mortars of wood hollowed out by alternate burnings and scrapings. They had stone axes, spears and arrow heads, and bone fish hooks. They had birch bark canoes,—masterpieces of ingenuity, and showed considerable skill in making a variety of articles.

Wampum, the money of all Indian tribes, likewise an ornament and evidence of value, consisted of elongated white and purple beads made from the inner part of certain shells. It is not easy to conceive how, with their rude and dull implements, they contrived to shape and perforate this intractable and fragile material. The New England Puritans beat the inventors in making wampum, and flooded the Indian markets with a counterfeit, which, however, was far more beautiful and valuable in the eye of the Indian than the best he could make. The bogus article soon drove the genuine out of existence!

The dress of these Indians was chiefly made from skins, cured with smoke. The women were modest in their dress, but condemned at an early age to a life of license or drudgery.

The Iroquois, who drove out the Illinois, were a warlike, cunning race. Each clan bore the name of some animal, as bear, deer, wolf, hawk, etc., and it was forbidden for any two persons of the same clan to intermarry. A Hawk might marry a Wolf, or Deer, or Tortoise, but not a Hawk. Each clan had what was called its totem, or emblem. The child belonged to the clan not of the father, but of the mother, on the ground that "only a wise child knoweth its own father, but any fool can tell who his mother is!" All titles and rank came through the mother, and not

the father, and a chief's son was no better than the son of the humblest in the tribe. He could neither inherit title nor property from his father, not even so much as a tobacco pipe. All possessions passed of right to the brothers of the chief, or to the sons of his sister, since all were sprung from a common mother. This rule of transmission of property and titles appears to have been universal among all Indians. The Iroquois were divided into eight clans, and claimed to trace their descent to a common mother. Their chiefs were called sachems, and numbered from eight to fourteen in each of their five nations, making about fifty in all, which body when met constituted their government.

This great tribe of Indians, which once ruled the greater part of the Mississippi Valley, had a form of government closely allied to republicanism. They had various bodies between the people and the High Council, or Cabinet, and a completely organized system of ruling on a democratic plan. Their deliberations in the Congress of Sachems would shame our American Congress in dignity, decorum, and often, we fear, in good sense! Here were some of their rules: "No haste in debate. No heat in arguing questions. No speaker shall interrupt another. Each gave his opinion in turn, supporting it with what reason or rhetoric he could command, first stating the subject of discussion in full, to show that he understood it.

Thus says Lafitau, an eminent writer: "The result of their deliberations was a thorough sifting of the matter in hand, while the practical astuteness of these savage politicians was a marvel to their civilized contemporaries, and by their subtle policy they were enabled to take complete ascendancy over all other Indian nations."

RELIGION AND SUPERSTITIONS.

"The religious belief of the North American Indians," says Foster, "was anomalous and contradictory, yet they conceived the existence of one all-ruling Deity, a thought too vast for Socrates and Plato! To the Indian, all the material world was intelligent, and influenced human destiny and had ears for human suffering, and all inanimate objects had the power to answer prayer! Lakes, rivers, waterfalls and caves were the dwelling-places of living spirits. Men and animals were of close kin. Each species of animals had its progenitor or king somewhere, prodigious

in size, and of shape and nature like its subjects. A hunter was anxious to propitiate the animals he sought to kill, and would address a wounded bear in a long harangue of apology! The beaver's bones were treated with especial tenderness, and carefully kept from the dogs, lest its spirit or its surviving brethren should take offense. The Hurons had a custom of propitiating their fishing-nets, and to persuade them to do their duty and catch many fish, they annually married them to two young girls of the tribe, with great ceremony! The fish, too, were addressed each evening by some one appointed to that office, who exhorted them to take courage and be caught, assuring them that the utmost respect should be shown their bones. They were harrassed by innumerable and spiteful evil spirits, which took the form of snakes, beasts or birds to hinder them in hunting or fishing, or in love or war.

Each Indian had a personal guardian or manitou, to whom he looked for counsel, aid and protection. At the age of fourteen the Indian boy blackened his face, retired to some solitary place and remained without food for days, until the future manitou appeared in his dreams, in the form of beast, or bird, or reptile, to point out his destiny. A bear or eagle would indicate that he must be a warrior; a wolf, a hunter; a serpent, a medicine man; and the young man procured some portion of the supposed animal seen in his vision, and always wore it about his person.

All Indian tribes trace themselves back to one mighty pair, like the sun and moon, a flood, and some shadowy outline of creation similar to that of all other nations of the earth.

Indian history rests on tradition alone, and they do not trace themselves back beyond a generation or two. The Iroquois were the first Indians in this country that white men could establish with any certainty. The Algonquins came next. They embraced all the known tribes, including the Illinois, Pottawatomies, Sacs and Foxes, Kickapoos, etc. The Dakotas occupied the Great West, and claimed sovereignty from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains.

The Illinois occupied the region now comprised in this State, the name meaning "superior men." They were a confederation of several Indian tribes, who built arbor-like cabins covered with waterproof mats, with generally four or five fires to a cabin, and two families to a fire.

After an eventful career, they were nearly all exterminated or driven from the State. They gave place to the Sacs, Foxes and Pottawatomies. The latter, in about 1600, were numerous about the Southern Peninsula

of Michigan. The Iroquois drove them to Green Bay, whence they spread over Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. They lived in this region until expelled by the whites, at the close of the disastrous Black Hawk war.

INDIANS OF MARSHALL AND PUTNAM COUNTIES.

After Tonti's garrison was dispersed, about 1718, the Pottawatomies and a few remnants of other tribes continued to inhabit the region of country between Peoria and Ottawa. They dwelt mainly at the places named, while Indian Town, now Tiskilwa, was always a favorite resort. Hennepin, Lacon, Sparland, Senachwine and other localities along the river were the homes of certain members of the clan. They raised small fields of corn, trapped for muskrats and beavers, hunted wild game, and sold honey to the settlers in exchange for such "necessaries" as beads, whisky, brass jewelry, tobacco, and the like. They were true to all their superstitious beliefs and customs, notwithstanding the teachings of the missionaries and the example of the whites around them. They seemed attached to their hunting and fishing grounds, but chiefly because the river afforded plenty of fish and the country an abundance of game. Here were their sugar-camps, and in the bottoms their kindred were buried, and many years after their departure small parties were in the habit of returning and looking upon the graves of their departed friends. The settlers plowed over the burial grounds and destroyed the landmarks around them, so that now the locality of most of these is lost. They had a great veneration for their dead, and buried them with great ceremony.

In the winter of 1831-2, Henry K. Cassell, an old settler of Lacon, witnessed a curious performance by the Indians of this region. They had received word from Lieut. Governor Menard that they must leave their homes along the Illinois River, and prepared at once to obey, as by treaty they were compelled to do. Their first movement was to collect the dead upon the frozen river, packed in wooden troughs. When this was done, all hands joined, and with a mighty push they were moved across the channel. The white men were asked to assist, but it looked to them very much like robbing a grave-yard, and they declined.

The Indians found here were Pottawatomies, with a mixture of Winnebagoes, Kickapoos, Sacs and Foxes. The leading chiefs were Senachwine, whose principal village was on the creek that commemorates his name, one

mile north of Chillicothe; and Shaubena, whose village was above Ottawa, on the Illinois River. Senachwine was a fine-looking Indian, and education would have made him a leader in any community. In early life he joined the British, and was with Tecumseh when the latter lost his life. When peace was declared, he returned to his people, and was always after the fast friend of the white man.

About 1828-9, there came where Rome now stands a settler named Taliaferro, the first to rear his cabin upon the site of the "eternal city." His nearest neighbors were four miles away, and when sickness came, and neither doctor nor nurse were to be had, he felt that he was indeed a stranger in a strange land.

Old settlers say the "ague never kills;" but it was wonderfully annoying, and when the emigrant saw his wife tossing in the delirium of fever and no arm to help or assist, he realized how poor, and helpless, and impotent is man, cut off from his fellows.

One sultry afternoon, while fanning the fevered brow and bathing the burning temples of his wife, there dismounted at his door a band of twenty or more Indians, at the head of whom was Senachwine. The old chief, who was not unknown to the white man, entered unceremoniously, and with a guttural "How," took his seat at the bedside. For some time he gazed upon the sufferer, and knowing that woman's aid was most needed, asked why he did not go for white squaw to help take care of her. Mr. T. replied that he could not leave her alone, when the Indian proposed to take his place and tend the patient until his return. The offer was accepted, and the chief, first forbidding his people to enter the cabin, sat down and fanned her brow and bathed her temples as gently and tenderly as could her husband, until the latter's return.

Senachwine died somewhere about 1830, and was buried upon a high mound half a mile north of Putnam Station, in Putnam County. His name is given to the township in which he is buried.

Shaubena was another chief of prominence and influence among the Indians of this neighborhood. He was a friend to the whites, and was well known to the old settlers. He followed his people to the West, but returned with his family, and died about 1859. Another well-known Indian chief had a village at the mouth of Clear Creek, in Putnam County. This was Shick-Shack, who was converted and became an earnest preacher of the Gospel. He was an ardent temperance reformer, and his code of morals would rival the Draconian code of ancient Sparta.

On the site of Chillicothe was an Indian village ruled over by a chief named Gomo. He was sent as a hostage to St. Louis, to insure the performance of certain treaty stipulations entered into by his tribe.

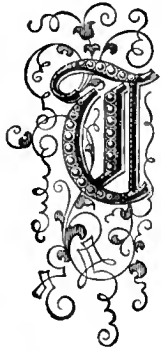
Across the river, in Woodford County, at what has long been known as the Big Spring, was the village of the noted chief, Black Partridge. He was long a friend of the whites, but in revenge for the wanton destruction of his village became their relentless enemy, and during the years 1813-14 raided the settlements in the southern part of the State. He died peacefully at home.

Where Lacon stands a band of Indians had their village, led by a chief named Markwhct. Their winters were passed in the bottoms west of the house of the late Benjamin Babb. They were removed west of the Mississippi after the Black Hawk war. There was also a village at Sparland, but the name of the chief is not now known. It was probably governed by one of those previously named.



CHAPTER IX.

EARLY FRENCH SETTLEMENTS.



THE first permanent settlement in the State was begun in 1698, when Father Gravier established a mission at Kaskaskia. Here came a portion of the dwellers at Starved Rock, where LaSalle in 1682 built a fort, which he named St. Louis, and founded a colony. It had a somewhat precarious existence until 1718, when the site was abandoned, and its occupants joined their friends in the southern part of the (future) State. Cahokia was settled in 1702, by Father Pinet. In after years it became a town of considerable importance, but its glory long since departed.

In 1699, D' Ibeville, a distinguished Canadian officer, was appointed Governor of Louisiana, by which name the French possessions in the North and West were known; and after his death the King of France granted it to M. Antoine Crozat, a wealthy nabob, who, failing to realize as hoped for, abandoned it in 1717, and the notorious John Law, an enterprising but visionary Scotchman, became its owner under certain conditions. He was the original "Colonel Sellers," and organizer of a scheme for acquiring sudden wealth, since known as the famous "Mississippi Bubble." He made Louisiana the principal field of his operations, where gold and silver mines abounded(!), out of which the shareholders in the "greatest gift enterprise of the day" were to become millionaires.

His schemes all failing, in 1732 the charter was surrendered to the king and the territory divided into nine cantons, of which Illinois formed one.

After the destruction of Fort St. Louis by the Indians, and the expulsion of Tonti's garrison, a few white men continued in the vicinity until about 1720, when all left, and the country reverted to the possession of its original inhabitants. In 1718 New Orleans was settled, and trading posts established at different points along the Mississippi River and its tributaries. As early as 1690 some Canadian Frenchmen had located

themselves at a few points, primarily as attaches of tradesmen, and later as regular settlers.

In the summer of 1711, Father Marest, a Jesuit priest from Canada, preached at Cahokia and made a convert of an Indian chief named Kolet, who persuaded Father Marest to go with him to Peoria and preach to the heathen there. The proposition was accepted, and in November of that year, with two warriors, the missionary started in a bark canoe. The season was late, and after progressing about five leagues, the ice became so firm they had to abandon their canoes, and after twelve days wading through snow and water, crossing big prairies and subsisting on wild grapes with a little game, they reached the Indian village of Opa, a half a mile above the lower end or outlet of the lake, and were hospitably received by the natives.

In the following spring some French traders began a trading post here, and a number of families came from Canada and established themselves, living at peace with the Indians and generally intermarrying with them.

Until 1750 but little was known of the various French villages or settlements in the State. In that year a French missionary, named Vevier, writes from "Aux Illinois," six leagues from Fort Chartres, June 8: "We have here whites, negroes and Indians, to say nothing of cross-breeds. There are five French villages and three villages of the natives within a space of twenty-one leagues—between the Mississippi and Karkadiad (Kaskaskia) Rivers. In them all there are perhaps eleven hundred people, three hundred whites and sixty red *slaves*, or savages. Most of the French till the soil. They raise wheat, cattle, pigs and horses, and live like princes. Three times as much is produced as can be consumed, and great quantities of grain and flour are shipped to New Orleans."

In 1750 the French had stations at Detroit, Michilimacinae, Green Bay and Sault Ste. Marie, and were the only possessors, save the Indians, of the great valley east of the Mississippi River.

In 1761, Robert Maillet built a dwelling one and a half miles lower down, and moved his family there. This was called the "New Town," in contradistinction from "Old" or "Upper Town." The new place was known as La ville de Maillet (Maillet's Village). For fifty years the sole settlers of the town were Frenchmen and Indians.

So far back as 1750, the English began to assert their claims to the country west of the Alleghanies, and adventurous explorers sailed down its rivers and explored the great lakes. English traders penetrated the

forest, and competed for the fur trade with their ancient enemies. Collisions were frequent, and in the deep woods were fought sanguinary battles between adherents of the rival nations. A long and bloody war followed, ending in the final discomfiture of the French and the transfer of sovereignty over the northern part of the continent to England.

In 1763, Canada and all of Louisiana north of the Iberville River and east of the Mississippi were ceded to England. The British flag was hoisted over old Fort Chartres, in what is now Monroe County, Ill., in 1765. At that time, it is computed, there were about three thousand white people residing along the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The oldest town—Kaskaskia—contained about one hundred, and Cahokia about fifty persons.

After the capture of these posts by Gen. Clark, as before stated, he sent three men to Peoria to notify the inhabitants of the change of sovereignty, and require their allegiance. One of these messengers was Nicholas Smith, a Kentuckian by birth, whose son Joseph, under the nickname of “Dad Joe,” became in after years a noted border character, and the place where he once lived—ten miles from Princeton—still bears the name of “Dad Joe’s Grove.”

In that year the County of Illinois was established, “in the State of Virginia,” which was to include within its boundaries as citizens “all who are already settled or may;” which leads to the belief that the then members of the House of Burgesses of Virginia had a very crude idea of the country over which by the right of conquest they assumed sovereignty.

With peace came the establishment of various colonies in the West, and in 1773 the “Illinois Land Company” obtained a grant from the Indians by treaty and purchase of a tract embracing all the territory “east of the Mississippi and south of the Illinois River.”

In like manner the Wabash Company obtained a grant for thirty-seven millions of acres. After the Revolution, efforts were made in Congress to obtain governmental sanction to these enormous land grabs, but fortunately without avail.

In 1781, a colony from Virginia settled in what is now Monroe County, but the hostility of the Kickapoos, a fierce and warlike tribe of Indians, compelled them to live in forts and block-houses, and their improvements were limited.

MIKES AND JAKES.

During the devastating border wars that preceeded the final breaking

of the Indians' strength by "Mad Anthony" Wayne, the infant settlements suffered severely, but with peace came a new impetus to emigration, and adventurous hunters, trappers, boatmen and land surveyors invaded the quiet French towns of Illinois. The former were termed "Mikes," from a noted flat-boatman named Mike Fink, while the surveyors and land-hunters were styled "Jakes," from Jacob staff, a surveyor's implement. They were a lawless, turbulent race, given to whisky and broils, but in a certain way open-hearted, and generous to a fault. Their advent among the quiet, simple-minded French was neither conducive to the happiness or good morals of the latter, who are thus described by Gov. Ford, from whom we quote: "No genuine Frenchmen in those days ever wore a hat, cap or coat. The heads of both men and women were covered with Madras cotton handkerchiefs, tied around in the fashion of nightcaps. For an upper covering of the body, the men wore a blanket garment, called a 'capote' (pronounced cappo), with a cap to it at the back of the neck, to be drawn over the head for protection in cold weather, or in warm weather to be thrown back upon the shoulders in the fashion of a cape. Notwithstanding this people had been so long separated by an immense wilderness from civilized society, they still retained all the suavity and politeness of their race, and it is a remarkable fact that the roughest hunter and boatman amongst them could at any time appear in a ball-room, or other polite and gay assembly, with the carriage and behavior of a well-bred gentleman. The French women were noticeable for the sprightliness of their conversation and the grace and elegance of their manners. The whole population lived lives of alternate toil, pleasure, innocent amusement and gaiety.

"Their horses and cattle, for want of proper care and food for generations, had degenerated in size, but had acquired additional vigor and toughness, so that a French pony was a proverb for strength and endurance. These ponies were made to draw, sometimes one alone, sometimes two together—one hitched before the other, to the plow, or to carts made entirely of wood, the bodies of which held about the contents of the body of a wheelbarrow. The oxen were yoked by the horns instead of the neck, and in this mode draw the cart and plow. Nothing like reins were used in driving; the whip of the driver, with the handle about two feet and a lash two yards long, stopped or guided the horse as effectually as the strongest lines.

"Their houses were built of hewn timber, set upright in the

ground or upon plates laid upon a wall, the intervals between the uprights being filled with stone and mortar. Scarcely any of them were more than one story high, with a porch on one or two sides, and sometimes all around, with low roofs extending, with slopes of different steepness, from the comb in the center to the lowest part of the porch. They were surrounded by gardens filled with fruits, flowers and vegetables, and if in town, the lots were large and the houses neatly whitewashed.

“Each village had its Catholic church and priest. The church was the great place of resort on Sundays and holidays, and the priest the adviser, director and companion of all his flock.”*

Prior to 1818 the immigration was chiefly from Kentucky, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Some of the emigrants had served under Gen. Clark in 1778, and the beauty and fertility of the country induced them to make their homes here.

In 1816, the American Fur Company, with headquarters at Hudson's Bay, established trading-posts throughout this region, one being located near Hennepin, and another about three miles below Peoria, with a dozen or so at interior points between the Illinois and Wabash Rivers.

Gurden S. Hubbard, for many years a resident of Chicago, a Vermonter by birth, when sixteen years of age was in the service of the company, in 1818, going from post to post, distributing supplies and collecting furs.

In the autumn of 1821, Joel Hodgson came to this region from Clinton County, Ohio, in behalf of a number of families, to seek a location. He traveled on horseback, stopping wherever night overtook him, and sleeping in his blanket.

He crossed the State of Indiana to where Danville now stands, and then, with his compass for a guide, traveled northward until he struck the Illinois at the mouth of Fox River, whence he journeyed southward. He crossed the river several times, exploring both sides thoroughly, as well as its tributaries, and continued until he reached Dillon's Grove, in Tazewell County, when he turned homeward, reporting that he found no suitable place for the proposed colony.

The prairies were supposed to be bleak, cold and inhospitable, and covered with a rank grass of no value, while the streams were lined with thickets, the homes of fierce beasts and deadly reptiles. It was a paradise for Indians, but a poor place for white men. But when he saw the country rapidly filling up, and the new settlers growing rich, comfortable and

* Ford's History of Illinois.

happy, he changed his opinion, and coming West, settled in Tazewell County in 1828.

When the State was admitted, the Government ordered a survey of the country bordering the Illinois, and its division into townships. The work was performed by Stephen, Stycia, and Charles Rector, in the years 1819-20. It was further divided into sections by Nelson Piper, George Thomas and J. F. McCollum, and all of the northern part of the State named Sangamon County.

PEORIA IN 1778.

The messenger sent by General Clark found a large town built along the margin of the lake, with narrow streets and wooden houses. Back of the town were gardens, yards for stock, barns, etc., and among these was a wine-press, with a large cellar or underground vault for storing wine. There was a church, with a large wooden cross, an unoccupied fort on the bank of the lake, and a wind-mill for grinding grain. The town contained six stores, filled with goods suitable for the Indian trade. The inhabitants were French creoles, Indians and half-breeds, not one of whom could speak a word of English. Many of them had intermarried with the natives, and their posterity to this day show certain characteristics of their Indian ancestry. They were a peaceable, quiet people, ignorant and superstitious. They had no public schools, and but few of them, except priests and traders, could read or write. In after years there was considerable trouble about conflicting titles, growing out of certain "French grants," and out of eighteen litigants but three could sign their names." Some of their merchants made annual trips in canoes to Canada, carrying peltries and furs, and returning with goods for the Indian market.

"They were a gay, joyous people, having many social parties, wine suppers and balls, and lived in harmony with the Indians, who were their neighbors, relatives and friends. Real estate was held by the title of possession, and each settler had a garden adjoining his residence. They had likewise extensive farms west of town, enclosed in one field, though the lines of each separate owner were well defined. When a young man was married, a village lot or tract of land in the common field was assigned him, and if he had no house the people turned out and built him one. They had fine vineyards, and yearly made large quantities of wine, which the Indians eagerly sought in exchange for furs."

The pioneer French were said to have domesticated the buffalo, and crossed him with their domestic cattle, producing a tough, hardy breed which could winter in the river bottoms without feed. Indian ponies were the only horses known here, or anywhere in the North-west, until about 1760, when some were brought from Canada. Hogs and cattle were introduced by the Spaniards, and through them by the French, about A. D. 1700.

In 1781 a Frenchman killed an Indian, and for a time the white people of Peoria were threatened with destruction by the excited savages, who surrounded the place and demanded the murderer, supposing him to be hidden in the town. They gave the French three days in which to surrender the culprit, failing in which they threatened to burn the town. A great panic prevailed; some of the people fled to Cahokia; others took refuge in the fort. But at length the solemn protestations of the whites that the murderer was not secreted in the village quieted the Indians, who made pledges of friendship and departed.



CHAPTER X.

MASSACRE AT FORT DEARBORN.



ESIDES the usual and expected horrors, every war furnishes exceptional scenes of wholesale slaughter or merciless cruelty that stand out in bold relief and commemorate themselves in history as specially infamous. Among the occurrences of the war of 1812, the massacre of Fort Dearborn, at Chicago, was one of unusual ferocity, and worthy of record in our brief historical resume.

The garrison consisted of fifty-four men, under Capt. Heald. The resident families at the post were those of Capt. Heald, Lieut. Helm, a Mr. Kenzie,—and several French voyageurs with their wives and children were there.

One evening in April, 1812, Mr. Kenzie sat playing on his violin, to the music of which the children were dancing, when Mrs. Kenzie came rushing into the house, pale with terror and anguish, exclaiming: “The Indians! The Indians are up at Lee’s, killing and scalping!” The frightened woman had been attending Mrs. Barnes (just confined), living not far off. Mr. Kenzie and his family at once crossed the river to the fort, to which Mrs. Barnes and her infant were speedily transferred, and where soon all the settlers and their families took refuge. The alarm was caused by a scalping party of Winnebagoes, who, after hovering about the neighborhood several days, disappeared.

On the 7th of August, 1812, Gen. Hull, of infamous memory, sent orders from Detroit to Capt. Heald to evacuate Fort Dearborn and distribute all the United States property among the Indians! The Pottawatomie chief who brought the dispatch, foreseeing the fearful effects of such a base, cowardly and treacherous order, advised Capt. Heald not to obey, as the fort contained among its supplies several barrels of whisky, and knowing its effects upon the infuriated savages, burning with hatred of the whites and full of revenge, he foresaw that an indiscriminate massacre of all who were incapable of defense would inevitably follow. He

said, "Leave the fort and stores as they are, and while the Indians are making the distribution, the white people may escape to Fort Wayne."

Capt. Heald called a council with the Indians on the afternoon of the 12th, in which his officers refused to join, as they had reason to fear treachery. A cannon pointed at the place of council, however, had its intended effect, and the suspected plot was frustrated.

Mr. Kenzie, well knowing the character of the foe, influenced Captain Heald to withhold the distribution of the powder, and on the night of the 13th, after the property and stores had been given out to the shrieking mob of savages, the liquors and ammunition were thrown into the river, and the muskets broken up and rendered useless. Black Partridge, an influential chief and true friend of the whites, came that afternoon to Captain Heald, and said: "The linden birds have been singing in my ears all day; be careful on the march you take."

The Indians had watched the fort all night, and took note of the preparations for its abandonment, and the next morning, when they saw the powder floating upon the surface of the river, were exasperated beyond bounds.

After the fort had been dismantled and the dejected inmates were on the point of starting, a band of friendly Miamis, under Captain Wells, appeared on the lake shore, and inspired the garrison with new hope. But alas! their arrival was too late to avert the threatened calamity. Wells was an uncle of Mrs. Heald, and bore among the Indians the name of "Little Turtle." Learning the ignominious and fatal order to Captain Heald, he had secretly left Detroit with his warriors, hoping to reach Chicago in time to avert the catastrophe he knew was inevitable; but it was too late.

On the morning of the 15th, the little garrison marched out of the fort at its southern gate, in solemn procession. Captain Wells, who had blackened his face with gunpowder, in token of his fate, took the lead with his Miamis, followed by Captain Heald, with his wife by his side, on horseback. Mr. Kenzie hoped by his personal influence over the savages to save his friends, and accompanied the retreating garrison, leaving his family in a boat in charge of a friendly Indian.

The procession moved slowly along the lake shore till they reached the sand-hills between the prairie and the beach, when the Pottawatomies, commanded by Blackbird, filed in front. Wells, who, with his Miamis had been in the advance, finding the enemy before him, returned, giving

word that the foe were about to make an attack. Scarcely had the words been uttered ere a storm of bullets confirmed the story. The Indians, though ten warriors to one of the whites, in accordance with their characteristic cowardly mode of fighting were ambushed among the sand-hills, which the white troops charged, and drove them out upon the prairie. The cowardly Miamis fled at the outset, and the brave little band defended themselves heroically against five hundred savages, resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible.

Capt. Wells, who was by the side of his niece, Mrs. Heald, when the conflict began, said to her, "We have not the slightest chance for life. We must part to meet no more in this world. God bless you," and dashed forward. Seeing a young warrior, painted like a demon, climb into a wagon in which were twelve children, and tomahawk them all, he cried out, unmindful of his personal danger, "If that is your game, butchering women and children, I will kill too." He spurred his horse toward the Indian camp, where they had left their squaws and papposes, hotly pursued by swift-footed young warriors, rapidly firing. One of these killed his horse and wounded him severely in the leg. He was killed and scalped, and his heart cut out and eaten while yet warm and bloody. Mrs. Heald, who knew well how to load and fire, engaged bravely in the fray. She was several times wounded, and when, weak from loss of blood, a brawny savage was about to tomahawk her, she looked him in the eye, and in his own language exclaimed, "Surely you will not kill a squaw!" Ashamed, his arm fell and he slunk away.

Mrs. Helm, Mr. Kinzie's step-daughter, also had her full share of the bloody work. A stout Indian tried to strike her with a tomahawk, but she sprang aside and the weapon glanced upon her shoulder as she grasped the foe around the neck with her arms, trying at the same time to seize the scalping knife in his belt; but while struggling with the desperation of despair she was seized by a powerful Indian, who bore her to the lake and plunged her into the water. To her astonishment, she was so held that she could not drown, nor be seen by any of the Indians, and soon discovered that he who was thus shielding her was the friendly chief, Black Partridge, who thus saved her life.

The wife of Sergeant Holt displayed amazing courage and prowess. She was a very strong woman, and was mounted on a high-spirited horse. The Indians coveted the animal, and tried in vain to dismount or kill her, but she warded off the blows by which they strove to beat her down, and

defended herself bravely, with her husband's sword. She escaped from her enemies and dashed across the prairie, the admiring Indians shouting, "Brave squaw! brave squaw! No hurt her!" but was overtaken by an Indian who pulled her from her horse by the hair, and made her captive. She was kept prisoner for several years, and forced to marry among them. When nearly two-thirds of the little band were killed or wounded, the Indians drew off. Numbers of their warriors had been killed, and they proposed a parley. The whites, upon promise of good treatment, agreed to surrender. Mrs. Helm had been taken, bleeding and suffering, to the fort by Black Partridge, where she found her step-father and learned that her husband was safe.

The soldiers gave up their arms to Blackbird, and the survivors became prisoners of war, to be exchanged or ransomed. With this understanding, they were marched to the Indian camp near the fort. Here a new horror was enacted, for the Indians claimed the wounded were not included in the surrender, and they were mercilessly slaughtered, their scalps being taken to the infamous British General Proctor, at Malden, Canada, who had offered the Indians large rewards for the scalp of every soldier brought to him.

In connection with the massacre of Fort Dearborn, Matson, in his work upon the Indians of the Illinois, gives the following incident which he professes to have learned from one of the survivors: "A Mrs. Besson, whose maiden name was Mary Lee, was a little girl at the time, but well remembers the frightful event. Her father's dwelling stood on the beach of the lake, near the fort, and back of it was a small garden where he raised vegetables for the garrison, at a good profit. His family at the time of the massacre consisted of his wife, an infant two months old, a son, a daughter Lillie, two little boys, and Mary. When the troops left for Fort Wayne, Mr. Lee's family accompanied them, the mother and infant and two younger children in a covered wagon, and the two girls on horseback. Little Lillie, ten years old, was a very handsome child, a great pet among the soldiers and citizens, but she never appeared more beautiful than on that fatal morning. She was mounted on a large gray horse, and to prevent her from falling off, was securely tied to the saddle. She wore a white ruffled dress, trimmed with pink ribbon, and a black jockey hat with a white plume on the side. As the horse pranced and champed its bits at the sound of martial music, little Lillie in a queenly manner sat in her saddle, chatting gaily with her sister, uncon-

scious of the awful fate so near. When the Indians opened fire, Lillie was badly wounded and lost her seat, but was restrained from falling off the horse by the cord with which she was bound. Her horse ran back and forth until caught by an Indian named Waupekee, who knew her well, and at her father's cabin had often held her on his knee. In relating it afterward, he said it grieved him to see the little girl suffer so, and out of kindness he split open her head with his tomahawk and ended her misery. He used to say 'it was the hardest thing he ever did.'


Mr. Lee and his three sons were killed in the battle, but Mrs. Lee and infant and Mary were taken prisoners by Waupekee, who had a village on the Des Plains River. This chief was kind to them, and wanted to marry the mother, notwithstanding the trifling impediment of having three other wives on hand at the time! But she declined the honor. During her stay with him her child became very ill, and both Indian skill and enchantment and her own knowledge failed to restore it to health. She consented to let Waupekee take it to Chicago, where lived a French trader named Du Pin, in high reputation among the Indians as a "medicine man." One cold day in the latter part of the winter succeeding the massacre, Waupekee wrapped the baby in blankets, and mounting his pony, traveled across the bleak prairie twenty miles, and arriving at Du Pin's dwelling, laid his package upon the floor. "What have you there?" queried the surprised trader. "I have brought you a young raccoon as a present," replied the chief, unwrapping the blankets and disclosing the nearly smothered child. Du Pin cured the child, and afterward not only ransomed the widow, but married her.

Mary, who relates this affair, says she was carried a prisoner to an Indian village after the battle referred to, thence to St. Louis, and ransomed by General Clark, where she married a French creole, and never after the fatal day met her mother, but supposed her to have been killed.



CHAPTER XI.

THE DESTRUCTION OF PEORIA.

N the wars of the Federal Government against the Indians, and the war with England, in 1812, the French people of Peoria remained neutral, and, as is now known, neither aided nor abetted either party. They were two hundred miles from the nearest American settlement, in the midst of a wilderness. They knew no laws of any king or country save their own. They lived so far away from the world, that revolutions came, kings were overthrown and new governments erected, while they neither knew of nor interested themselves in the changes. A peaceful and happy people they were, living to themselves, making and executing their own laws, paying no taxes, and acknowledging no sovereignty or ruler, simply because no one came to claim their allegiance. They had lived thirty-four years within the jurisdiction of the United States Government before called upon to cast a ballot. They had a Representative in Congress who never knew them. They had been subjects of France, then of England, and finally of the Federal Union, and only learned the changes of sovereignty through accident. They were a people "unto themselves," speaking a language of their own, and fearing only God, their priests, and the hostile Indians.

The massacre at Fort Dearborn excited widespread horror and animosity, not only against the Indians, but all who were believed to be friendly with them. Reports had got abroad that their supplies of ammunition came through Peoria traders, and that here were incited and set on foot raids and expeditions against the defenceless settlers along the borders.

It was charged that they were cattle thieves, and that Captain John Baptiste Maillette, the chief military man of their village, had an organized band of thieves, and made forays upon the settlements on Wood River, in Madison County, driving off flocks and herds, which found their way to the common enemy. These reports were believed, and Gov-

ernor Edwards called for volunteers to rendezvous at Shawneetown, under the command of Captain Craig. Four keel-boats were prepared, with rifle-ball proof planking, and mounted with cannon. Two hundred soldiers were taken on board, and on the 5th of November, 1812, the "fleet" appeared before Peoria.

The people, wholly unconscious of danger, were at church, and the priest celebrating mass — for it was Sunday, — when suddenly they were startled by the booming of cannon. Fear and curiosity brought them to the beach, when four boats loaded with armed men met their astonished gaze. Capt. Craig landed and took position, with guns loaded and bayonets fixed, ready for any emergency.

Father Racine went to meet and welcome the strangers, but neither could understand the other until an interpreter was found in the person of Thomas Forsythe. No explanation was vouchsafed, but meat and vegetables were demanded, and promptly furnished. The soldiers dispersed about town and committed various outrages, such as breaking into Felix La Fontaine's store and taking from it two casks of wine. Numbers got drunk, and entering houses, helped themselves to whatever pleased them. It was after dark before Captain Craig succeeded in getting them on board the boats and pushed the boats from shore to prevent further outrages upon the citizens.

During the night a high wind arose, and to escape the waves the boats raised their anchors and dropped down into "the narrows," a half mile below, where they remained till morning. About daylight several guns were fired in quick succession in the adjoining tember. Captain Craig, thinking it the signal for an attack by the Indians, ordered the boats pushed farther from shore and cannon trained to sweep the woods.

A council of war was held on board, and it was determined to burn the town and make the men prisoners of war, as a punishment for inciting the Indians to attack the boats. The Frenchmen afterward claimed the firing was done by hunters, and as no attack was made and no enemy appeared, the statement is doubtless correct.

Capt. Craig next landed his troops, and taking all able-bodied men prisoners, set fire to their houses and burned them down, while the women and children looked on in terror from a vacant lot where they had congregated, in the rear of their burning church. The church, with its sacred vestments and furniture, was destroyed. The wind-mill on the bank of the lake, filled with grain, the stables, corn bins, and everything about the

town of any value were reduced to ashes! The stores of La Fontaine, La Croix, Des Champs, and Forsyth, full of valuable goods, shared the same fate. An old man named Benit, a former trader, who had amassed some money, rushed through the flames to rescue it, and perished, his charred remains being found the following spring. Mrs. La Croix, a lady of refinement and great personal attraction, who afterward became the wife of Governor Reynolds, being alone with three small children, appealed in vain to the soldiers to save the clothes of herself and little ones.

Thomas Forsythe, a short time previous, had been appointed a Government agent here, and on exhibiting his commission to Captain Craig, he pronounced it a forgery!

When the destruction was complete, the boats returned down the river with their prisoners. Two miles below the present site of Alton, they were set ashore in the thick timber, without blankets, tents or provisions, and told they might return to their homes! Meantime, the women and children, left without food or shelter, were in a pitiful condition. Some of them had been left without sufficient clothing, and suffered greatly. It was growing cold, and the nights were freezing. Snow fell, sharp frosts came, and the roaring wind lashed the troubled waters or moaned in the leafless oaks. Could any situation have been more desolate? The hungry mothers could only weep and pray, and draw the forms of their little ones to their bosoms!

While thus brooding over their despair, an Indian chief named Gomo made his appearance. He lived in a village of his tribe, where Chilli-cothe now stands. On the approach of Captain Craig's forces, his people fled and secreted themselves in the grove of timber at Kickapoo Creek, and now the invaders were gone, he had come to render such aid as it was in his power to give. Provisions were supplied, temporary huts erected for all who desired to remain, and homes in his village given to the older women and the children. Afterward, the women (fearing a return of the soldiers, and crazed with anxiety to know the fate of those they loved,) prevailed upon Gomo to furnish them with canoes and rowers to go down the river, hoping their presence might mitigate the fate of their captive kindred. After several days of hardship, camping each night on the banks, suffering from fatigue, cold and storm, they reached Cahokia, where they were provided for by their countrymen, and afterward joined by their husbands.*

* Matson's "French and Indians."

CHAPTER XII.

EXTERMINATION OF THE BUFFALO.



EARLY travelers assert that the Illinois Valley was the favorite resort of the American buffalo, or bison, and though they had disappeared years before, the first settlers found the ground strewn with countless thousands of bones, remains of the great herds that had been destroyed. Their range was confined to no particular locality, except in winter, when they resorted to groves and river bottoms for shelter and greater supplies of food. It does not appear that the white man had much to do with their final disappearance. The French were the only settlers, and they so few in number that the buffalo slaughtered by them and the Indians were insignificant as compared with their annual increase.

About ninety years ago, according to Indian tradition, there came an Arctic winter, which for depth of snow and severity never had a parallel in Indian tradition. Nearly all living animals perished. The intense cold drove them to the ravines for shelter, where thousands were overwhelmed and suffocated. According to the statements of the Indians, they huddled together for warmth, and died in countless droves; and not the buffalo alone, but the deer likewise; and when the first settlers crossed the big prairie this side of the Wabash River, the ground was strewn with antlers, skulls and the larger bones of both deer and buffalo. The statement that the survivors voluntarily left the country after the cold winter is not borne out by the evidence, and the writer who drew the fanciful picture which follows must have relied largely upon his imagination for facts.

“Next spring a few buffalo, poor and haggard in appearance, were seen going westward, and as they approached the carcasses of their dead companions, which were lying on the prairies in great numbers, they would stop, commence pawing and bellowing, and then start off again on a lope for the west.”*

Father Buche, a missionary about Peoria in 1770, in a manuscript left

*Matson's "French and Indians."

by him, describes a buffalo hunt. He says he accompanied thirty-eight of his countrymen and about three hundred Indians when they killed so many buffalo that only their hides could be taken away, their carcasses being left for the wolves. Three leagues west of the great bend in the Illinois River they discovered a herd of many thousand buffalo, feeding on a small prairie surrounded on three sides by timber (now probably known as Princeton prairie). It being about sundown, the hunters encamped for the night in a grove near by, with the intention of attacking them the next day. Next morning before it was light, the Indians, divested of clothing, mounted on ponies, and armed with guns, bows, arrows, spears, etc., anxiously awaited the command of their chief to commence the sport. They formed on three sides, secreting themselves in the timber, while the French occupied a line across the prairie. At a given signal the advance began, when as soon as the animals scented the approaching enemy, they arose and fled in great confusion. On approaching the line the Indians fired, at the same time yelling at the top of their voices. The frightened creatures turned and fled in an opposite direction, where they were met by the hunters and foiled in like manner. Thus they continued to run back and forth, while the slaughter went on. As they approached the line, the Indians would pierce them with spears or bring them down with the more deadly rifle. The line continued to close in, and the frightened buffalo, snorting and with flashing eyes, charged the guards, broke through the line, overthrowing horses and riders, and made their escape.

Father Buehe continues: "By the wild surging herd my pony was knocked down, and I lay prostrated by his side, while the frightened buffalo jumped over me in their flight, and it was only by the interposition of the Holy Virgin that I was saved from instant death."



ILLINOIS BECOMES A STATE.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE COMPACT OF FREEDOM.



AFTER the War of the Revolution and the recognition of American Independence, the Western Territories were claimed by Virginia, New York, and other States. After much discussion, the claimants agreed to transfer their several interests to the General Government, and in pursuance of the arrangement, Virginia, in 1784, ceded the territory that now constitutes the States of Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio and Michigan, to the Federal Government, with the stipulation that when divided into States they were to be guaranteed a republican form of government, "with the same sovereignty, freedom and independence as the other States." The celebrated "Compact of 1787" followed. It was the triumph of Thomas Jefferson's foresight and unceasing labors in the cause of freedom. He was ably assisted by Dr. Cutler, of Massachusetts, and to them jointly is mainly due the credit that "slavery was forever excluded from this great territory." Yet slaves were held in Southern Illinois for years, having been brought thither by the early French settlers, and it was not until 1850 that the last bondsmen disappeared from the census.

On the 13th of July, 1787, Congress established the Northwest Territory, and General St. Clair was appointed Governor. He came to Kaskaskia in 1790, and organized the county of St. Clair, the first in the State.

The population of Illinois was then about 2,000, and it took ten years to add another 1,000.

May 7, 1800, Indiana Territory—including our State—was set apart, Gen. William Henry Harrison appointed Governor, and Vincennes made the capital. The first Legislature assembled in 1805, but its doings were not popular with the Illinoisans, who termed it the "Vinsain Legislater."

In that year the population numbered about 5,000, which in 1810 had increased to 12,282.

In 1809 the State was severed from its "Hoosier" connection, and permitted to set up a territorial government of its own, with Ninian Edwards for its first Governor.

In 1812, a Legislature was chosen, consisting of five Councillors and seven Representatives, which met at Kaskaskia, November 25. War with Great Britain was raging at the time, and much anxiety was felt as to the Indians, who, bought over with liberal promises, had generally arrayed themselves with the enemy. In 1815 peace was restored, and a great impetus given to immigration.

In January, 1818, the Territorial Legislature of Illinois petitioned Congress for admission into the Union as a State. A bill was introduced at once, but was not acted on till April, when it became a law.

As first intended, the northern boundary of the State was to begin at the southern shore of Lake Michigan, running westward, but as this would have left Chicago in what is now Wisconsin, the Delegate in Congress sought and obtained a change to the line that now exists, thus securing to the State fourteen additional counties in the fairest portions of the West.

Wisconsin afterward claimed the territory, denying that Congress had a right to alter the petition of the Illinois Territorial Legislature, but the question quieted down, and the disputed territory is now ours as much as any other portion of the State. A Convention was called to frame a constitution in the summer of 1818, and assembled in Kaskaskia. During the session, the Rev. Mr. Wiley and his congregation, a sect of so-called "Covenanters," in Randolph County, sent a petition asking the members to declare in the instrument they were preparing, that "Jesus Christ was the head of all governments, and that the Holy Scriptures were the only rule of faith and practice." The Convention not only failed to embody this doctrine in the Constitution, but treated the petition with no especial courtesy beyond its mere reception. Therefore, as Gov. Ford states, "The Covenanters refused to sanction the State Government, and have been constrained to regard it as an heathen and unbaptized government, which denies Christ, for which reason they have constantly refused to work on the roads, serve on juries, hold any office, or do any act whereby they are supposed to recognize the Government." They steadily refused to vote until 1824, when the subject of admitting slavery was submitted to the popular

vote. Their suffrages were unanimously cast for freedom and a free State.

Shadrach Bond was elected the first Governor, in October, 1818. Ninian Edwards and Jesse B. Thomas were chosen Senators, and John McLean, Representative in Congress. Joseph Phillips was chosen Chief Justice, and Thomas C. Brown, John Reynolds and William B. Foster, Associate Justices of the Supreme Court. Gov. Ford, who afterward wrote a history of the State, did not speak in flattering terms of some of these men, and was particularly severe on Foster, whom he styled a "great rascal." He was a polished gentleman, and drew his salary with commendable regularity, but never sat upon the bench, and after one year resigned and left the State.

The first Legislature assembled at Kaskaskia in 1818, from whence the seat of government was changed the succeeding year to Vandalia.

In 1823, Peoria County was formed, with Peoria as the county-seat. In 1826 the Commissioners of that county fixed the boundaries of Fox River Precinct, which extended from Senachwine Creek to the River La-Page (Du Page), or from Chillicothe northward, including the counties of Putnam, Marshall, Bureau and La Salle, and the territory west to the Mississippi River.

Gideon Hawley and James Beersford were Justices of the Peace, with jurisdiction equal with the territory. The voting place was at David Walker's house, at the mouth of Fox River (Ottawa).

Marriages were solemnized only at Peoria, and the first on record within the jurisdiction was as follows:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, PEORIA CO., July 29, 1829.

This is to certify that Willard Scott and Caroline Hawley were this day united in marriage by me.

ISAAC SCARRETT, Missionary.

The ceremony, if short, was binding, and we may believe the parties enjoyed quite as much happiness as follows the elaborate nuptials of to-day, supplemented with cards, cake, bridesmaids, an expensive trousseau, a trip to Europe, and winding up, as is too often the case, with a sensational suit for divorce.



PUTNAM COUNTY.

CHAPTER XIV.

GURDEN S. HUBBARD.



THE earliest known white settlers who came to what is now Putnam County were certain fur traders, who located at the most eligible points for their business along the Illinois River. The first of these represented the American Fur Company. Antoine Des Champs, a Canadian Frenchman, was the general agent. He established himself at Peoria in 1816, and in 1817 was succeeded by Gurden S. Hubbard, now (1880) of Chicago, who will introduce himself in the letter below, addressed to the Hon. A. T. Purviance, County Clerk of Putnam County:

CHICAGO, April 8th, 1867.

A. T. PURVIANCE:

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 4th received. The trading house occupied by Thomas Hartzell was erected in 1817, and occupied by Beaubien, in the employment of the American Fur Company. The following year I was with him as his clerk, for he could not read or write; besides, was old, and passed most of his time sick in bed. I was then sixteen years old, and had entered the employment of American Fur Company in May of that year. Hartzell was at that time trading on the river below, in opposition to the American Company. Some years after, I think about 1824 or 5, he succeeded Beaubien in the employment of the American Fur Company. There was a house just below, across the ravine, built by Antoine Bourbonais, also an opposition trader, who, like Hartzell, went into the employ of the American Fur Company under a yearly salary. My trading post, after leaving Beaubien, was at the mouth of Crooked Creek till 1826, when I located on the Iroquois river, still in the employ of the American Fur Company, and so continued till 1830, when I bought them out. * * *

The last time that I visited the old spot where the trading house stood, the chimney was all that remained. This was made with clay and sticks. Four stakes were driven firmly in the ground, then small saplings withed across about two feet apart. Clay mortar tempered with ashes laid on long hay cut from the low lands, kneaded and made into strips about three feet long and three thick, laying the center over the first round of saplings, twisting them in below, until the top was reached, when the chimney inside and out was daubed with the clay and mortar smoothed off with the hand. The hearth of dry clay, pounded. It was our custom to keep rousing fires, and this soon baked and hardened the chimney, which gave it durability. The roof was made of puncheons, I think; that is, split boards, the cracks

well daubed with clay, and then long grass put on top, held down by logs of small size to keep the grass in its place. The sides of the house consisted of logs, laid one on top of the other, about seven feet high. The ends of these logs were kept in place by posts in the ground. The ends were sapling logs set in the ground, upright to the roof, pinned to a beam laid across from the top of the logs, comprising the upper sides of the building. A rough door at one end, and a window at the other, composed of one sheet of foolscap paper, well greased. It was a warm, comfortable building, where many an Indian was hospitably entertained, and all were jolly and happy. There I first knew Shaubena. His winter lodge was on Bureau River, at the bluffs. I became very much attached to him, and he to me. I never knew a more honest man, and up to the time of his death our friendship did not seem diminished.

Yours, etc.,

G. S. HUBBARD.

We copy the above because it is reliable and valuable as historical fact, and for the reason that it describes the first house ever built by a white man in this section of country.

At these trading houses pelts and furs were obtained from the Indians in exchange for powder, balls, tobacco, knives, and beads and other trinkets, and shipped in boats called *batteaux* to the headquarters of the Fur Company, or to the larger independent traders at New Orleans or in Canada.

In 1821, two cabins were built near that of the Fur Company, one of which was occupied by Bourbonais, or "Bulbona," as he was called, and the other by Rix Robinson, a Connecticut Yankee. Both had married squaws, and were raising half-breed children. The Frenchman went to what became known as Bulbona's Grove, and established a trading post, which he occupied for many years.

At this time there were few white people north of Springfield, and the entire northern part of the State was a wilderness, inhabited by Indians and wolves. Hubbard affirmed that in passing from his trading post at Hennepin he found no white settlers until within eighteen miles of St. Louis.

In 1825, says *Peck's Gazetteer*: "In Northern Illinois there was not an organized county, a post-road or a considerable settlement. Chicago was little more than a village in Pike County, situated on Lake Michigan, at the mouth of Chicago Creek, containing twelve or fifteen houses and about sixty or seventy inhabitants. Peoria was a small settlement in Pike County, situated on the west bank of the Illinois River about two hundred miles above its junction with the Mississippi. A few lead miners had clustered about the lead mines at Galena, but a road through the wilderness was not made until late this year, when 'Kellogg's Trail' pointed

the devious way from Peoria to Galena. Not a white man's habitation nor a ferry was to be seen along its entire route."

The Military Bounty Land Tract was the first to be settled by American emigrants. It was surveyed by the Government, in 1815 and 1816, and the greater part subsequently appropriated in bounties to soldiers of the war of 1812. It extended from the junction of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, running north 169 miles to a line drawn from the great bend of the river above Peru to the Mississippi, containing 5,360,000 acres.

Pike County was laid off in 1821, and was immense in its boundaries. It included all that part of the State north and west of the Illinois River, from its junction with the Kankakee to the Mississippi River, and east of the Kankakee to the Indiana line, and running north to Wisconsin! In 1823 it had seven or eight hundred inhabitants.

January 13, 1825, among other counties, Putnam was created. It embraced a territory extending from the present northern limit of Peoria County, along the Illinois and Kankakee Rivers to the Indiana line, and thence north to Wisconsin, and west to a point thirty-five miles from the Mississippi; thence due south 105 miles, and east to beginning, comprising 11,000 square miles! In 1830, Putnam and Peoria Counties united contained 1,310 whites, Putnam alone about 700. But this county was never organized, however. Its judicial business appears to have been transacted at Peoria, when there was any.

In 1829, '30 and '31, settlers had begun to come in and locate along the margins of the timber and at the edges of the larger groves. But still they were few and far between. There being no ferries, goods were taken across the river in canoes, while horses were made to swim.

In 1831 Thomas Hartzell established a ferry at Hennepin, the first on the river above Peoria.

In 1831 Putnam County was again created, with new boundaries, and in the spring of that year organized in accordance with the act of the Legislature of the January previous.

Chicago had not then a municipal existence, but was a lively village of 250 inhabitants, including the garrison of Fort Dearborn. The Indian title to most of the land in Northern Illinois had not been extinguished, and no land outside of the military tract was for sale. But a single steamer had yet troubled the waters of the Illinois River above Peoria. There were a few settlers in the vicinity of Lacon and Hennepin, and on

Round and Half Moon Prairies, in what is Marshall County now, as well as on the Ox Bow Prairie, and at Union Grove, in Putnam County.

The new county, as created in 1831, comprised thirty-eight full and thirteen fractional townships, and included nearly the whole of what is now Bureau, Putnam, Marshall and Stark Counties—a greater territory than the entire State of Rhode Island. Commissioners to locate a county seat were appointed, consisting of John Hamlin, of Peoria; Isaac Perkins, of Tazewell, and Joel Wright of Canton. The act of incorporation provided it should be located on the Illinois River, “as near as practicable in the center of the county, with a just regard to its present and future susceptibility of population, and to be named Hennepin.”

The Commissioners accordingly met early in May, and after examination of the various sites along the river, were about deciding to locate the county seat where Henry, in Marshall County, now stands, when the inhabitants of the Spoon River region interposed a plea that its location there would delay them in the formation of a new county, which they desired to have set off as soon as population would justify. The Commission gave due attention to this plea, and resolved upon another site. As an understanding had already gone abroad that the location would be made at Henry, a chalked board was set up at that point, giving notice that another locality had been chosen. On the 6th of June, a report was made to the County Commissioners' Court, then sitting near Hennepin, that “they have selected, designated, and permanently located the said seat of justice” where it now is. Provision was made in the organic act for its location upon Congress lands, if deemed advisable.*

The boundaries of the new county, as fixed by the act of January 15, 1831, were defined as “commencing at the south-west corner of Town 12 north, Range 6 east, running east to the Illinois River; thence down the middle of said river to the south line of Town 29 north; thence east with said line to the third principal meridian; thence north with said meridian line forty-two miles; thence west to a point six miles due north of the north-west corner of Town 17 north, Range 6 east; thence south in a right line to the place of beginning.”

The first election under the law was to choose county officers, and was held at the house of Wm. Hawes, on the first Monday of March, 1831. The judges of election were Thomas Hartzell and Thomas Gallaher, while James W. Willis performed the duties of clerk.

*Ford's “History of Marshall and Putnam Counties.”

The day was cold and dreary; roads were unknown save here and there a bridle-path; there were no bridges, and not a great deal of enthusiasm was manifested.

But twenty-four votes were cast, and as there was but one set of candidates, they were declared elected. They were: Thomas Gallaher, George Ish and John M. Gay for County Commissioners, Ira Ladd for Sheriff, and Aaron Cole for Coroner.

Hooper Warren was Clerk of the Circuit Court, Recorder of Deeds, County Clerk, and also, when he had nothing else to do, was Justice of the Peace.

Putnam was assigned to the Fifth Judicial Circuit, comprising fifteen counties, of which Hon. Richard M. Young was Judge and Hon. Thomas Ford (afterward Governor) District Attorney.

The new county seat was named in honor of Father Hennepin, the well-known explorer, and the first white man who is supposed to have set foot on the shores of the Illinois at this locality. The name was fixed by the law creating the county, so that all the different places seeking the location of the seat of justice, and failing, thus escaped the honor of bearing the name of Hennepin.

CIRCUIT COURT.

The first Circuit Court in Putnam County was held on the first Monday of May, 1831. In accordance with law, the County Commissioners' Court had selected the house of Thomas Gallaher, Esq., on the bank of the Illinois River, about one-fourth of a mile above Thomas Hartzell's trading house, as a suitable place for holding court.

Accordingly, on the day named the Court met, and there being no Clerk as yet provided, the Judge appointed Hooper Warren to the position, and fixed his official bond at \$2,000. John Dixon and Henry Thomas became his sureties. The Sheriff made due proclamation, and the Circuit Court of Putnam was declared in session.

The Grand Jurors for the term were: Daniel Dimmick, Elijah Epperson, Henry Thomas, Leonard Roth, Jesse Williams, Israel Archer, James Warnock, John L. Ramsey, William Hawes, John Strawn, Samuel Laughlin (foreman), David Boyle, Stephen Willis, Jeremiah Strawn, Abraham Stratten, and Nelson Shepherd.

Summoned, but did not appear: Thomas Wafer, George B. Willis, John Knox, — Humphrey, Jesse Roberts, and Lemuel Gaylord, Sr.

The Petit Jurors were: Wm. Boyd, Hugh Warnock, Wm. H. Ham, Lewis Knox, Samuel Patterson, Joseph Ash, Christopher Wagner, Joseph Wallace, John Whittaker, Wm. Cowan, Wm. Wright, Ashael Hannum, Anthony Turk, John Burrow, John Myers, Ezekiel Thomas, Mason Wilson, Smiley Shepherd, Justin Ament, and William Morris.

The Grand Jury held its sessions on a log under the shade of the trees. The only work done was the finding of an indictment against a man named Resin Hall and a woman named Martha Wright. He had a cabin in the woods, where he openly lived with two wives, to the great disgust of his bachelor neighbors, who thought where women were so few there should be a more equal distribution. Before the setting of the next court, Mr. Hall and his two wives folded their tents and disappeared.

There was no further business before this court, which lasted but one day and adjourned. At the next term, September, 1831, James M. Strode, Esq., was appointed Prosecuting Attorney, pro tem, in the absence of State's Attorney Thomas Ford, and Clark Hollenback indicted for malfeasance in office as Magistrate.

Court was afterward held at the house of Geo. B. Willis, and wherever it could find room for a year or two, until more permanent quarters could be had.

At the May term, 1832, John Combs, summoned as a juror, failed to appear. The Court sent an officer, armed with an attachment, after the delinquent, brought him in a prisoner, and fined him \$5.00 and costs.

David Jones, of rather tempestuous fame, was recognized to keep the peace, and gave bonds in the sum of \$50.00, with Roswell Blanchard and Elijah Epperson as his sureties that he would be peaceful to all the world, and especially as to George Ish.

In May, 1832, Clark Hollenback's case came up, but for some unknown reason the State's Attorney quashed it. He had been indicted for some crookedness as Justice of the Peace, but the affair never came to trial.

COURT HOUSES AND JAILS.

A new Court House and jail had been contemplated, and October 8th, 1831, the County Commissioners "ordered that a new Court House be built on plans furnished by John M. Gay, Esq., by May, 1832."

December 9th, 1831, a jail was ordered to be built. It was to be seven feet in the clear, the upper and under floors to be made of hewn timber, one foot square, the roof "raved clapboard," three feet long. "The door to be made of inch boards doubled, nailed together with hammered nails six inches apart, to be hung with iron hinges, the hooks one inch square, six inches long, boarded, the hasp of the lock to go two-thirds of the way across the door, the window to be a foot square, with two bars of iron each way. To be twelve feet square, and cost eighty dollars."

This costly structure was erected according to specifications, and accepted; and it is on record that one of its first prisoners, with a little outside help, pried out a log and escaped.

August 14th, 1832, "Notice was ordered given in *The Sangamon Journal* (Springfield), that three several jobs of building a court house will be sold the third Monday of September, 1832.

"1st. The foundation to be of stone, fifty feet on the ground each way, out to out; wall three feet high, two feet thick, one foot six inches under ground.

"2d. Brick wall to be equal in extent to foundation, twenty-two feet high, first story twelve feet, two and a half brick thick; second story ten feet high, two brick thick.

"3d. Carpenter work all to be done in good style, and the whole to be finished by September, 1833."

Until 1833, the Circuit Court had no regular place for holding its sessions, and among bills audited were several for payment of rent of room used, the usual price charged being two dollars for the term, which if in winter included the firewood used.

In March, 1833, Ira Ladd was employed to build a new jail, of the following dimensions:

"Lower floor to be double, of hewn timber—white or burr oak, one foot square—sixteen feet square; the lower tier of timber to be laid close side by side; second tier to be of same material and size laid crosswise, so as to make both solid—making it two feet thick, sixteen inches square, and sunk in the ground to a level with the top of the floor, four to eight inches above the ground. The outer wall to be sixteen feet from out to out, and each way sixteen feet high, of square timber hewn or four-sided; walls one foot thick, logs to be close, the corners plumb, notched dove-tail, corners cut down true and smooth, iron spikes in each log at the corners, of three-quarter inch iron, to be driven in in presence of wit-

nesses; the lower seven feet to be of white or burr oak. Inner wall twelve feet square, one foot thick, seven feet high, corners notched; one foot of space between inner and outer wall, to be filled with good hard timber, except walnut or ash. Space to be filled with one foot square timber seven feet long, set on end. Second floor of timber one foot square, sixteen feet long; upper story nine feet nine inches high. One window, one foot square, in lower story between the fourth and fifth logs, grated double, with one and one-quarter inch iron rods, and a door and window in upper story, securely made. A hatchway connected the upper and lower stories. The cost of this model log fortress was fixed at \$334!

The next important record is found January 7, 1836, when it was "ordered that \$14,000 be appropriated for a court house," and Wm. M. Stewart was appointed to make out the plans. The contract was to be let March 3, 1836, and an advertisement was ordered inserted in the *Chicago Democrat* and *Sangamon Journal* to that effect.

Gorham & Durley obtained the contract for Wm. C. Flagg, a prominent contractor and builder of the Bloomington, Ottawa, and other court houses. The building cost \$14,000.

The temporary court house ordered constructed September 2, 1833, was not completed and occupied until December, 1835, and in the June following it was formally accepted in behalf of the county, by James G. Patterson, Commissioner. The new building being now well under way, the temporary one was offered for sale almost immediately upon its completion.

THE RECORDS OF DEEDS.

In early times deeds were not as promptly recorded as now. The fact that a man had given a warranty deed to a tract of land was accepted as conclusive evidence of his right to do so. The title was still in the United States Government for the great body of land in the country, and the conveyances from one individual to another were few. When a settler had acquired his "patent" he felt safe enough, and was content to exhibit this unquestionable proof of his ownership, the very highest title known. The precious document was safer with the proprietor of the land it described than elsewhere, and these "patents" were seldom placed upon record,—not one in fifty ever finding its way to the Recorder's office, at least for years after. There was little danger of the Government issuing

two patents for the same land, and the man in possession had the “nine points” of the law.

Until possible cities began to be thought of, there was but little changing of titles among the people. The pioneer having made his claim through much hardship and toil, regarded it as his future homestead, and was loth to part with it.

The first conveyance on record in Putnam County is a deed from Robert Bird and wife to John Strawn, for a piece of the north end of the north-east fractional quarter of Section 35, Town 30, Range 3 west, in Columbia (Lacon), August 15, 1831, for \$38.00, acknowledged before Colby F. Stevenson, Notary Public. This was followed by other conveyances of town lots here and there, and now and then a certificate of entry, for its better preservation, for its loss was a serious obstacle to getting the coveted “patent.” About 1834, Eastern capitalists were attracted to the West as affording new and profitable fields for speculation, and occasionally a deed turned up for a township or so of land, bought “unsight unseen.” July 30, 1834, we find a deed for forty-six quarter sections of land, from Southwick Shaw to Dr. Benjamin Shurtliff, of Boston, for \$4,500,—7,360 acres. Also, another from Humphrey Howland to Arthur Mott, for sixty-four quarter sections, or 10,240 acres, for \$8,320. Another from John Tillson, Jr., to Walter Bicker, of 18,040 acres, for \$8,000. One dated October 7, 1834, from John Tillson, Jr., to Walter Mead, for 30,360 acres, and another to Mead for 57,910 acres, June 30, 1835. The largest deed, however, is dated December 7, 1835, from Stephen B. Munn and wife to Charles F. Moulton, for \$220,000, and conveys several counties of land. The descriptions in this deed occupy twenty-three pages of the record.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

The old financial court of the county, the simple and inexpensive system of county government, which for the sole reason of its economy, has many advocates as against the cumbrous, half legislative body called the “Board of Supervisors,” first met “in special session” at Hennepin, April 2d, 1831. Present—“The Hon. Thomas Gallaher,” Judge of the Probate Court, and George Ish and John M. Gay, “Associate Justices of the Peace,” for such were the high sounding titles of those gentlemen of that day. Hooper Warren was appointed Clerk.

Ira Ladd had been elected Sheriff of the new county, but his commission not having arrived to give him such power as the court could confer, "he was appointed to discharge the duties of the office of Sheriff of said county till said commission should come"! He was also requested to designate the place of holding this honorable court, which he did by selecting a place in the woods on the river bank! He was likewise required to furnish a table, benches, and stationery for the court!

On the 6th of June the Commissioners' met, and heard the report of Joel Wright, John Hamlin, and Isaac Perkins, Commissioners to locate the seat of justice of Putnam County, which was ordered filed. It fixed the honor upon the south-west fractional quarter of Section 9, Town 32, Range 2 west.

The Court having examined said report, find that the Commissioners have made a mistake in the quarter section, and directed the County Surveyor to examine the levies of said quarter section and report.

Thornton Wilson, Geo. Hildebrand and John Whittaker were appointed the first School Trustees in the county, for the school section in their neighborhood—Section 16, Town 31, Range 1 west.

Also, on the petition of Wm. Smith and nineteen others, John B. Dodge, Charles Boyd and Sylvanus Moore were appointed Commissioners to locate a road from Hennepin to Smith's Ford, on Spoon River, and required to meet and begin their labors July 4th, 1831.

June 17th, 1831, the Court, on the petition of Christopher Hannum and seventeen others, appointed Ashael Hannum, John Strawn and Ira Ladd to locate a road from Hennepin to the county line between Tazewell and Putnam Counties.

The first tax levied in the county was fixed by the Commissioners' Court at one-half of one per cent on personal property only, for county purposes.

James W. Willis was appointed the first County Treasurer, and his bond required to be one thousand dollars. Thomas Wafer, Samuel D. Laughlin and Stephen D. Willis became sureties, and the bond accepted.

The county was at this term divided into four election precincts, viz:

Sandy—Including all the county south of the south branch of Clear Creek to the Illinois River.

Hennepin—All the county south-east of the Illinois River, and north of the above mentioned line.

Spoon River—To include all of the county south of the direct line

from the head of Crow Prairie to Six Mile Grove, thence north-west to the county line.

Bureau—All of the county north-east of the above and northwest of the Illinois River.

THE FIRST ELECTION.

The first election after the organization of the county was held August 1st, 1834, and the officers to be elected were, a Member of Congress, a Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, as they were known, and a Constable for each precinct. The vote was small, and was taken by each elector calling the name of the party for whom he desired to cast his ballot, which the clerk reported, and, along with his name, inscribed in the poll book. This is what is termed voting "viva voce." We give for the benefit of their descendants a list of persons who voted at that election:

SANDY PRECINCT.

Judges—Wm. Cowan, Ashael Hannum and John Strawn. Election held at the houses of Jesse Roberts, John H. Shaw and Abner Boyle. The voters were: Ashael Hannum, Wm. Cowan, John Strawn, George H. Shaw, Abner Boyle, Lemuel Gaylord, William Hart, Lemuel Horram, Robert Bird, Wm. Hendrick, John Knox, James Finley, George Hildebrand, Hiram Allen, Daniel Gunn, Zion Shugart, Jesse Roberts, Isaac Hildebrand, John S. Hunt, William Eads, Wm. H. Hart, John Hart, Ephraim Smith, Peter Hart, Obed Graves, Hartwell Hawley, William Graves, Wm. Lathrop, Jesse Berge, Ezekiel Stacey, Litel Kneal, William Hawes, Wm. Knox, Marcus D. Stacey, J. C. Wright, Thos. Gunn, John Bird, Samuel Glenn, Elias Thompson, Robert Barnes, James Adams and John G. Griffith—42.

HENNEPIN PRECINCT.

The Judges of Election were: Thornton Wilson, Aaron Payne and George B. Willis; Smiley Shepherd and John Short, Clerks. Election at the ferry house, opposite the mouth of Bureau Creek.

The voters were: James W. Willis, Ira Ladd, Hooper Warren, Christopher Wagner, David Boyle, James C. Stephenson, Samuel McNamara, Alexander Wilson, John McDonald, Wm. H. Hamm, John Griffin, James G. Dunlavy, Colby T. Stephenson, James A. Warnock, John E. Warnock,

Jeremiah Strawn, Aaron Whittaker, Aaron Thomasson, Aaron Payne, Jos. Warnock, Stephen D. Willis, Madison Studyvin, Samuel D. Laughlin, Hugh Warnock, Anthony Turck, Jonathan Wilson, Joseph Wallace, James Garven, George Ish, Joseph D. Warnock, Robert W. Moore, James G. Ross, James Hayes, John L. Ramsey, Williamson Durley, Thos. D. Hayless, Thornton Wilson, John Short, George B. Wilson, Smiley Shepherd, James S. Simpson—41.

SPOON RIVER DISTRICT.

Judges—Wm. Smith, Greenleaf Smith and Wm. B. Essex; John C. Owing and Benj. Smith, Clerks. Election at the house of Benj. Smith.

The voters were: W. D. Garrett, Sewell Smith, John B. Dodge, Sylvanus Moore, Benj. Essex, Thomas Essex, Thomas Essex, Jr., David Cooper, Harris W. Miner, Isaac B. Essex, — Greenleaf, B. Smith, Wm. Smith, Benj. Smith, John C. Owings—14.

BUREAU PRECINCT.

Judges — Henry Thomas, Elijah Epperson, and Leonard Roth, at the house of E. Epperson.

The voters were: Henry Thomas, Elijah Epperson, Leonard Roth, John M. Gay, Mason Dimmick, Samuel Gleason, Curtis Williams, Justice Ament, John Ament, John W. Hall, Henry M. Harrison, Abner Stratton, Elijah Thomas, Hezekiah Epperson, Edward W. Hall, Adam Taylor, Daniel Dnnic, Thomas Washburn and Anthony Epperson.

In all the precincts there were but one hundred and sixteen votes cast.

 SOURCES OF REVENUE, SURVEYS, ETC.

By order of the County Court, all business men were required to take out licenses, for which fees were charged according to their supposed profits. Peddlers were looked on with suspicion, and a fee was exacted double that required of the merchant, who could secure one while court was in session for eight dollars, but in vacation the Clerk was directed to assess sixteen. This we suppose was to make men respect the Court's dignity.

The county being hard up, George Ish and Thomas Gallaher were authorized to borrow \$200 on its credit, to purchase the land of the United

States Government upon which the State had located the seat of justice, but here a new difficulty arose; for County Surveyor Stevenson having, in accordance with the request of the Court, surveyed the fractional quarter section upon which the Commissioners had located the new county-seat, and found it to contain only twelve acres — far too little for the future great metropolis,—the Court appointed John M. Gay to proceed to the residence of any two of said Commissioners and get them to alter their report so as to include the south-east quarter, or else to make a new location. They were easily persuaded to amend it in accordance with the merits of the case; so they designated the south-east fractional quarter of Section 9, Town 32, Range 2 west as the future seat of justice, and George Ish was sent to Springfield to enter the same at the Government Land Office, for the benefit of the County of Putnam.

September 5, 1831, John B. Dodge, Thomas Gunn, William Smith and Thomas G. Ross, having been elected Constables in August, presented their bonds, and the same were approved.

September 6, Dunlavy & Stewart took out a license to sell merchandise from August 1, 1831; also a like legal authority to sell goods was granted to J. & W. Durley, from August 11, 1831.

September 7, 1831, twelve blocks of the future town of Hennepin were ordered to be surveyed, and Ira Ladd allowed eighteen and three-fourths cents per lot for surveying.

A road leading from Hennepin west to the State road from Peoria to Galena, was ordered to be surveyed; also a road to Smith's Ford, on Spoon River, to be re-surveyed and marked, and another to be laid out from Hennepin to Holland's settlement in Tazewell County (now Washington); another was laid out from the county seat to the McComas place.

The first sale of lots in Hennepin was ordered to be made, at public auction, on the third Monday of September, 1831, half the purchase money to be paid down, and the balance in two payments, in six and twelve months. A general sale was ordered to take place on the first Monday of December, 1831, on similar terms, to be advertised in the newspapers at Springfield and Galena, Illinois, and Terre Haute, Indiana, the then most considerable papers in the west.

The first Commissioner of School Lands was Nathaniel Chamberlain, who was appointed September 26, 1831.

The ground where the new town was located was heavily timbered, if we may credit the following notice "from the Court," which "Ordered,

that notice be given to all persons cutting timber *on the streets of Hennepin*, to clear the whole tree they cut down from the street even with the ground, and all who infringe upon this rule will be prosecuted."

Ira Ladd was next called upon to survey eight additional blocks, and he complied by laying out eighteen, for which he was paid \$3.50. Samuel Patterson was auctioneer at this sale, and was allowed the surprising sum of one dollar for "crying" them.

December 8, 1831, George H. Shaw, Thomas Wafer, Elijah Smith and Benjamin Smith were appointed Overseers of the Poor—the first in this county. The same day the Court confirmed a permit issued in vacation to James S. Simpson, to sell goods; and also transferred a license from Ira Ladd to Thomas Hartzell, for merchandizing.

March 6, 1832, James W. Willis was appointed Treasurer, and filed his bond at the same time.

Up to March 7, 1832, all efforts had failed to acquire title to the land set apart as the seat of justice, and a new endeavor was made.

The taxes of 1832 were fixed at one and a half per centum on all personal property.

At this session of the Court, Erastus Wright and Wm. Porter, who were running a ferry at the mouth of Sandy Creek, were taxed \$5.00 for the privilege. This was March 16, 1832, and was probably the first ferry established at Henry.

July 2, 1832, the Precinct of Columbia was created out of Sandy Precinct, and embracing "all the country east of the Illinois River, south and south-west of Geo. H. Thompson's. Robert Bird, James Dever and Robert Barnes were appointed judges, and the first election was ordered to be held at the house of John Strawn.

No title to the land where Hennepin stands had yet been acquired, although Hooper Warren had specially visited Springfield for the purpose, and at the July session James G. Dunlavy was dispatched to St. Louis upon the same errand.

Elisha Swan was granted a license to sell goods at Columbia, September 3, 1832.

James W. Willis, for assessing the entire property of the county, was allowed \$25.00.

September 8, 1832, Thomas Gallaher, Jr., for selling goods without a license, was brought before Hooper Warren, a Justice of the Peace, and fined \$10.00.

September 10, 1832, Aaron Whittaker was employed to build a “stray pen, according to law.”

John Lloyd, John Myers, and Bradstreet M. Hays were appointed to locate a road from Hennepin to Ottawa, and a former survey on that route was ordered to be vacated.

The Commissioners of Peoria County having granted a license, December 3, 1830, to Thompson & Wright to keep a ferry at the mouth of Sandy Creek (Henry), the Commissioners of Putnam, October 6, 1832, ordered the same continued in the name of E. Wright and Wm. Porter, who seem to have in some way succeeded the former owners.

The new ferrymen were required to pay to the county \$2.00, and give bonds in the sum of \$100 that they would run the ferry according to law and the following ferry rates :

Foot passengers, each.....	6½ cents.
Man and horse	12½ “
Dearborn, or one-horse wagon.....	25 “
Sulky, gig, pleasure carriage with springs, chaise or other wheel carriage drawn by one horse.....	50 “
Same, or wagon or cart drawn by two horses or beasts	37½ “
Same, by four horses or beasts	75 “
Each additional horse.....	6½ “
Each head of cattle.....	6½ “
Hog, sheep or goat, each.....	3 “
Goods, per 100 pounds.....	6½ “

When the water is out of its banks, double the above rates.

Ira Ladd was authorized to keep the Hennepin ferry.

October 6, 1832, it was ordered that a lot be donated in Hennepin for the benefit of the public schools, and lot 17 of block 7 having been selected, the same was deeded to the school district.

October 6, 1832, a road was ordered surveyed from Columbia (Lacon) past Strawn’s and Dever’s places, south to the county line of Putnam and Tazewell. John Robinson, Anthony Turck, and B. M. Hays, Commissioners.

October 6, 1832, “Lemuel Gaylord came before the Court and made affidavit that he was aged sixty-seven years; that he entered the service of the United States Government for one Ithurial Hart, of the Quartermaster’s Department, under command of Captain Tuttle, in June, 1780; continued till December, 1780; re-enlisted in April, 1781; drove team till December 27, following; was with the expedition to Yorktown, and after the taking of Cornwallis, hauled a piece of artillery to Newburg, and

baggage back. In April, 1782, enlisted again; went to headquarters at Newburg, remained under the command of Major Skidmore till December 20, following, and believe myself entitled to a pension," etc.

This affidavit bears the signature of Edward Hale and Peter Ellis, ministers of the Gospel, who certify to Gaylord's good character and truthfulness.

In further explanation, it should be stated that Gaylord was a minor at the time, and his father was entitled to the pension, but the latter having been killed by the Indians at the massacre of Wyoming, it had never been allowed. Mr. Gaylord was fortunate in securing what he was so justly entitled to, and spent his remaining days at his home on Sandy. He was universally respected, and after living to an advanced age, was gathered to his fathers, and sleeps in an honored grave in Cumberland Cemetery.

December 25, 1832, Roswell Blanchard surrendered his license to sell goods, and in its stead applied for one to keep a tavern at Hennepin, which was granted for a fee of fifty cents, and bonds required in the amount of \$200 that he would, among the duties of landlord, strictly live up to the following rates of charges: Horse one night, 25c.; one feed, 12½c.; one horse twenty-four hours, 37½c.; man, one meal, 18¾c.; night's lodging, 6¼c.; whisky—one gill 6¼c., half-pint 12½c., one pint 18¾c.; brandy, rum, gin and wine, one gill 12½c.; half-pint 25c., pint 50c.

December 29, 1832, Captain Brown's Rangers, a body of militia organized to protect the white people of the frontier against the Indians, were quartered near Hennepin, and occasionally had to use the ferry. The Court made the following special order: "Captain Brown's company of Rangers are granted the use of the ferry to cross at Hennepin, for \$2.00 over and back, or \$2.00 per week, as Captain Brown may choose.

March 6, 1833, Hooper Warren, Justice, reported that he had fined Roswell Blanchard \$3.00 for an assault upon Leonard Roth. Also, George Wilmarth seems to have perpetrated an assault and battery upon the devoted person of David Jones, somewhat noted as a pugilist. George having apparently got the best of this encounter, the Justice fined him \$5.00 and costs.

The entire taxes collected in 1832, in the County of Putnam, amounted to—cash, \$88.19, and county orders, \$104.62½.

A road from the mouth of Crow Creek, up the Illinois River, under the bluffs, through Columbia, and along the bottom to the mouth of

Sandy (opposite Henry), was ordered to be laid out, and Jesse Sawyer and the County Surveyor were appointed Commissioners to perform the labor, June 3, 1833.

Peter Barnhardt, paymaster of the Fourth Illinois Militia, filed his bond in \$200, as by law required, and the same was approved.

September 2, 1833, J. W. Willis was sent to Springfield to get patents for the land occupied by Hennepin and the county buildings. All previous efforts in this direction had regularly failed. The county had been selling and conveying property to which it had as yet no title, and nervous purchasers and tax-payers who feared that some audacious claim-jumper might steal the county property, or that which had been claimed for court house and jail purposes, kept the Honorable Commissioners' Court in the warmest of hot water, and every previous attempt to get titles having so wretchedly miscarried, they were becoming desperate.

December 16, it was ordered that the Commissioners' Clerk and Sheriff relinquish their fees for this term of Court. No explanation is vouchsafed, and we are left in the dark as to whether the county was unable to pay its public servants, or the Treasurer had grown so weak he could not draw the necessary orders.

FERRY LICENSES.

September 1, 1834, Alex. Tompkins was granted a license to run a ferry at the mouth of Negro Creek, at the house of John Cole.

Elisha Swan was allowed a ferry license at Columbia, March 2, 1835, and was taxed \$15.00; and at the same time was granted a merchant's license.

March 2, a license was given Wm. Hammett to run a ferry at the mouth of Crow Creek.

FORMATION OF MARSHALL COUNTY.

By 1835 Putnam had 3,948 whites and eight negroes, of whom two were registered servants, or more plainly, slaves.

The county was growing rapidly, and the location of the county seat being found inconvenient for many, the project for a new county was agitated, and the result was the formation of the magnificent county of Bureau, with Princeton for its county seat.

This was followed by another division, and Marshall County was formed. Thus from being the largest county in the State and leading all others in population, wealth and political influence, Putnam was shorn of its fair proportions, and made the very smallest. The student of history as he reads this will wonder why this wrong was permitted, and ask if there were none in the Legislature to plead for and protect her just rights. We cannot answer.

In the "Bribery Act" of 1837, whereby millions of money was voted to railroads never constructed, the consent or silent approval of counties not benefitted was secured by loans of money, and under its provisions Putnam was entitled to and received \$10,000 as her portion of the "steal." But "ill gotten gains are treacherous friends," the proverb hath it, and so it turned out, for the Treasurer, Ammon Moon, loaned it out so securely that it has never been recovered.

The last act of the Commissioners was to divide the county into townships in accordance with an act of the Legislature and vote of the people, and this duty was assigned to Guy W. Pool and Jeremiah Strawn.

The labors of the old County Commissioners' Court ceased April 16, 1856, when the new County Supervisors met at Hennepin and took upon themselves the dignity of office. The first Board consisted of Townsend G. Fyffe, of Magnolia, who was elected chairman, and James S. Simpson of Hennepin, Benjamin F. Carpenter of Senachwine, and Joel W. Hopkins of Granville.

RECORDS OF THE PROBATE COURT.

Colby F. Stevenson was the first Probate Judge of Putnam County, and performed its duties in addition to those of Surveyor.

The first case for adjudication was the estate of Daniel Bland, of Round Prairie, who died on the 8th day of February, 1831. The circumstances of his death will be more particularly referred to hereafter. His widow, Nancy Bland, was appointed administratrix, under bonds of \$1,250. Robert Bird became her surety.

John P. Blake was the next Judge, and his first official act was administering upon the estate of Zion Shugart, who died February 13, 1833. His widow was appointed administratrix, and Samuel Glenn became her surety. Dr. Condee, of Columbia (Lacon), appears to have been physician to deceased, since his bill is allowed.

Aaron Payne, the missionary, presents a bill of \$11.25 for officiating at the inquest of Daniel Gunn, who hanged himself on Oxbow Prairie, and the same was allowed.

December 8, 1831, James Reynolds died, and Jane M. Reynolds was made executrix.

Another record is the indenture of Caleb Stark to Elias Isaacs, who agrees "for three years' service" to instruct his apprentice in the "art, trade or mystery of currying." After one year's service the contract was abrogated.

September 7, 1831, Wm. Wauhob, Sr., died on Round Prairie. January 5, 1835, Robert, his son, comes to the County Court and complains that his brother William has appropriated the entire estate of their father, and wants an account rendered and a division. After a long contest over the matter, the parties got into court and settled.

James Dever died in December, 1834, and his will was proven in January, 1835.

We close our records with the following death notices of settlers whom many will remember: Thornton Wilson died March 9, 1835; Jos. Babb, April 7; Oliver Johnson, August 6; Alexander Wilson, July 22; William Britt, June 25; and Naomi Ware, October 3, of that year. The last named left by will a considerable portion of her estate to the New School Presbyterian Church of Hennepin.



THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

CHAPTER XV.

THE TREATY OF 1804.



THIS important episode in the history of Marshall and Putnam Counties demands extended notice, and for what follows we are mainly indebted to Ex-Governor Thomas Ford, who was a personal actor therein, and probably the very best man that could be found to tell the story. In order to a full and complete understanding of the causes that led to it, it will be necessary to refer to a treaty made by General Harrison, at St. Louis, in 1804, with the chief of the Sac and Fox nations of Indians, by which those Indians ceded to the United States all their lands on Rock River, and much more elsewhere.

“This grant was confirmed by a part of the tribe in a treaty with Governor Edwards and Auguste Chouteau, in September, 1815, and by another part in a treaty with the same Commissioners in May, 1816. The United States had caused some of these lands, situate at the mouth of Rock River, to be surveyed and sold. They included the great town of the nation, near the mouth of the river. The purchasers from the Government moved on their lands, built houses, made fences and fields, and thus took possession of the ancient metropolis of the Indian nation. It consisted of about two or three hundred lodges made of small poles set upright in the ground, upon which other poles were tied transversely with bark at the top, so as to hold a covering of bark peeled from the neighboring trees, and secured with other strips sewed to the transverse poles. The sides of the lodges were secured in the same manner. The principal part of these Indians had long since moved from their town to the west of the Mississippi.

“But there was one old chief of the Sacs, called Mucata Mucicatah, or Black Hawk, who always denied the validity of these treaties. Black Hawk was now an old man. He had been a warrior from his youth. He had led many a war party on the trail of an enemy, and had never been

defeated. He had been in the service of England in the war of 1812, and had been aid-de-camp to the great Tecumseh. He was distinguished for courage and for clemency to the vanquished. He was an Indian patriot, a kind husband and father, and was noted for his integrity in all his dealings with his tribe and with the Indian traders. He was firmly attached to the British, and cordially hated the Americans. At the close of the war of 1812 he did not join in making peace with the United States, but himself and band kept up their connection with Canada, and were ever ready for a war with our people. He was in his personal deportment grave and melancholy, with a disposition to cherish and brood over the wrongs he supposed he had received from the Americans. He was thirsting for revenge upon his enemies, and at the same time his piety constrained him to devote one day in the year to visit the grave of a favorite daughter buried on the Mississippi River, not far from Oquawka. Here he came on his yearly visit, and spent a day by the grave, lamenting and bewailing the death of one who had been the pride of his family and of his Indian home. With these feelings was mingled the certain and melancholy prospect of the extinction of his tribe, and the transfer of his country, with its many silvery rivers, rolling and green prairies, and dark forests, the haunts of his youth, to the possession of a hated enemy; while he and his people were to be driven, as he supposed, into a strange country, far from the graves of his fathers and his children.

“Black Hawk’s own account of the treaty of 1804 is as follows. He says that some Indians of the tribe were arrested and imprisoned in St. Louis for murder; that some of the chiefs were sent down to provide for their defence; that while there, and without the consent of the nation, they were induced to sell the Indian country; that when they came home, it appeared that they had been drunk most of the time they were absent, and could give no account of what they had done, except that they had sold some land to the white people, and had come home loaded with presents and Indian finery. This was all the nation ever heard or knew about the treaty of 1804.

“Under the pretence that this treaty was void, he resisted the order of the Government for the removal of his tribe west of the Mississippi. In the spring of 1831 he re-crossed the river, with his women and children and three hundred warriors of the British band, together with some allies from the Pottawatomie and Kickapoo nations, to establish himself upon his ancient hunting-grounds and in the principal village of his nation. He

ordered the white settlers away, threw down their fences, unroofed their houses, cut up their grain, drove off and killed their cattle, and threatened the people with death if they remained. The settlers made their complaints to Governor Reynolds. These acts of the Indians were considered by the Governor to be an invasion of the State. He immediately addressed letters to General Gaines, of the United States army, and to General Clark, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, calling upon them to use the influence of the Government to procure the peaceful removal of the Indians, if possible; at all events, to defend and protect the American citizens who had purchased those lands from the United States, and were now about to be ejected by the Indians. General Gaines repaired to Rock Island with a few companies of regular soldiers, and soon ascertained that the Indians were bent upon war. He immediately called upon Governor Reynolds for seven hundred mounted volunteers. The Governor obeyed the requisition. A call was made upon some of the northern and central counties, in obedience to which fifteen hundred volunteers rushed to his standard at Beardstown, and about the 10th of June were organized and ready to march to the seat of war. The whole force was divided into two regiments, an odd battalion and a spy battalion. The first regiment was commanded by Col. James D. Henry, the second by Col. Daniel Lieb, the odd battalion by Maj. Nathaniel Buckmaster, and the spy battalion by Maj. Samuel Whiteside. The whole brigade was put under the command of Maj. Gen. Joseph Duncan, of the State Militia. This was the largest military force of Illinoisans which had ever been assembled in the State, and made an imposing appearance as it traversed the then unbroken wilderness of prairie.

The army proceeded in four days to the Mississippi, at a place now called Rockport, about eight miles below the mouth of Rock River, where it met General Gaines in a steamboat, with a supply of provisions. Here it encamped for the night, and the two Generals concerted a plan of operations. General Gaines had been in the vicinity of the Indian town for about a month, during which time it might be supposed that he had made himself thoroughly acquainted with the localities and topography of the country. The next morning the volunteers marched forward, with an old regular soldier for a guide. The steamboat with General Gaines ascended the river. A battle was expected to be fought that day on Vandruff's Island, opposite the Indian town. The plan was for the volunteers to cross the slough on to this island, give battle to the enemy if

found there, and then to ford the main river into the town, where they were to be met by the regular force coming down from the fort. The island was covered with bushes and vines, so as to be impenetrable to the sight at the distance of twenty feet. General Gaines ran his steamboat up to the point of the island, and fired several rounds of grape and canister shot into it to test the presence of an enemy. The spy battalion formed in line of battle and swept the island; but it was soon ascertained that the ground rose so high within a short distance of the bank, that General Gaines's shot could not have taken effect one hundred yards from the shore. The main body of the volunteers, in three columns, came following the spies; but before they had got to the northern side of the island, they were so jammed up and mixed together, officers and men, that no man knew his own company or regiment, or scarcely himself. General Gaines had ordered the artillery of the regular army to be stationed on a high bluff which looked down upon the contemplated battlefield a half mile distant, from whence, in case of battle with the Indians in the tangled thickets of the island, their shot were likely to kill more of their friends than their enemies. It would have been impossible for the artillerists to distinguish one from the other. And when the army arrived at the main river, they found it a bold, deep stream, not fordable for a half mile or more above by horses, and no means of transportation was then ready to ferry them over. Here they were in sight of the Indian town, with a narrow, deep river running between, and here the principal part of them remained until scows could be brought to ferry them across it.

“When the volunteers reached the town they found no enemy there. The Indians had quietly departed the same morning in their canoes for the western side of the Mississippi. Whilst in camp twelve miles below, the evening before, a canoe load of Indians came down with a white flag to tell the General that they were peaceable Indians, that they expected a great battle to come off the next day, that they desired to remain neutral, and wanted to retire with their families to some place of safety, and they asked to know where that was to be. General Gaines answered them very abruptly, and told them to be off and go to the other side of the Mississippi. That night they returned to their town, and the next morning early the whole band of hostile Indians re-crossed the river, and thus entitled themselves to protection.”

Says Governor Ford: “It has been stated to me by Judge William

Thomas, of Jacksonville, who acted as Quartermaster of the brigade of volunteers, that Gaines and Duncan had reason to believe, before the commencement of the march from the camp on the Mississippi, that the Indians had departed from their village, that measures had been taken to ascertain the fact before the volunteers crossed to Vandruff's Island, that General Duncan, in company with the advanced guard, following the spies, preceded the main body in crossing, and that this will account for the confusion and want of order in the march of the troops.

"I was myself in company with the spies, arriving at the river a mile in advance of the army. I saw General Gaines ascend with his boat to the point of the island; was within one hundred yards of him when he fired into the island to test the presence of the Indians; I marched ahead with the spies across the island, saw with my own eyes the elevation of the land near the shore, which would have prevented cannon shot from taking effect more than one hundred yards. I also knew the condition of the island as to bushes and vines, and saw the artillery firing from the fort stationed on the high bluff on the opposite side of the river. I was on the bank of the main river when General Duncan came up, followed soon after by his brigade in the utmost confusion, and heard him reprimand John S. Miller, a substantial and worthy citizen of Rock Island, for not letting him know that the main river was on the north side of the island; and I heard Miller curse him to his face at the head of his troops for refusing his services as guide when offered the evening before, and then censuring him for not giving information which he had refused to receive. I give the facts as I personally know them to be true, and leave it to others to judge whether the two Generals, knowing of the departure of the Indians, had taken proper measures to ascertain the presence of an enemy, or had made the best disposition for a battle if the Indians had been found either at their village or on the island. Much credit is undoubtedly due to Governor Reynolds and General Duncan for the unprecedented quickness with which the brigade was called out, organized, and marched to the seat of war, and neither of them are justly responsible for what was arranged for them by General Gaines.

"The enemy having escaped, the volunteers were determined to be avenged upon something. The rain descended in torrents, and the Indian wigwams would have furnished a comfortable shelter; but notwithstanding the rain, the whole town was soon wrapped in flames, and thus perished an ancient village which had once been the delightful home of six or

seven thousand Indians; where generation after generation had been born, had died, and been buried; where the old men had taught wisdom to the young; whence the Indian youth had often gone out in parties to hunt or to war, and returned in triumph to dance around the spoils of the forest, or the scalps of their enemies; and where the dark-eyed Indian maidens, by their presence and charms, had made it a scene of delightful enchantment to many an admiring warrior.

“The volunteers marched to Rock Island next morning, and here they encamped for several days, precisely where the town of Rock Island is now situated. It was then in a complete state of nature, a romantic wilderness. Fort Armstrong was built upon a rocky cliff on the lower point of an island near the center of the river, a little way above; the shores on each side, formed of gentle slopes of prairie extending back to bluffs of considerable height, made it one of the most picturesque scenes in the Western country. The river here is a beautiful sheet of clear, swift-running water, about three-quarters of a mile wide; its banks on both sides were uninhabited except by Indians, from the lower rapids to the fort, and the voyager up stream, after several days’ solitary progress through a wilderness country on its borders, came suddenly in sight of the white-washed walls and towers of the fort, perched upon a rock surrounded by the grandeur and beauty of nature, which at a distance gave it the appearance of one of those enchanted castles in an uninhabited desert so well described in the Arabian Nights Entertainment.

General Gaines threatened to pursue the Indians across the river, which brought Black Hawk and the chiefs and braves of the hostile band to the fort to sue for peace. A treaty was formed with them, by which they agreed to remain forever after on the west side of the river, and never to recross it without the permission of the President or the Governor of the State. And thus these Indians at last ratified the treaty of 1804, by which their lands were sold to the white people, and they agreed to live in peace with the Government.

“But notwithstanding this treaty, early in the spring of 1832, Black Hawk and the disaffected Indians prepared to reassert their right to the disputed territory.

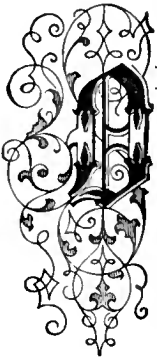
“The united Sac and Fox nations were divided into two parties. Black Hawk commanded the warlike band, and Keokuk, another chief, headed the band which was in favor of peace. Keokuk was a bold, sagacious leader of his people, was gifted with a wild and stirring eloquence

rarely to be found even among Indians, by means of which he retained the greater part of his people in amity with the white people. But nearly all the bold, turbulent spirits, who delighted in mischief, arranged themselves under the banners of his rival. Black Hawk had with him the chivalry of his nation, with which he re-crossed the Mississippi in the spring of 1832. He directed his march to the Rock River country, and this time aimed, by marching up the river into the territory of the Pottawatomies and Winnebagoes, to make them his allies. Governor Reynolds, upon being informed of the facts, made another call for volunteers. In a few days eighteen hundred men rallied under his banner at Beardstown. This force was organized into four regiments and a spy battalion. Colonel Dewitt commanded the First Regiment, Colonel Fry the Second, Colonel Thomas the Third, Colonel Thompson the Fourth, and Col. James D. Henry commanded the spy battalion. The whole brigade was put under the command of Brigadier General Samuel Whiteside, of the State militia, who had commanded the spy battalion in the first campaign.



CHAPTER XVI.

DEFEAT OF MAJOR STILLMAN.



IN the 27th of April, General Whiteside, accompanied by Governor Reynolds, took up his line of march. The army proceeded by way of Oquawka, on the Mississippi, to the mouth of Rock River, and here it was agreed between General Whiteside and General Atkinson, of the regulars, that the volunteers should march up Rock River about fifty miles, to the Prophet's town, and there encamp to feed and rest their horses, and await the arrival of the regular troops in keel boats, with provisions.

Judge Thomas, who again acted as quartermaster to the volunteers, made an estimate of the amount of provisions required until the boats could arrive, which was supplied, and then General Whiteside took up his line of march. But when he arrived at the Prophet's town, instead of remaining there, his men set fire to the village, which was entirely consumed, and the brigade marched on in the direction of Dixon, forty miles higher up the river. When the volunteers had arrived within a short distance of Dixon, orders were given to leave the baggage wagons behind, so as to reach there by a forced march. And for the relief of the horses, the men left large quantities of provisions behind with the wagons. At Dixon, General Whiteside came to a halt, to await a junction with General Atkinson, with provisions and the regular forces; and from here parties were sent out to reconnoitre the enemy and ascertain his position. The army here found upon its arrival two battalions of mounted volunteers, consisting of 275 men, from the counties of McLean, Tazewell, Peoria, and Fulton, under the command of Majors Stillman and Bailey. The officers of this force begged to be put forward upon some dangerous service, in which they could distinguish themselves. To gratify them, they were ordered up Rock River to spy out the Indians. Major Stillman began his march on the 12th of May, and pursuing his way on the south-east side, he came to "Old Man's" Creek, since called "Stillman's Run," a small stream which rises in White Rock Grove, in Ogle County, and

falls into the river near Bloomingville. Here he encamped just before night, and in a short time a party of Indians on horseback were discovered on a rising ground about one mile distant from the encampment. A party of Stillman's men mounted their horses without orders or commander, and were soon followed by others, stringing along for a quarter of a mile, to pursue the Indians and attack them. The Indians retreated after displaying a red flag, the emblem of defiance and war, but were overtaken and three of them slain. Here Maj. Samuel Hackelton, being dismounted in the engagement, distinguished himself by a combat with one of the Indians, in which the Indian was killed, and Major Hackelton afterward made his way on foot to the camp of General Whiteside. Black Hawk was near by with his main force, and being prompt to repel an assault, soon rallied his men, amounting then to about seven hundred warriors, and moved down upon Major Stillman's camp, driving the disorderly rabble, the recent pursuers, before him. These valorous gentlemen, lately so hot in pursuit when the enemy were few, were no less hasty in their retreat when coming in contact with superior numbers. They came with horses on a full run, and in this manner broke through the camp of Major Stillman, spreading dismay and terror among the rest of his men, who immediately began to join in the flight, so that no effort to rally them could possibly have succeeded. Major Stillman, now too late to remedy the evils of insubordination and disorder in his command, did all that was practicable, by ordering his men to fall back in order, and form on higher ground; but as the prairie rose behind them for more than a mile, the ground for a rally was never discovered; and besides this, when the men once got their backs to the enemy, they commenced a retreat without one thought of making a further stand. A retreat of undisciplined militia from the attack of a superior force is apt to be a disorderly and inglorious flight. And so it was here; each man sought his individual safety, and in the twinkling of an eye the whole detachment was in utter confusion. They were pursued in their flight by thirty or forty Indians for ten or twelve miles, the fugitives in the rear keeping up a flying fire as they ran, until the Indians ceased pursuing.

“But there were some good soldiers and brave men in Stillman's detachment, whose individual efforts succeeded in checking the career of the Indians, whereby many escaped that night who would otherwise have been the easy victims of the enemy. Among these were Major Perkins and Captain Adams, who fell in the rear, bravely fighting to cover the

retreat of their fugitive friends. But Major Stillman and his men pursued their flight without looking to the right or the left, until they were safely landed at Dixon. The party came straggling into camp all night long, four or five at a time, each new comer being confident that all who had been left behind had been massacred by the Indians. The enemy was stated to be just behind in full pursuit, and their arrival was looked for every moment. Eleven of Stillman's men were killed, and it is only astonishing that the number was so few.

NARRATIVE OF EDWIN S. JONES.

As this is mainly a local history, we give the individual recollections of Edwin S. Jones of this affair, now and for many years past a respected citizen of La Prairie. He was an Orderly Sergeant in Captain Eads' company, and enlisted at Peoria, where they were several days in camp previous to setting out. They were equipped with the old-fashioned musket of that day, and decidedly averse to discipline, each individual considering himself a free American citizen, able singly to subdue and capture a half dozen Indians. At Boyd's Grove, where they camped for the night, they were joined by Captain Barnes and his company, and at Bureau by Captain Baughman and twenty-eight men, when they received orders to push on to Dixon, where the Indians stole many of their horses. While here they were joined by a detachment of the regular army under Col. Zack Taylor, and Lieuts. Jeff. Davis and Sidney Johnson. Between the volunteers and regulars jealousy and ill feeling at once sprung up, the former looking upon the soldiers as "stuck up" and supercilious, while the regulars frowned with contempt upon the "greenhorn farmers," fresh from the plow and hoe. The volunteers, burning with impatience to pounce upon the foe and capture them, and fearing lest that honor might in any way be divided with the regulars, could hardly be held within bounds, and when their commander, Major Stillman, received orders to reconnoitre the enemy's position, the men hailed it as a permission to attack the Indians if found.

On the 10th of May, 1832, they started up Rock River in the midst of a pelting storm, the volunteers being without tents or shelter. They marched several miles and went into camp, cold, wet and cheerless, remaining until Monday, when they moved forward to Rock River, where

Major Stillman took charge of the detachment to which the writer belonged, known as the "odd battalion." A portion of the command came from Tazewell County, and were an unusually "hard lot." They had brought with them a barrel of whisky, of which the men had partaken freely, and Major Stillman, fearing its demoralizing effects, ordered it taken in charge by Mr. Jones, which duty he performed until relieved, when he proceeded to join his company. As he was mounting his horse an order came to "Forward," but the Tazewell troops refused to go until they had got their "bitters." They smashed in the head of the barrel and filled their coffee pots, besides drinking freely; then joined in the march. Arriving at what has since been known as "Stillman's Run," then called "Old Man's Creek," they found a region of swamps and morasses, into which they plunged, and found considerable difficulty in getting through, after which the command went into camp. While preparing their dinners a party of mounted Indians approached and fired from a distance, which set the horses to rearing, and created something of a panic. The cry of "Indians! Indians!" was raised, when the drunken soldiers mounted their horses and went galloping forward, yelling like maniacs. The warriors came on in good style and began firing, by which several of our men fell, when, with scarcely a return shot, the cowardly rabble turned and ran for dear life, throwing away guns, hats and coats. They were frightened out of their wits, and their cowardly fear communicated to the whole camp, which broke up in wild disorder. But all were not cowards, and a few resolute men rode out and met the savages, giving them a blizzard which emptied a few saddles and sent them to the right about. Another party now appeared, and news came that the Indians had surrounded the men who had pursued them, and we pushed on to their relief. On the way several dead Indians were found, and three were taken prisoners. The captives said they came to make peace and not to fight. We rode on a hard canter for five miles, until a wide swamp was reached, beyond which the retreating Indians were seen. Orders came to plunge in, and in we went. Horses were mired and the men too, and when we had got well into the trap—for trap it was—we were surrounded by the painted devils, who came whooping and yelling and pouring the contents of their muskets right in our faces. No man who has ever heard an Indian yell will wonder that men who had never been under fire became panic-stricken. An officer in the rear shouted "Halt!" and then came the word to retreat to solid ground. We did so, but the Indians were shooting wickedly,

and it was impossible to form a line. As fast as one was formed, the demoralized mob behind, covered with mud and mire, would break through and "streak it" as fast as their legs permitted. Captain Barnes came up and did his best to rally the men, but in vain. We arrived in camp at dark, the Indians in hot pursuit, yelling and firing upon us. A detachment of the savages got in our front, which filled our men with greater terror than ever. All order was now lost, each man being chiefly interested in getting off with his scalp. Mr. Jones and a man named Miner struck up the creek and, in crossing, Miner's horse fell, but both got over safely and joined Captain Eads, who had formed some of his men, and having reloaded their muskets, felt better. The Indians were everywhere, and several times deluded the whites by crying "Help!" in good English, and shooting at any one who responded. The whites dare not shoot in the dark for fear of killing more friends than foes, and so the rout continued until Dixon was reached, thirty-five miles away, the Indians dogging the retreating army at a distance, and watching for stragglers.

Jones reached Dixon the morning after the inglorious action, about daylight, and shared the same blanket with Stillman, who remarked: "Well, Sergeant, the war has begun, and the Lord knows how it will end!"

Jones credits Stillman with being a brave man and a thoroughly skilled tactician, but unable to manage recruits unused to military restraint, and who would not submit to discipline. But the chief cause of this shameful defeat and flight and the demoralization of the entire force, was that barrel of whisky.

Our soldiers captured three Indians, whom they shot on the retreat while prisoners, an act of barbarity wholly without excuse or apology.

While breakfasting at Dixon, Mr. Jones met at the same table a number of men, some of whom in after years became famous, and others infamous in the history of the country. They were: Zach. Taylor, afterward President of the United States; Jeff. Davis, Chief of the Southern Confederacy; Gen. Sidney Johnson, one of his ablest Generals; General Atkinson, then a man of deserved fame as a good soldier, and Major Stillman, the hero of the inglorious defeat mentioned in this chapter.

INCIDENTS OF STILLMAN'S DEFEAT.

The baggage train of Stillman's army consisted of six wagons, drawn

by oxen and guarded by fifty mounted Rangers, commanded by Captain Hackleton. Among his recruits was a tall, raw-boned lad, said to be the homeliest man in the company, and answering to the cognomen of "Abe." He was the wag of the command, and the best story-teller in the service. When the march was over they gathered about him in crowds, and listened to his wonderful yarns with an interest that never slackened. In after years it was his fortune to command all the armies of the United States, and meet his death at the hands of an assassin. With such spirit of mischief embodied in one person as he possessed, fun was rife in the company, and Capt. Hackleton to test the courage of his command, manufactured an Indian scare. Having made his plans known to the guards, with a few trusty fellows he repaired to the brush and raised a terrific war-whoop, while the pickets fired off their guns.

The whole command was aroused, and the men, fearing Indian warriors had attacked them, and would in a few moments be in their midst, cutting, slashing and scalping, rushed pell-mell, swearing, praying, and nearly frightened out of their wits, to the rear, where a guard with fixed bayonets stopped their retreat, explaining the joke. The surgeon of the company mounted his horse, but forgot to untie him from the tree. Under the spur the animal sprang forward the length of the rope, and then back again, striking the Doctor's head against the limb of a tree. Believing himself struck by an Indian, the frightened surgeon, at the top of his voice, in supplicating tones exclaimed: "Mr. Injun! I surrender. Spare my life!" This became the by-word of the camp, and was the standing joke among the heroes of the Black Hawk war for years.

"In the night, after their arrival at Dixon, the trumpet sounded a signal for the officers to assemble at the tent of General Whiteside. A council of war was held, in which it was agreed to march early the next morning to the fatal field of that evening's disaster. In consequence of the ill-advised and misjudged march from the Prophet's town, the wastefulness of the volunteers, and leaving the baggage wagons behind to make a forced march without motive or necessity, there were no provisions in the camp, except in the messes of the most careful and experienced men. The majority had been living upon parched corn and coffee for two or three days. But Quartermaster Thomas, anticipating the result of the council, went out in search of cattle and hogs, which were obtained of Mr. John Dixon, then the only white inhabitant on Rock River, above its mouth. By this means, before daylight the next morning the army was

supplied with fresh beef, which they ate without bread; and now they began their march for the scene of the disaster of the night before. When the volunteers arrived there the Indians were gone. They had scattered out all over the country, some of them further up Rock River, and other toward the nearest settlements of white people.

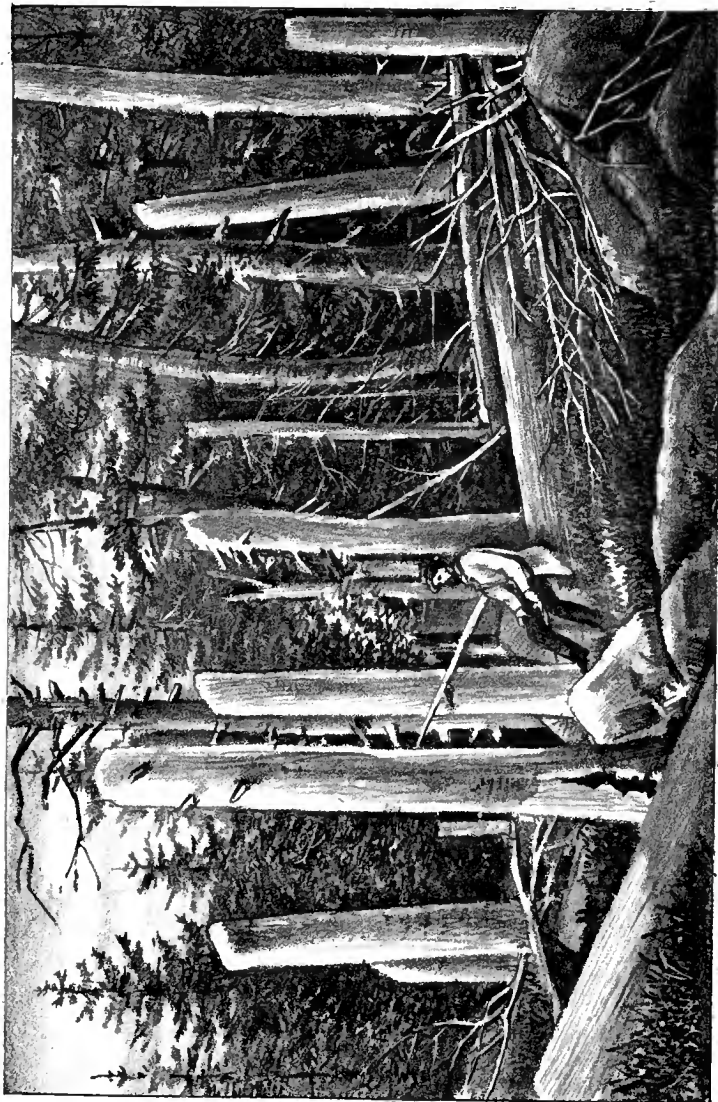
Soon as Black Hawk was relieved of the presence in his front of the volunteers, he determined on a general slaughter of all the whites north and west of the Illinois River, in what now constitutes parts of Marshall, Putnam, Bureau and La Salle Counties. Shaubena, learning that such fate was in store for all the settlers, hastened to give them warning, riding night and day, and calling at every man's cabin. He performed his often thankless work of mercy so promptly and thoroughly that all might have escaped had they heeded his advice and urgent appeals. He appeared at Indian Creek on the 15th of May, and told them of Black Hawk's purpose. Mr. J. W. Hall started for Ottawa with his family, but at the cabin of a Mr. Davis, a Kentuckian, a large, powerful and resolute man, he was persuaded to remain. Here were also gathered the families of Davis and Pettigrew. Davis had fled to the block-house fort at Ottawa the year before, when the Indian scare occurred, and been taunted with a want of courage when it was found to have been only a false alarm. Rather than be again subject to a suspicion of cowardice, he resolved to stay and fight the Indians, should they come.

In the afternoon of May 20, seventy or eighty redskins appeared and began an attack upon these almost defenseless people, killing fifteen persons and taking prisoners two girls,—Rachel Hall, aged fifteen, and Sylvia Hall, aged seventeen, the details of whose captivity given in the next chapter are mainly taken from Matson's "Reminiscences of Bureau County."

"The Indians immediately retreated into the Winnebago country, up Rock River, carrying the scalps of the slain and their prisoners with them. Indian wars are the wars of a past age. They have always been characterized by the same ferocity and cruelty on the part of the Indians. To describe this massacre is only to repeat what has been written a hundred times; but the history of this war would be imperfect without some account of it. The Indians approached the house in which the three families were assembled, in the day-time. They entered it suddenly, with but little notice. Some of the inmates were immediately shot down with rifles, others were pierced with spears or despatched with the tomahawk. The Indians afterward related with infernal glee how the

women squeaked like geese when they were run through the body with spears, or felt the sharp tomahawk entering their heads. All the victims were carefully scalped; their bodies were mutilated and mangled; the little children were chopped to pieces with axes; and the women were tied up by the heels to the walls of the house; their clothes falling over their heads, left their naked persons exposed to the public gaze.





STARVATION CAMP IN 1876. STUMPS CUT BY THE FORLORN HOPE SHOWING DEPTH OF SNOW.

CHAPTER XVII.

CAPTIVITY OF SYLVIA AND RACHEL HALL.



THE story of the captured girls, which fitly follows, is taken from Matson's "Reminiscences of Bureau County," and is mainly the personal narrative of Rachel, the elder of the two sisters:

"After being placed on horseback and guarded by two Indians, who rode by our side, holding on to the reins of the bridles, we commenced our long, tedious journey. We rode most of the time on a canter, and the Indians frequently looked back, as though they were afraid of being followed by the rangers, who were at that time roaming through the country. We continued to travel at a rapid rate until near midnight, when we halted to rest our horses. After waiting about two hours, we continued our journey, traveling all night and next day until noon, when we again halted. Here our captors turned out their horses to graze, built a fire, scalded some beans, and roasted some acorns, of which they offered us some to eat, but we declined tasting. We remained in camp a few hours; during that time the Indians were engaged in dressing the scalps, by stretching them on small willow hoops. Among these scalps I recognized my mother's, by the bright color of her hair. The sight of this produced in me a faintness, and I fell to the ground in a swoon, from which I was soon after aroused, in order to continue our journey. After leaving the camp we traveled more leisurely than before, until about nine o'clock at night we reached the camp of Black Hawk, after having rode near ninety miles in twenty-eight hours.

"We found the Indian camp on the bank of a creek, surrounded by marshy ground, over which were scattered burr oak trees, being, as we afterward learned, near the Four Lakes, (now Madison City, Wisconsin).

"On our arrival in camp, a number of squaws came to our assistance, taking us from our horses, and conducting us into a wigwam. These squaws were very kind to us, and gave us some parched corn and maple sugar to eat, it being the first food that we had tasted since our captivity.

“Our arrival in camp caused great rejoicing among the Indians. A large body of warriors collected around us, beating on drums, dancing, and yelling at the top of their voices. Next morning our fear of massacre or torture had somewhat subsided, and we were presented with beans and maple sugar for breakfast. They also offered us coffee to eat, which had been taken from Davis’s house, not knowing that it required to be ground and boiled before being used. About ten o’clock, the camp was broken up, and we moved five or six miles, crossing a creek, and encamped on high ground, which was covered with timber. We were provided with horses to ride, and behind us was packed camp equipage, which consisted of tents, kettles, provisions, etc. On arriving at our new camp, a white birch pole was stuck into the ground, on which were hung the scalps of our murdered friends, being exhibited here as trophies of war. About fifty warriors, who were divested of clothing and their faces painted red, danced around this pole to the music of drums and rattling gourds. Every day during our stay with the Indians, this pole containing the scalps was erected, and the dance repeated.

“One morning a party of warriors came to our lodge and took us out, placing in our hands small red flags, and made us march around the encampment with them, stopping and waving the flags at the door of each wigwam. After this we were taken to the dance-ground, by the side of the white pole containing the scalps, and by the side of which a blanket was spread. After painting our faces, one half red and the other black, we were made to lie down on the blanket, with our faces to the ground. The warriors then commenced dancing around us, flourishing their tomahawks and war clubs over our heads, and yelling like demons. We now thought our time had come, and quietly awaited our fate, expecting every moment to be our last. When the dance was over, we were taken away by two squaws, who we understood to be the wives of Black Hawk. By these squaws we were adopted as their children; although separated, we were allowed to visit each other frequently. Each day our camp was moved a few miles, always traveling in a circular route. Along the trail, at short intervals, the Indians would erect poles, with tufts of grass tied on one side, showing to the hunters in what direction the camp could be found. Our fears of massacre had entirely disappeared, being adopted into the families of these squaws, not being required to do any work, but watched closely to prevent our escape.

“Some days after our arrival in Black Hawk’s camp, we were told that

we must go with two Winnebago chiefs, who had come for us. The squaws with whom we lived were greatly distressed at the thought of parting with us. The Winnebago chiefs tried to make us understand that they were about to take us to white people, but we did not believe them. Thinking they intended to take us farther from home and friends, we clung to the squaws, and refused to go.

“Contrary to our wish, we were placed on horses, behind each of the chiefs, and with us they galloped away, traveling twenty miles that same night. The chiefs said that they were afraid of being followed by some of the Sacs and Foxes, who were displeased at our departure. Every few moments the chiefs would look back to see if they were pursued, and then whip their ponies again into a gallop.

“Some time after dark we arrived at the Winnebago camp, where we remained over night. Early next morning we continued our journey, traveling all day, when we arrived at an encampment on the Wisconsin River, where there were about one hundred warriors. During next day a party of Sac Indians, dressed in the clothes of murdered white men, came into camp. These Indians commenced talking to us, but the Winnebago chiefs told us to turn away from them, and not listen to what they said, which we did.”

It was afterward ascertained that a petty chief who had captured the girls, was off on a hunt at the time they were given up to the Winnebago chiefs, and not receiving his portion of the ransom, immediately started with a party of warriors to retake them, or kill them in the attempt. These warriors did not overtake the girls until they arrived safe at the Winnebago camp.

“White Crow asked if we thought the whites would hang them if they took us to the fort. We gave them to understand that they would not. White Crow then collected his horses, and with Whirling Thunder and about twenty of the Winnebagoes, we crossed the river and pursued our journey, my sister and myself each on a separate horse. We encamped about dark, rose early next morning, and after a hasty meal of pork and potatoes (the first we had seen since our captivity), of which we ate heartily, we traveled on until we reached the fort, near Blue Mounds, Wisconsin Territory.

“Before our arrival there, we had become satisfied that our protectors were taking us to our friends, and that we had formerly done them injustice. About three miles from the fort we stopped, and the Indians

cooked some venison, after which they took a white handkerchief which I had, and tying it to a long pole, three Indians proceeded with it to the fort. About a quarter of a mile from there, we were met by a Frenchman. The Indians formed a ring, and the Frenchman rode into it, and had a talk with our protectors. The latter expressed an unwillingness to give us up until they could see Mr. Gratiot, the agent. Being informed by the Frenchman that we should be well treated, and that they should see us daily until Mr. Gratiot's arrival, they delivered us into the Frenchman's care.

"We repaired immediately to the fort, where the ladies of the garrison (who in the mean time had assembled) received us with the utmost tenderness. We were thereupon attired once more in the costume of our own country, and next day started for Galena.

"On reaching a little fort at White Oak Springs, we were met by our eldest brother, who, together with a younger one, was at work in a field near the house when we were captured, and when the massacre began, fled, and arrived in safety at Dixon's Ferry. On leaving Galena, we went on board the steamboat "Winnebago," for St. Louis, which place we reached in five days, and were kindly received by its citizens and hospitably entertained by Governor Clark. Previous to our leaving Galena, we had received an affectionate letter from the Rev. Mr. Horn, of Morgan County, Illinois, inviting us to make his house our future home. We accepted the invitation, and left St. Louis in the steamboat "Caroline," for Beardstown, on the Illinois River, where we arrived on the third day thereafter. On landing, we were kindly received by the citizens, and in a few hours reached the residence of Mr. Horn, five miles distant, in the latter part of July, 1832, when our troubles ended."

The Misses Hall's brother having married and settled in Putnam County, Illinois, about this time, he invited his sisters to come and reside with him. They did so in the fore part of August, 1832. The elder Miss Hall afterward, in March, 1833, married Mr. William Munson, and settled in La Salle County, about twelve miles north of Ottawa. The younger sister, in May, 1833, married Mr. William Horn, a son of the clergyman who had so kindly offered them a home in his family, removed to Morgan County, Illinois, and afterward to Nebraska.

The Misses Hall were captured May 21, 1832. According to the foregoing account, they were three days in traveling with their captors, and continued five days with the Sacs at their camp. This would bring

the time up to May 29. They were five days more in traveling with the Winnebagoes to the Blue Mounds, which comports with all the reliable statements of the time of their being delivered up to the whites, which was June 3, 1832.

William Munson, who became the husband of Rachel Hall, a few years ago erected a beautiful marble monument at the grave where the fifteen victims were buried. It is in view of the public road leading from north to south in Freedom Township, near the banks of Indian Creek and the scene of the massacre. The inscriptions are: First—"Wm. Hall, aged 45; Mary J. Hall, aged 45; Elizabeth Hall, aged 8." Second—"Wm. Pettigrew, wife and two children, ——— Davis, wife and five children, and Emery George." At the bottom, "Killed May 20, 1832."

Mrs. Munson (Rachel Hall) died May 1, 1870.

OTHER FIENDISH MURDERS.

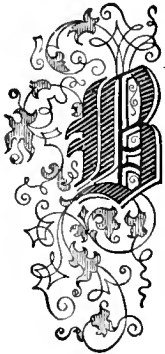
For some days after the massacre at Indian Creek the terrified settlers remained close around the Forts at Ottawa and Peru. As no Indians were seen, the whites took courage and sent out scouts here and there. Those who had hurriedly left their homes were becoming anxious to look after their stock and other property the savages had spared. For this purpose an expedition, accompanied by a few soldiers, left Ottawa for Holderman's Grove and Fox River. A Mr. Schemerhorn and his son-in-law, Hazleton, went up to Dayton, on Fox River, four miles north of Ottawa, and crossing there to join the expedition referred to, discovered on the Dunnovan farm a party of Indians, and turned and fled. A soldier who had lagged behind his comrades saw them, and also retreated, pursued by a dozen savages. The Indians, for fear of alarming the soldiers, did not fire their guns, but threw their spears at him. He escaped to Ottawa, and getting help, returned to find Schemerhorn and Hazleton both killed and scalped. A small scalp was taken from Hazleton's head, but Schemerhorn being nearly bald, was flayed to the neck. On the same day, Capt. James McFadden, commander of a company of home guards in Ottawa, James Baresford, and Ezekiel and Daniel Warren were picking strawberries south of Indian Creek. They had been thus engaged for some time, when one of the Warren's remarked that they were too near the bushes, for Indians might be concealed there, and mounting his horse,

rode off. The others remained a short time, when a shot was fired from the timber, and a dozen Indians were seen. Baresford was killed and McFadden shot through the ankle, the bullet passing through the body of his horse, but the faithful animal carried his wounded master beyond the reach of Indians before it fell. The Warrens came to the assistance of the wounded man, and one of them dismounted and gave McFadden his horse, with the singular agreement that if the Indians pursued and were likely to overtake the man on foot, McFadden was to dismount and yield his scalp to the foe! But the Indians did not pursue, and the three escaped.



CHAPTER XVIII.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.



BY order of Governor Reynolds, a call was made for two thousand additional volunteers, a part of whom were directed to rendezvous at Hennepin, and a part at Beardstown. The year previous the Adjutant General of the State had commissioned John Strawn, of Putnam, a Colonel of Militia, and he was now ordered to assemble his command, designated as the Fortieth Regiment of Mounted Volunteers, and rendezvous at Hennepin for further orders. Word was swiftly sent among the settlers asking their immediate attendance, and in obedience to the request, nearly every able-bodied man presented himself for enrollment. Four companies were quickly organized, commanded by Captain Barnes, Captain Willis, Captain Hawes, and Captain Stewart—the last three named at Hennepin, and the first at Columbia. Captain Thompson, of Putnam, also commanded a company.

Sunday morning, May 20, 1832, the day appointed for the rendezvous, the settlers of the infant colony gathered on the site of the future city of Lacon, then without a single inhabitant. From the south came Babb and Cassell and Easter, and from the north the Sawyers, the Forbes, etc., while from the immediate vicinity came John Wier, the Bullmans, Wauhobs, Reeders, Buckingham, Iliff, Swan, and others; but Round Prairie sent the greater number, with Robert Barnes, then in the prime of life, as a leader. They met on the ground where the Eagle Mill stands, and Colonel Strawn, dressed in full regimentals, with military chapeau, nodding plume and golden epaulets, formed them in line, and assuming a warlike attitude, addressed them as follows:

“Ye sons of thunder! Our country is in danger, and the call is ‘to arms!’ The great chief Black Hawk, with ten thousand warriors at his back, has invaded our State, defeated our armies, and slain our citizens! Not a soldier can be spared for the defence of our frontier, and the safety of our homes and our firesides, our wives and little ones, depends upon ourselves. Our country calls for volunteers. As many of you as are

willing to enroll yourselves among her defenders will step three paces forward. Halt! The next thing is to choose your officers, and all who wish to present themselves as candidates for Captain will step forward. All those who wish Robert Barnes to be their Captain will step to his side, and those who wish —— to lead them will join him.”

In this way the officers were elected, and in the afternoon of the same day the men were mustered in at Hennepin. The force thus organized was divided into detachments, and detailed for scout duty. A close watch was kept at the various fords, all canoes were removed from the river, and a vigilant, active search for Indians kept up for weeks. They at one time went as far north as the Winnebago Swamp, but as a general thing service was confined to guarding the river from the mouth of Crow Creek to the mouth of the Vermilion. After the defeat of Stillman the Indians went northward, and the war was transferred to other fields. There being no longer any enemies to contend with, there was no necessity for keeping the men in the field, and they were paid off and mustered out of service on the 18th day of June. For their one month of soldiering, each volunteer, and all who could “ring in,” received at the hands of the Government a title to 160 acres of land. The Putnam County volunteers were also discharged.

The muster rolls of a portion of Captain Barnes' and Captain Hawes' companies are hereby given, copied from the returns in the War Department, and are correct:

Muster Roll of the Field and Staff Officers of the Fortieth Regiment of Mounted Volunteers, employed in the service of the United States, by order of the Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Militia of the State of Illinois, from the 20th day of May, 1832, to the 18th day of June, 1832, the day of disbandment:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. John Strawn, Colonel. | 5. Jeremiah Strawn, Qr. Master. |
| 2. William Cowen, Lieut. Colonel. | 6. Peter Barnhart, Paymaster. |
| 3. Elias Thompson, Major. | 7. B. M. Hayse, Surgeon. |
| 4. Henry K. Cassell, Adjutant. | |

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8. Roland Mosley, Q. M. Sergeant. | 11. Ward Graves, Drum Major. |
| 9. Richard Hunt, Surgeon's Mate. | 12. Michael Reeder, Fife Major. |
| 10. William Myers, Sergt. Major. | |

Muster Roll of Captain Robert Barnes' Company of Mounted Volunteers, belonging to the Fortieth Regiment, Fourth Brigade, and First Division of Illinois Militia, called out by the Governor and Commander-in-chief; was mustered into the service of the United States by Colonel John Strawn, at Columbia, on the 20th day of May, 1832, and mustered out of service at Hennepin, Putnam County, Illinois, by the said Colonel John Strawn, on the 18th day of June, 1832:

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Robert Barnes, Captain. | Wm. McNeal, 1st Lieut. | John Wier, 2d Lieut.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. James Dever, Sergeant. | 1. Belisha Griffith, Corporal. |
| 2. James Hall, " " | 2. Wm. Gallaher, " " |
| 3. James N. Reeder, Sergeant. | 3. James Harris, " " |
| 4. Nathan Owen, " " | 4. H. Buckingham, " " |

PRIVATES.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. John Kemp. | 18. Hiram Barnhart. |
| 2. Joseph Burt. | 19. William Forbes. |
| 3. Joseph Phillips. | 20. Jordan Sawyer. |
| 4. Howell Doddy. | 21. Philip McGuyre. |
| 5. Milton Davis. | 22. Samuel Russell. |
| 6. William A. Hendricks. | 23. George Easter. |
| 7. John G. Hendricks. | 24. Benjamin Babb. |
| 8. Samuel Hawkins. | 25. Peter Barnhart. |
| 9. John Darnell. | 26. Jacob Smally. |
| 10. William Burt. | 27. Joshua Bullman. |
| 11. William Davis. | 28. Robert Ieff. |
| 12. W. W. Davis. | 29. Elisha Swan. |
| 13. John Bird. | 30. John Johnson. |
| 14. Elmore Keys. | 31. David Stateler. |
| 15. Robert Bird. | 32. George H. Shaw. |
| 16. William Byrnes. | 33. Johnson Edwards. |
| 17. David Hamilton. | 34. Henry K. Cassell. |

Muster Roll of Captain William Hawes' Company of Mounted Volunteers, belonging to the Fortieth Regiment, Fourth Brigade and First Division of Illinois Militia, commanded by Colonel John Strawn, called into service by the Governor of Illinois, and mustered out of the service of the United States at Hennepin, on the Illinois River, in the State of Illinois, on the 18th day of June, 1832 :

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Wm. Hawes, Captain. | Jas. Garvin, 1st Lieut. | Wm. M. Hart, 2d Lieut.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Thomas Gunn, Sergeant. | | 1. John Hant, Corporal. |
| 2. George Hildebrand, Sergeant. | | 2. William Kincaid, Corporal. |
| 3. Jacob Greenwald, Sergeant. | | 3. William Knod, Corporal. |
| 4. John Hunt, Sergeant. | | 4. William Lathrop, Corporal. |

● PRIVATES.

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Hiram Allen. | | 11. William Hart. |
| 2. Julius Stacey. | | 12. John Loyd. |
| 3. Thomas Glenn. | | 13. Christopher Winters. |
| 4. Asel Hannum. | | 14. Hartwell Healey. |
| 5. Obed Graves. | | 15. Little Neal. |
| 6. Samuel Glenn. | | 16. Aaron Whitaker. |
| 7. Reuben Ash. | | 17. Elias Isaacs. |
| 8. Abner Boyle. | | 18. Garrison Wilson. |
| 9. George Dent. | | 19. Hosea Stout. |
| 10. Joseph Ash. | | 20. George Martin. |

LOCAL DEFENCES.

Soon as the call was made for troops the settlers began building block-houses, or forts, which will be referred to more in detail hereafter. *The southernmost of these in the county was situated on the farm of James Dever, at the lower edge of Round Prairie, seven and a half miles from Columbia. It was about eighty feet in length from east to west, and seventy

*Ford's History of Marshall and Putnam Counties.

in width; and was built by strongly fastening pickets of some twelve feet height in the ground, with square bastions at the corners, pierced with port-holes and so placed as to rake the sides of the fort, in case of attack. The cabin of Mr. Dever was inside, and tents were pitched within to accommodate the numbers who fled there during the season of alarm.

About twelve miles north-east of the Dever Fort, and four miles south of Magnolia, was a similar protection around the dwelling of Jesse Roberts, Esq., where seven or eight families gathered for safety; and five miles east, on the farm of Mr. Darnell, near the "head of Sandy," was another, the outpost in that direction. Several forts were constructed on the Ox Bow Prairie—one on the land of Ashael Hannum, where Caledonia now stands; another in the woods within a few miles, at Mr. Boyle's; and a third around a large barn belonging to James W. Willis, near the site of Florid, where twenty-two families (including a hundred small children, one having been born there) and a number of rangers were "forted" at one time. This station was called Fort Cribs, from the number of corn-cribs in and about the building, and was generally in command of Captain Stewart. A portion is still standing.

A good-sized block-house, well adapted to resist a siege, was erected on Front street, in Hennepin, chiefly of the timbers of Hartzell's old trading-house; and a smaller one at a little distance from Granville, on the farm of Joseph Warnock. Still farther north was the outermost fort toward the scene of warfare—a mere picket around the dwelling of Mr. John Leeper. There were no defenses of the kind west of the river in Putnam County, that region being quite or nearly deserted.

In that part of the county which was thus defended, hostile Indians were very rarely seen; and it is believed that attacks were prevented solely by the completeness of the arrangements for protection and the vigilance of the rangers. Black Hawk's spies were occasionally skulking about. Two were noticed in the edge of the woods near Fort Warnock, and their trail followed to the river. Others—in one instance a considerable company—were seen near Hennepin; but the savages made no hostile demonstrations on the east side of the river.

THE MURDER OF PHILLIPS.

On the 17th of June, Elijah Phillips was murdered at the Ament cabin, sixteen miles north-west of Hennepin. Along with J. Hodges,

Sylvester Brigham, John S. Ament, Aaron Gunn, James G. Foristal and Zeba Dimmick, a lad of sixteen, he left Hennepin in the morning to look after their cattle, now running at large on the prairie. Arriving at Ament's cabin, in the edge of the timber, a mile and a half north of the present town of Dover, they prepared and ate their dinners, designing to return to Hennepin. Soon after it began to rain, and as no Indian signs had been seen, it was deemed perfectly safe, and the conclusion was reached to remain all night.

The windows and doors were barricaded with puncheons, and the men with loaded rifles by their sides, extinguished the lights and lay down to sleep. Adjoining Ament's cabin was an extensive sugar camp, which for nearly fifty years a band of Indians had run, and every spring made sugar on the premises. The place was sacred to them, and when the white man came and opened a farm, it created bitter feelings of resentment. When Phillips and his company arrived at the cabin, a party of Indians from Black Hawk's camp were hiding in the woods. Cautiously they approached to reconnoitre, with the intention of attacking the party as they came out of doors, but the rain continued to fall, and the party deciding to remain all night, no disturbance came, and at daylight Phillips rose first, and was going to the spring, when the Indians fired, and he fell pierced with two bullets. The savages, with deafening yells, rushed from their hiding places, tomahawked the victim, and surrounded the cabin. The inmates closed the door and made ready to fire, when the Indians retreated, and as subsequently learned, went northward.

After remaining on the watch for several hours, with Phillips' bloody corpse at the door, the settlers took courage and canvassed how best to extricate themselves. Young Dimmick volunteered to carry the news to Hennepin. It was a desperate undertaking, for the Indians were supposed to be still in the vicinity, but calling a horse to the window he bridled and mounted it, and was off with the speed of the whirlwind. Eager eyes watched his departure, and they listened with beating hearts for the expected crack of the rifle that should tell of his death. But when he disappeared in the distance, still safe, they took hope again.

At Hennepin was a company of Rangers being mustered out of service. None dreamed of danger, and when the messenger, hatless and coatless,

“ Bloody with spurring,
Fiery red with speed,”

rode into town with the fateful news, it created an excitement those present never forgot. As usual, a variety of counsel prevailed, and some were so base as to propose leaving them to their fate. But volunteers being called for, thirty brave men responded, and were quickly ferried across the river to their rescue. A gallop of fifteen miles brought them into the vicinity, when a slower pace was struck to give the now well blown horses a breathing spell, preparatory to the expected sharp work ahead. Belts were tightened, primings looked to, and every preparation for deadly conflict made, when they saw a white flag rise above the cabin, and knew the inmates were safe. The body of Phillips lay where it fell. One bullet had pierced his heart, and another his stomach. Several strokes of the tomahawk were visible, but the villains had not taken his scalp, and the remains were taken to Hennepin and buried. His body was prepared for sepulture at the house of Hooper Warren, and he was the second person interred in the Hennepin cemetery.

The Rangers followed the trail of the enemy a short distance and then returned. It afterward transpired that they remained in the vicinity until the next day, and then went north.

DEATH OF ADAM PAYNE.

Adam Payne, a Dunkard preacher, who had for many years been a missionary among the Indians, became a victim to savage barbarity during the fall of 1832. He had long been a preacher among the Indians, was a man of fervent piety, and guileless as a child. When told of the risks he ran and warned to beware, he gave no heed, believing they would never harm one who had so often proven himself their friend. His long black beard reaching nearly to his waist gave him a venerable appearance, and every settler was his warm friend. He was murdered near Holderman's Grove, and when found his head had been cut off and stuck on a pole, where the red fiends had held a dance of jubilee around it.



CHAPTER XIX.

CONTINUATION OF THE CAMPAIGN.



Now take up the general history of the campaign. While the new levies were being raised, a volunteer force was made up for temporary service, and placed under the command of Colonel Fry.

The different companies of this regiment were so disposed as to guard all the frontiers. Captain Adam W. Snider was sent to range through the country between Rock River and Galena; and while he was encamped not far distant from Burr Oak Grove, on the night of the 17th of June, his company was fired upon by the Indians; the next morning he pursued them, four in number, and drove them into a sink-hole in the ground, where his company charged on them and killed the whole of the Indians, with the loss of one man mortally wounded. As he returned to his camp, bearing the wounded soldier, the men suffered much from thirst, and scattered in search of water, when they were sharply attacked by about seventy Indians, who had been secretly watching their motions and awaiting a good opportunity. His men, as usual in such cases, were taken by surprise, and some of them commenced a hasty retreat. Captain Snyder called upon General Whiteside, then a private in his company, to assist him in forming his men. The General proclaimed in a loud voice that he would shoot the first man who attempted to run. The men were soon formed into rank. Both parties took positions behind trees. Here General Whiteside, an old Indian fighter and a capital marksman with a rifle, shot the commander of the Indians, and they from that moment began to retreat. As they were not pursued, the Indian loss was never ascertained; but the other side lost two men killed and one wounded. Captain Snyder, General Whiteside and Colonel (now General) Semple are particularly mentioned as having behaved in the most honorable and courageous manner in both these little actions.

On the 15th of June, the new levies had arrived at the places of rendezvous, and were formed into three brigades; General Alexander Posey

commanded the First, General Milton K. Alexander the Second, and General James D. Henry commanded the Third. On the march, each brigade was preceded by a battalion of spies, commanded by a major.

The whole volunteer force at this time amounted to three thousand two hundred men, besides three companies of rangers, under command of Major Bogart, left behind to guard the frontier settlements. The object in calling out so large a force was to overawe the Pottawatomie and Winnebago Indians, who were hostile in their feelings to the whites, and much disposed to join Black Hawk's party.

But before the new army could be brought into the field, the Indians had committed several murders. One man was killed on Bureau Creek, some seven or eight miles above Princeton; another in Buffalo Grove; another between Fox River and the Illinois; and two more on the east side of Fox River, on the Chicago road, about six miles north-east of Ottawa.

On the 22d of May, General Atkinson had dispatched Mr. St. Vrain, the Indian agent for the Sacs and Foxes at Rock Island, with a few men, as an express to Fort Armstrong. On their way thither, they fell in with a party of Indians led by a chief well known to the agent. This chief was called "The Little Bear." He had been a particular friend of the agent, and had adopted him as a brother. Mr. St. Vrain felt no fear of one who was his friend, one who had been an inmate of his house, and had adopted him as a brother, and approached the Indians with the greatest confidence of security. But the treacherous Indian, untrue in war to the claims of friendship and brotherhood, no sooner got him in his power than he murdered and scalped him and all his party, with as little compassion as if he had never known him or professed to be his friend.

Not long after the new forces were organized on the Illinois River, Black Hawk, with a hundred and fifty warriors, made an attack on Apple River Fort, situate about three-quarters of a mile north of the present village of Elizabeth, within twelve miles of Galena, and defended by twenty-five men, under the command of Captain Stone. This fort was a stockade of logs stuck in the ground, with block houses at the corners of the square, by way of towers and bastions. It was made for the protection of a scattering village of miners, who lived in their houses in the vicinity during the day, and retired into the fort for protection at night. The women and children, as usual in the daytime, were abroad in the village, when three men on an express from Galena to Dixon, were fired on

by the Indians lurking in ambush within a half mile of the village, and retreated into the fort. One of them was wounded; his companions stood by him nobly, retreating behind him, and keeping the Indians at bay by pointing their guns first at one and then at another of those who were readiest to advance. The alarm was heard at the fort in time to rally the scattered inhabitants; the Indians soon came up within firing distance; and now commenced a fearful struggle between the small party of twenty-five men in the fort, against six times their number of the enemy. The Indians took possession of the log houses, knocked holes in the walls, through which to fire at the fort with greater security to themselves, and while some were firing at the fort, others broke the furniture, destroyed the provisions, and cut open the beds and scattered the feathers found in the houses. The men in the fort were excited to the highest pitch of desperation; they believed that they were contending with an enemy who never made prisoners, and that the result of the contest must be victory or death, and a horrid death, too, to them and their families; the women and children molded the bullets and loaded the guns for their husbands, fathers, and brothers, and the men fired and fought with a fury inspired by desperation itself. In this manner the battle was kept up about fifteen hours, when the Indians retreated. The number of their killed and wounded, supposed to be considerable, was never ascertained, as they were carried away in the retreat. The loss in the fort was one man killed and one wounded. One of the men who first retreated to the fort immediately passed on to Galena, and there gave the alarm. Colonel Strode, of the militia, who commanded in Galena, lost no time in marching to the assistance of the fort, but before his arrival the Indians had raised the siege and departed. Galena itself had been in imminent danger of attack; at that time it was a village of four hundred inhabitants, surrounded on all sides by the enemy. Colonel Strode, like a brave and prudent commander, took every possible measure for its defence.

Even here, in this extremity of danger, a number of the inhabitants yielded their assistance unwillingly and grudgingly. There were a number of aspirants for office and command, and quite a number refused obedience to the militia commander of the regiment; but Colonel Strode took the most effectual mode of putting down these discontents. He immediately declared martial law; the town was converted into a camp; men were forced into the ranks at the point of the bayonet; and a press warrant from the Colonel, in the hands of armed men, procured all necessary



John A. Dent

supplies; preparations for defence were kept up night and day; and the Indian spies seeing no favorable opportunity for attack, no considerable body of Indians ever came nearer the town than Apple River Fort.

About this time a band of Indians visited Fort Hamilton, near what is now Wiota, where they killed three men. Fortunately General Dodge arrived at this place a few hours later, and hastily gathering what forces he could—twenty-one men in all,—pursued the savages, who hastily retreated. What follows is best told by Chas. Braeken, one of the actors, and if he still lives, a resident of Mineral Point, Wis.

“The Indians re-crossed the branch at a point where it turned abruptly to the north, and ascended the hill; the General and those with him crossed after them, and bore to the right, toward some timber, as if to cut them off from it. Seeing this movement, I halted, and was at the same time joined by Fitch, Higgenbotham, and Deva. I said to them, ‘That movement of the General will turn the Indians to the left; if you will follow me, we will get the first scalps.’ They agreed to do so; turning up a hollow to the left, we ascended it to the ridge overlooking the East Pecatonica; turning then to the right, and looking down a hollow parallel to that which we had ascended, my surmise proved to be correct. There were the Indians approaching us; they were moving at what might be called common time. Their chief, a gray-headed warrior, was walking backward, and appeared to be earnestly addressing his young men. After observing them for a few moments, we fired, but I think without effect. My comrades, after discharging their guns, retreated down the hollow which we had ascended, and I turned westwardly up the ridge overlooking the East Pecatonica, keeping out of gun-shot, but watching the enemy closely. They descended the hill to the creek, turned up it a short distance, and commenced crossing at some willows, a short distance below where the bridge now stands.

“At this movement I advanced within gun-shot; with the report of my gun, I sent forth a shout that told the General and my comrades yet in the rear that I had secured the first scalp; at the same time I received the fire of the Indians without injury.

“The General and the principal part of our men having come up by the time the Indians had fairly crossed the creek, a running fight took place, the enemy being on one side of the creek and we on the other, until they reached the thicket in the bend of the creek. Having effected a crossing at the old Indian ford, which is near Williams’ Mill, and marching thence

up the stream, we formed on the open ground to the north-east of the thicket, so as to have the enemy in the bend of the creek. Parties were then, by order of the General, thrown out on the hills to give the alarm if the Indians should attempt to escape from the thicket when we entered it.

We were then ordered to⁴ renew our flints, re-prime our guns, unbutton our shirt-collars, and tighten our belts. All being ready, the General addressed us: he said, "Within that thicket are the foe, whose hands are yet reeking with the blood of our murdered friends! That it was his intention to enter it, and in doing so, some of us must fall; that it might be his fate, but that his mind was made up to whip the enemy or die in the attempt! If any feared to follow him, he wanted them to fall back then, and not when they encountered the Indians." The word was then given to advance, and in that little band no one was found who did not fear dishonor more than death! No one faltered or wavered, as with a coolness becoming veterans they followed the footsteps of their gallant leader, resolved with him to conquer or die.

After advancing some distance into the thicket, the trail of the enemy was found; here the detachment was joined by Daniel M. Parkinson, who was on horseback. The center was ordered to keep the trail; we then continued our advance slowly but firmly toward our hidden foe. The Indians had selected a most advantageous position for defense, had we fought them at long shot. It was the bank of a pond, once the bed of a creek; on the edge of the bank was a natural breastwork nearly three feet high, formed by one of those tumuli so numerous in our prairies; under this they awaited our approach.

When they fired on us, our positions represented two sides of a triangle, they forming the base, and we the hypotenuse; although we were close upon them, so dense was the thicket that we could not see the smoke of their guns. The General, who was on the right of the centre, and in front of their line, exclaimed, "Where are the Indians?" He was answered from the left, "This way." The order was then promptly given, "Charge 'em boys, damn them, charge 'em!" My position was on the extreme right; in the charge we obliqued considerably to the left; when I got to the pond I found no enemy before me, and at the same moment I heard the General, who was a little to my left, say, "There 's an Indian, kill him!" I turned toward him and heard a shot; as I came up, the Gen-

eral said, "There, by God, I 've killed him myself!" This was the Indian commander.

"Passing on to the left, I mounted the natural embankment, and found myself in the midst of the Indians; after discharging my gun, I turned the breech and struck at a warrior I saw lying under the bank before me, but seeing another very industriously snapping his piece at me, I fell back to reload. As soon as my gun was charged I advanced, with the brave but unfortunate Wells on my left, and William Carns, of Dodgeville, on my right. On coming hand to hand with the Indians, Wells fell mortally wounded; Carns first shot and then bayoneted the warrior that killed Wells, and I put another in a condition to take his scalp. At the same time the only surviving Indian attempted to save himself by flight; he plunged into the pond, and was shot as he got out of the water on the opposite side.

"Thus ended the battle. The enemy were completely exterminated; not one was left to tell Black Hawk, his chief, and warriors, how "Old Hairy-face" (the Indian name for General Dodge) and his warriors fought. Our trophies were seventeen scalps; our loss three men, Black, Wells and Morris mortally, and Thomas Jenkins severely wounded.

"The annals of border warfare furnish no parallel to this battle; never before was an entire war party exterminated with so small a loss on the part of the whites, when the numbers engaged were so nearly equal. Although on our advance into the thicket we outnumbered the Indians some five men, yet the advantage of their position, and our having to receive their fire, equalized our numbers.

"None of us, from the General down, had ever heard a hostile gun, or burned powder at a foe; the men had been promiscuously assembled, and were untrained soldiers; they proved, however, by their gallant conduct, that American volunteers, when individually brave, will collectively follow to their death a brave and determined leader in whom they have confidence.

"There were individual acts of devotion and desperate bravery performed, which ought to have immortalized the actors. Our surgeon, Dr. Allen Hill, fell into the line, and did duty as a private soldier. When the sections were told off, his lot fell number four, a horse-holder; number five in the same section was a sickly-looking youth named Townsend, about seventeen years of age. The doctor exchanged places with him, re-

marking that he thought he was better able to perform a soldier's duty in the coming fight than he was.

"In the charge, Levin Leach encountered a warrior armed with a spear. Parrying the thrust of the Indian with his bayonet, he dropped his gun, sprang on him, wrenched his spear from him, and with it, ran him through the body."

About the beginning of the fight each man took a tree—Indian style. Thos. Jenkins, who was rather portly, got behind a small one, and when he saw an Indian aiming in his direction, drew himself up sideways as straight as possible. But the tree was too small to protect all parts of his body, and the Indian's bullet hit him in that portion of his anatomy where honor is supposed to abide. The slightest reference to being shot in the rear was always after sure to provoke his ire.

One of those who afterward died was struck in the head, inflicting a severe scalp wound, but by no means dangerous. There was no surgeon in the fort, and a long-legged, tow-headed young man, who had been studying medicine, took the case in hand, prescribing a strong poultice of white oak bark. He did not improve under the treatment, and Dr. Philleo was sent for from Galena, but when he came the man was past surgery. The Doctor said that any old woman could have cured him with a poultice of bread and milk, but the bark had completely tanned the patient's head. The new doctor afterward became a noted physician, but it is not probable he again prescribed white oak bark for a scalp wound.



CHAPTER XX.

A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN INAUGURATED.



ABOUT this time Capt. James W. Stephenson, of Galena, with a part of his company, pursued a party of Indians into a small, dense thicket in the prairie. He commenced a severe fire upon them at random, within firing distance of the thicket, but the Indians having every advantage, succeeded in killing a few of his men, and he ordered a retreat. Neither he nor the men were willing to give up the fight, and they came to the desperate resolution of returning and charging into the thicket upon the Indians. The command to charge was given; the men obeyed with ardor and alacrity; the Captain himself led the way, but before they had penetrated into the thicket twenty steps, the Indians fired from their covert; the fire was instantly returned. The charge was made a second and third time, each time giving and receiving the fire of the enemy, until three more of his men lay dead on the ground, and he himself was severely wounded. It now became necessary to retreat, as he had from the first but a small part of his company along with him. This attack of Captain Stephenson was unsuccessful, and may have been imprudent; but it equalled anything in modern warfare in daring and desperate courage.

The Indians had now shown themselves to be a courageous, active and enterprising enemy. They had scattered their war parties all over the North, from Chicago to Galena, and from the Illinois River into the Territory of Wisconsin; they occupied every grove, waylaid every road, hung around every settlement, and attacked every party of white men that attempted to penetrate the country. But their supremacy in the field was of short duration; for, on the 20th, 21st and 22d of June the new forces assembled on the Illinois River were put in motion by General Atkinson, of the regular army, who now assumed the command over the whole.

Major John Dement, with a battalion of spies attached to the First brigade, was sent forward in advance, while the main army was to follow

and concentrate at Dixon. Major Dement pushed forward across Rock River, and took position at Kellogg's Grove, in the heart of the Indian country.

Major Dement, hearing by express, on the 25th of June, that the trail of about five hundred Indians leading to the south, had been seen within five miles the day before, ordered his command to saddle their horses and remain in readiness, while he himself, with twenty men, started at daylight next morning to gain intelligence of their movements. His party had advanced about three hundred yards when they discovered seven Indian spies; some of his men immediately made pursuit, but their commander, fearing an ambuscade, endeavored to call them back. In this manner he had proceeded about a mile; and being followed soon after by a number of his men from the camp, he formed about twenty-five of them into line on the prairie, to protect the retreat of those yet in pursuit. He had scarcely done this before he discovered three hundred Indians issuing from the grove to attack him. The Indians came up firing, hallooing and yelling to make themselves more terrific, after the Indian fashion; and the Major, seeing himself in great danger of being surrounded by a superior force, slowly retired to his camp, closely pursued by the Indians.

Here his party took possession of some log houses, which answered for a fort, and were vigorously attacked by the Indians for nearly an hour. There were brave soldiers in this battalion, among whom were Major Dement himself and Lieutenant Governor Casey, a private in the ranks, who kept up such an active fire upon their assailants, and with such good aim, that the Indians retreated with the certain loss of nine men left dead on the field, and probably five others carried away. The loss on the side of the whites was five killed and three wounded. Major Dement had previously sent an express to General Posey, who marched with his whole brigade at once to his relief, but did not arrive until two hours after the retreat of the Indians. General Posey removed next day a little to the north in search of the Indians, then marched back to Kellogg's Grove to await the arrival of his baggage-wagons; and then to Fort Hamilton, on the Pecatonica.

When the news of the battle at Kellogg's Grove reached Dixon, where all the volunteers and the regular forces were then assembled under command of General Atkinson, Alexander's brigade was ordered in the direction of Plum River,—a short stream with numerous branches,

falling into the Mississippi thirty-five miles below Galena,—to intercept the Indians if they attempted in that direction to escape by re-crossing the river. General Atkinson remained with the infantry at Dixon two days, and then marched, accompanied by the brigade of General Henry, toward the country of the Four Lakes, farther up Rock River. Colonel Jacob Fry, with his regiment, was dispatched in advance by General Henry, to meet some friendly Indians of the Pottawatomie tribe, commanded by Caldwell, a half-breed, and Shaubena, the war-chief of the nation.

General Atkinson having heard that Black Hawk had concentrated his forces at the Four Lakes and fortified his position, with the intention of deciding the fate of the war by a general battle, marched with as much haste as prudence would warrant when invading a hostile and wilderness country with undisciplined forces, where there was no means of procuring intelligence of the number or whereabouts of the enemy.

On the 30th of June he passed through the Turtle village, a considerable town of the Winnebagoes, then deserted by its inhabitants, and encamped one mile above it, in the open prairie near Rock River. He believed that the hostile Indians were in that immediate neighborhood, and prepared to resist their attack, if one should be made. That night the Indians were prowling about the encampment till morning. Continual alarms were given by the sentinels, and the whole command was frequently paraded in order of battle. The march was continued next day, and nothing occurred until the army arrived at Lake Kuskanong, except the discovery of trails and Indian signs, the occasional sight of an Indian spy, and the usual abundance of false alarms amongst men but little accustomed to war. Here the army was joined by General Alexander's brigade; and after Major Ewing and Colonel Fry, with a battalion of the one and the regiment of the other, had thoroughly examined the whole country round about, and had ascertained that no enemy was near, the whole force again marched up Rock River on the east side, to the Burnt Village, another considerable town of the Winnebagoes, on the White Water River, where it was joined by the brigade of General Posey and a battalion of a hundred men from Wisconsin, commanded by Major (now General) Dodge.

During the march to this place the scouts had captured an old blind Indian of the hostile band, nearly famished with hunger, who had been left behind by his friends (for want of ability to travel), to fall into the

hands of his enemies or to perish by famine. Being, as he said, old, blind and helpless, he was never consulted or advised with by the Indians, and could give no account of the movements of his party except that they had gone further up the river. One historian of the war says that the army magnanimously concluded not to kill him, but to give him plenty to eat, and leave him behind to end his life in a pleasant way by eating himself to death. The old man, however, was denied this melancholy satisfaction; for falling in the way of Posey's men as they were marching to the camp, he was quickly despatched, even before he had satisfied his natural hunger. This barbarous action is an indelible stain upon the men of that brigade. At this place, also, Captain Dunn, at present a Judge in Wisconsin, acting as officer of the day of one of the regiments, was shot by a sentinel, and dangerously wounded.

Up to the time of reaching the Burnt Village, the progress of the command had been slow and uncertain. The country was comparatively an unexplored wilderness of forest and prairie. None in the command had ever been through it. A few, who professed to know something of it, volunteered to act as guides, and succeeded in electing themselves to be military advisers to the commanding General. The members of the hostile party were unknown; and a few Winnebagoes who followed the camp, and whose fidelity was of a very doubtful character, were from necessity much listened to, but the intelligence received from them was always delusive. Short marches, frequent stoppages, and explorations always unsatisfactory, were the result, giving the enemy time to elude the pursuing forces, and every opportunity of ascertaining their probable movements and intentions.

The evening the army arrived at the Burnt Village, Captain Early, with his company of spies, returned from a scout and reported the main trail of the Indians, not two hours old, to be three miles beyond. It was determined to pursue rapidly next morning. At an early hour next day, before the troops were ready to march, two regular soldiers, fishing in the river one hundred and fifty yards from camp, were fired upon by two Indians from the opposite shore, and one of them dangerously wounded. A part of the volunteers were immediately marched up the river in the direction indicated by Captain Early, and Colonel Fry's regiment, with the regulars, were left behind to construct bridges and cross to the point from which the Indians had shot the regular soldier. A march of fifteen miles up and across the river (fordable above), proved Captain Early's

report to be incorrect. No trail was discoverable. On crossing the river, the troops entered upon the trembling lands, which are immense flats of turf, extending for miles in every direction, from six inches to a foot in thickness, resting upon water and beds of quicksand. A troop, or even a single horseman passing over, produced an undulating and quivering motion of the land, from which it gets its name. Although the surface is quite dry, yet there is no difficulty in procuring plenty of water by cutting an opening through the stratum of turf. The horses would sometimes, on the thinner portions, force a foot through, and fall to the shoulder or ham; yet so great is the tenacity of the upper surface, that in no instance was there any trouble in getting them out. In some places the weight of the earth forces a stream of water upward, which carrying with it and depositing large quantities of sand, forms a mound. The mound, increasing in weight as it enlarges, increases the pressure upon the water below, presenting the novel sight of a fountain in the prairie pouring its stream down the side of a mound, then to be absorbed by the sand and returned to the waters beneath.

Discovering no sign of an enemy in this direction, the detachment fell back to the Burnt Village, and the bridges not being yet completed, it was determined to throw over a small force on rafts the next day. The Winnebagoes had assured the General that the shore beyond was a large island, and that the whole of Black Hawk's forces were fortified on it. In consequence of this information, Captain Early's company were crossed on rafts, followed and supported by two companies of regulars, under Captain Noel of the army, which last were formed in order across the island, while Captain Early proceeded to scour it, reporting afterward at headquarters that he had found the trail of a large body of Indians; but Col. William S. Hamilton, having crossed the main river three miles below with a party of Menomnies, reported the trail of the whole tribe on the main west shore, about ten days old, proceeding northward; and it was afterward ascertained that no sign had been seen upon the island but that of the two Indians who had fired upon the regular soldiers.

Eight weeks had now been wasted in fruitless search for the enemy, and the commanding General seemed further from the attainment of his object than when the second requisition of troops was organized. At that time Posey and Alexander commanded each a thousand men, Henry took the field with twelve hundred and sixty-two, and the regular force under Colonel Taylor, now Major General, amounted to four hundred and fifty

more. By this time the volunteer force was reduced nearly one-half. Many had entered the service for mere pastime, and a desire to participate in the excellent fun of an Indian campaign, looked upon as a frolic; and certainly but few volunteered with well-defined notions of the fatigues, delays and hardships of an Indian war in an unsettled and unknown country. The tedious marches, exposure to the weather, loss of horses, sickness, forced submission to command, and disgust at the unexpected hardships and privations of a soldier's life, produced rapid reductions in the numbers of every regiment. The great distance from the base of operations; the difficulties of transportation, either by water or land, making it impossible at any time to have more than twelve days' provisions beforehand, still further curtailed the power of the commanding General. Such was the wastefulness of the volunteers, that they were frequently one or two days short of provisions before new supplies could be furnished.

At this time there were not more than four days' rations in the hands of the commissary; the enemy might be weeks in advance; the volunteers were fast melting away, but the regular infantry had not lost a man. To counteract these difficulties, General Atkinson found it necessary to disperse his command, for the purpose of procuring supplies.



CHAPTER XXI.

THE CAMPAIGN RESUMED.



ACCORDING to previous arrangements, the several brigades took up their lines of march on the 10th of July, for their respective destinations. Colonel Ewing's regiment was sent back to Dixon as an escort for Captain Dunn, who was supposed to be mortally wounded; General Posey marched to Fort Hamilton, on the Pecatonica, as a guard to the frontier country. Henry, Alexander and Dodge, with their commands, were sent to Fort Winnebago, situate at the Portage between the Fox and the Wisconsin Rivers; while General Atkinson himself fell back with the regular forces near to Lake Koshkonong, and erected a fort, which he called by the name of the lake. There he was to remain until the volunteer Generals could return with supplies. Henry and Alexander made Fort Winnebago in three days, Major Dodge having preceded them a few hours by a forced march, which so fatigued and crippled his horses that many of them were unable to continue the campaign. Their route had been in a direct line, a distance of eighty miles, through a country which was remarkably swampy and difficult. On the night of the 12th of July a stampede occurred among the horses. This is a general wild alarm, the whole body of them breaking loose from their fastenings, and coursing over the prairie at full speed. By this means a hundred or more of them were lost or destroyed in the swamps, or on a log causeway three miles in length, near the fort.

Two days were occupied at the fort in getting provisions; on the last of which the Winnebago chiefs there reported that Black Hawk and his forces were encamped at the Manitou village, thirty-five miles above General Atkinson, on Rock River. In a council held between Alexander, Henry and Dodge, it was determined to violate orders by marching directly to the enemy, with the hope of taking him by surprise, or at least putting him between them and General Atkinson, thus cutting off his further retreat to the north. Twelve o'clock on the 15th was appointed as the hour to march. General Henry proceeded at once to reor-

ganize his brigade, with a view to disencumber himself of his sick and dismounted men, that as little as possible might impede the celerity of his march. General Alexander soon announced that his men were unwilling, and had refused to follow; and Major Dodge reported his horses so much disabled by their late march that he could not muster a force worth taking along. General Henry was justly indignant at the insubordination and defection of his companions in arms, and announced his purpose to march in pursuit of the enemy alone, if he could prevail upon but fifty men to follow him. But directly after this a company of mounted volunteers, under the command of Captain Craig, from Apple River and Galena, in Illinois, with fresh horses, arrived at Fort Winnebago to join Major Dodge's battalion, which now made his force of men and horses fit for service one hundred and twenty in the whole. General Henry's brigade, exclusive of Dodge's battalion, amounted to between five and six hundred men, but not more than four hundred and fifty had horses fit for service.

From this place General Henry took up his line of march on the 15th of July, accompanied by Poquette, a half-breed, and the "White Pawnee," a Winnebago chief, as guides, in quest in the Indians. On the route to the head waters of Rock River he was frequently thrown from a direct line by intervening swamps extending for miles. Many of them were crossed, but never without difficulty and loss of horses. After three days' hard marching, his forces encamped upon the beautiful stream of Rock River. This river is not exceeded by any other in natural beauty. Its waters are clear; its bottom and banks rocky or pebbly. The country on each side is either rolling, rich prairie, or hills crowned with forests free from undergrowth, and its current sweeps to the Mississippi, deep and bold. Here three Winnebagoes gave intelligence that Black Hawk was encamped at Cranberry Lake, further up the river. Relying upon this information, it was settled by General Henry to make a forced march in that direction the next morning. Doctor Merryman, of Springfield, and W. W. Woodbridge, of Wisconsin, were despatched as expresses to General Atkinson. They were accompanied by a chief called Little Thunder, as guide; and having started about dark, and proceeded on their perilous route about eight miles to the south-west, they came upon the fresh main trail of the enemy, endeavoring to escape by way of the Four Lakes across the Wisconsin River.

At the sight of the trail the Indian guide was struck with terror, and

without permission retreated back to the camp. Merriman and Woodbridge returned also, but not until Little Thunder had announced his discovery in the Indian tongue to his countrymen, who were in the very act of making their escape when they were stopped by Maj. Murray McConnell, and taken to the tent of General Henry, to whom they confessed that they had come into camp only to give false information, and favor the retreat of the Indians; and then, to make amends for their perfidy, and perhaps, as they were led to believe, to avoid immediate death, they disclosed all they knew of Black Hawk's movements. General Henry prudently kept the treachery of these Indians a secret from his men, for it would have taken all his influence and that of all his officers to save their lives if their perfidious conduct had been known throughout the camp.

The next morning (July 19) by daylight, everything was ready for a forced march, but first another express was despatched to General Atkinson. All cumbrous baggage was thrown away. The tents and most of the camp equipage were left in a pile in the wilderness. Many of the men left their blankets and all their clothes except the suit they wore, and this was the case in every instance with those who had been so unfortunate as to lose their horses. Such as these took their guns, ammunition and provisions upon their backs, and traveled over mountain and plain, through swamp and thicket, and kept up with the men on horseback. All the men now marched with a better spirit than usual. The sight of the broad, fresh trail inspired every one with a lively hope of bringing the war to a speedy end; and even the horses seemed to share somewhat in the general ardor. There was no murmuring, there was no excuse or complaining, and none on the sick report. The first day, in the afternoon, they were overtaken by one of those storms common on the prairies, black and terrific, accompanied by torrents of rain and the most fearful lightning and thunder; but the men dashed on through thickets almost impenetrable and swamps almost impassable, and that day marched upwards of fifty miles. During this day's march, General Henry, Major McConnell and others of the General's staff often dismounted and marched on foot, giving their horses to the footmen.

That night the storm raged till two o'clock in the morning. The men, exhausted with fatigue, threw themselves supperless upon the muddy earth, covered with water, for a little rest. The rain made it impossible to kindle a fire or to cook, so that both officers and men contented them-

selves with eating some raw meat and some of the wet flour which they carried in their sacks, and which was converted into a soft dough by the drenching rains. A similar repast served them next morning for breakfast. The horses had fared but little better than the men. The Government furnished nothing for them to eat, and they were obliged to subsist that night upon a scanty grazing, confined within the limits of the camp.

Next morning (July 20) the storm had abated, and all were on the march by daylight, and after a march as hard as that on the day before, the army encamped at night upon the banks of one of the four lakes forming the source of the Catfish River in Wisconsin, and near the place where the Indians had encamped the previous night. At this place the men were able to make fires and cook their suppers, and this they did with a hearty good will, having traveled about one hundred miles without tasting anything but raw food, and without having seen a spark of fire. That night they again laid upon the ground, many of them with nothing but the sky for a covering, and slept soundly and sweetly, like men upon their beds at home. All were in fine spirits and high expectation of overtaking the Indians next day, and putting an end to the war by a general battle. The night did not pass, however, without an alarm. One of the sentinels posted near the bank of the lake fired upon an Indian gliding in his canoe slyly and stealthily to the shore. Every man was aroused and under arms in an instant, but nothing followed to continue the alarm. A small black speck could be seen by aid of the star-light on the surface of the lake, but no enemy was visible.

This day's march was still harder than any which preceded it. The men on foot were forced into a run to keep up with the advancing horsemen. The men on horseback carried their arms and baggage for them by turns.

Major William Lee D. Ewing (since a Major General) commanded the spy battalion, and with him was joined the battalion of Major Dodge, of Wisconsin. These two officers, with their commands, were in the advance; but with all their ardor they were never able to get out of sight of the main body. General Henry, who remained with the main body, dispatched Major McConnell with the advance guard, so as to get the earliest intelligence of any unusual occurrence in front. About noon of this day the advance guard was close upon the rear guard of the retreating enemy.

It is to be regretted that we have no account of the management, the perils, and hair-breadth escapes of the Indians in conducting their retreat.

All that we know is that for many miles before they were overtaken their broad trail was strewn with camp kettles and baggage of various kinds, which they had thrown away in the hurry of their flight. The sight of these articles encouraged Henry's men to press forward, hoping soon to put an end to this vexatious border war which had so much disturbed the peace of our Northern settlements. About noon, also, the scouts ahead came suddenly upon two Indians, and as they were attempting to escape one of them was killed and left dead on the field. Dr. Addison Philleo coming along shortly after, scalped this Indian, and for a long time afterward exhibited this scalp as evidence of his valor. Shortly after this the rear guard of the Indians began to make feint stands, as if to bring on a battle. In doing so, their design was merely to gain time for the main body to secure a more advantageous position. A few shots would be exchanged, and the Indians would then push ahead, while the pursuing force would halt to form in the order of battle. In this way the Indians were able to reach the broken ground on the bluffs of the Wisconsin River by four o'clock in the afternoon, before they were overtaken.

About this time, while the advanced guard was passing over some uneven ground, through the high grass and low timber, they were suddenly fired upon by a body of Indians who had here secreted themselves. In an instant Major Ewing's battalion dismounted and were formed in front, their horses being removed to the rear. The Indians kept up a fire from behind fallen trees, and none of them could be discovered except by the flash and report of their guns. In a few minutes General Henry arrived with the main body, when the order of battle was formed.

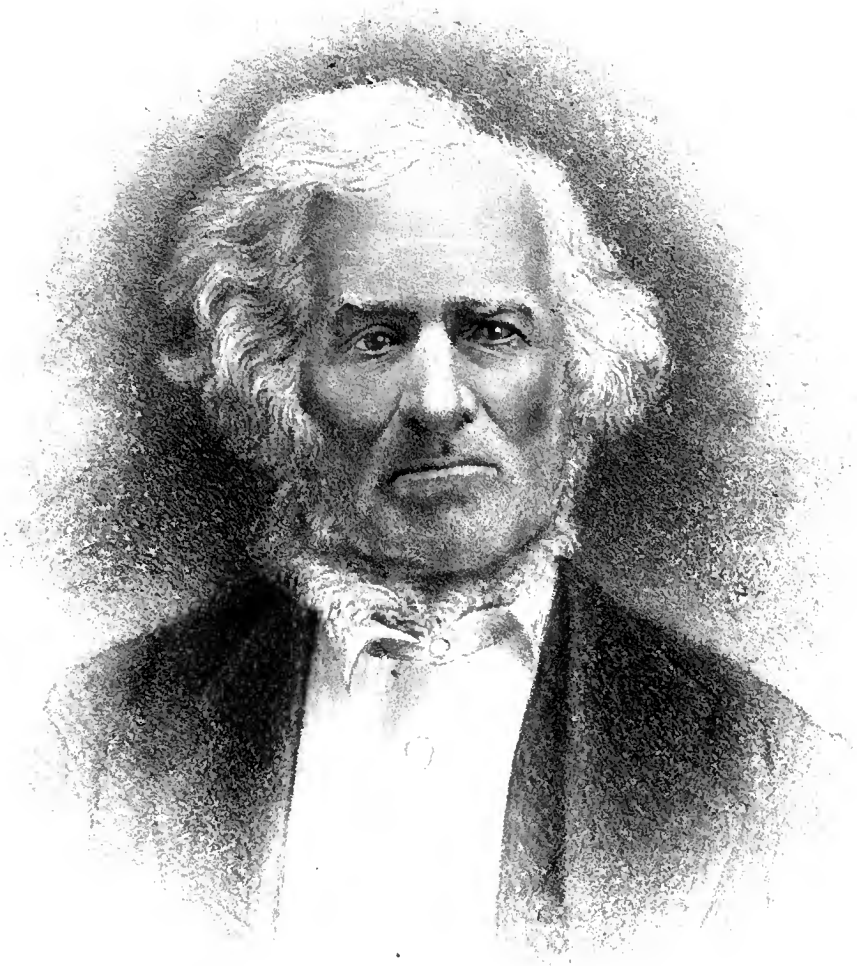
Colonel Jones' regiment was placed on the right, Colonel Collins' on the left, and Colonel Fry's in the rear to act as a reserve. Major Ewing's battalion was placed in front of the line, and Major Dodge's on the extreme right. In this order General Henry's forces marched into battle. An order was given to charge upon the enemy, which was handsomely obeyed by Ewing's battalion and Jones' and Collins' regiments.

The Indians retreated before this charge obliquely to the right, and concentrated their main force in front of Dodge's battalion, showing a design to turn his flank. General Henry sent an order by Major McConnell to Major Dodge, to advance to the charge; but this officer being of the opinion that the foe was too strong for him, requested a reinforcement. Colonel Fry's regiment was ordered to his aid, and formed on his

right. And now a vigorous charge was made from one end of the line to the other.

Colonel Fry's regiment made a charge into the bush and high grass where the Indians were concealed, and received the fire of their whole body. The fire was briskly returned by Fry and Dodge and their men, who continued to advance, the Indians standing their ground until the men came within bayonet reach of them, then fell back to the west, along the high, broken bluffs of the Wisconsin, only to take a new position among the thick timber and tall grass in the head of a hollow leading to the Wisconsin River bottom. Here it seemed they were determined to make a firm stand; but being charged upon in their new position by Ewing's battalion and Collins' and Jones' regiments, they were driven out of it, some of them being pursued down the hollow, and others again to the west, along the Wisconsin heights, until they descended the bluffs to the Wisconsin bottom, which was here about a mile wide and very swampy, covered with thick, tall grass, above the heads of men on horseback. It being now dark, further pursuit was stopped, and General Henry and his forces lay upon the field of battle. That night Henry's camp was disturbed by the voice of an Indian loudly sounding from a distant hill, as if giving orders or desiring a conference. It afterward appeared that this was the voice of an Indian chief, speaking in the Winnebago language, stating that the Indians had their squaws and families with them, that they were starving for provisions, and were not able to fight the white people, and that if they were permitted to pass peaceably over the Mississippi, they would do no more mischief. He spoke this in the Winnebago tongue, in hopes that some of that people were with General Henry and would act as his interpreter. No Winnebagoes were present, they having run at the commencement of the fight, and so his language was never explained until after the close of the war.

Next morning early General Henry advanced to the Wisconsin River, and ascertained that the Indians had all crossed it, and made their escape into the mountains between that and the Mississippi. It was ascertained after the battle that the Indian loss amounted to sixty-eight left dead on the field, and a large number of wounded, of whom twenty-five were afterward found dead along the Indian trail leading to the Mississippi. General Henry lost one man killed and eight wounded. It appeared that the Indians, knowing they were to fight a mounted force, had been trained to aim high, but as General Henry had dismounted his forces and sent his



Samuel J. McLaughlin.

horses to the rear, the Indians shot over them. This will account for so few of Henry's men being killed or wounded.

After spending two days in preparation at the Blue Mounds, the whole force, now under the direction of General Atkinson, was again on the march in pursuit of the Indians. The Wisconsin River was crossed at Helena, and the trail of the Indians struck in the mountains on the other side. Day after day the whole force toiled in climbing and descending mountains covered with dense forests, and passing through swamps of deep, black mud lying in the intervening valleys. But the march was slow compared with that preceding the battle of the Wisconsin. In this march were found, all along the route, the melancholy evidences of the execution done in the battle. The path of the retreating Indians was strewn with the wounded who had died on the march, more from neglect and want of skill in dressing their wounds than from the mortal nature of the wounds themselves. Five of them were found dead in one place where the band had encamped for the night.

About ten o'clock in the morning of the fourth day after crossing the Wisconsin, General Atkinson's advance reached the bluffs on the east side of the Mississippi. The Indians had reached the bank of the river some time before. Some had crossed, and others were making preparations to cross it. The steamboat "Warrior," commanded by Captain Throckmorton, descended to that place the day before. As the steamboat neared the camp of the Indians, they raised the white flag; but Captain Throckmorton, believing this to be treacherously intended, ordered them to send a boat on board, which they declined doing. In the flippant language of the Captain, after allowing them fifteen minutes to remove their squaws and children, he let slip a six-pounder at them, loaded with canister shot, followed by a severe fire of musketry; "and if ever you saw straight blankets, you would have seen them there." According to the Captain's account, the "fight" continued for an hour, and cost the lives of twenty-three Indians, and a number wounded. The boat then fell down the river to Prairie du Chien, and before it could return the next morning, the land forces under General Atkinson had come up and commenced a general battle.

It appears that the Indians were encamped on the bank of the Mississippi, some distance below the mouth of the Bad Axe River. They were aware that General Atkinson was in close pursuit; and to gain time for crossing into the Indian country west of the Mississippi, they sent back

about twenty men to meet General Atkinson, within three or four miles of their camp. This party of Indians were instructed to commence an attack, and then to retreat to the river three miles above their camp. Accordingly, when General Atkinson (the order of march being as before), came within three or four miles of the river, he was suddenly fired upon from behind trees and logs, the very tall grass aiding the concealment of the attacking party. General Atkinson rode immediately to the scene of action, and in person formed his lines and directed the charge. The Indians gave way, and were pursued by General Atkinson with all the army except Henry's brigade, which was in the rear, and in the hurry of pursuit was left without orders. When Henry came up to the place where the attack had been made, he saw clearly that the wily stratagem of the untutored savage had triumphed over the science of a veteran General. The main trail of the Indians was plain to be seen leading to the river lower down. He called a hasty council of his principal officers, and by their advice marched right forward upon the main trail. At the foot of the high bluff bordering the river valley, on the edge of a swamp densely covered with timber, drift-wood and underbrush, through which the trail led fresh and broad, he halted his command and left his horses. The men were formed on foot, and thus advanced to the attack. They were preceded by an advanced guard of eight men, who were sent forward as a forlorn hope, and were intended to draw the first fire of the Indians, and to disclose thereby to the main body where the enemy was to be found, preparatory to a general charge. These eight men advanced boldly some distance, until they came within sight of the river, where they were fired upon by about fifty Indians, and five of the eight instantly fell, wounded or dead. The other three, protected behind trees, stood their ground until the arrival of the main body under General Henry, which deployed to the right and left from the centre. Immediately the bugle sounded a charge, every man rushed forward, and the battle became general along the whole line. These fifty Indians had retreated upon the main body, amounting to about three hundred warriors, a force equal if not superior to that now confronting them. It soon became apparent that they had been taken by surprise. They fought bravely and desperately, but seemingly without any plan or concert of action. The bugle again sounded the inspiring music of a charge. The Indians were driven from tree to tree, and from one hiding-place to another. In this manner they receded step by step, driven by the advancing foe, until they reached the bank of the

river. Here a desperate struggle ensued, but it was of short duration. The bloody bayonet, in the hands of excited and daring men, pursued and drove them forward into the waters of the river. Some of them tried to swim the river; others sought shelter on a small willow island near the shore.

After the Indians had retreated to the island in the river, Henry dispatched Major McConnell to give intelligence of his movements to his commander, who, while pursuing the twenty Indians in another direction, had heard the firing where Henry was engaged. General Atkinson had left the pursuit of the twenty Indians, and hastened to share in the engagement. He was met by Henry's messenger near the scene of action, in passing through which the dead and dying Indians lying around bore frightful evidence of the stern work which had been done before his arrival. He, however, lost no time in forming his regulars and Dodge's battalion for a descent upon the island. These forces, together with Ewing's battalion and Fry's regiment, made a charge through the water up to their armpits to the island, where most of the Indians had taken their last refuge. All the Indians who attempted to swim the river were picked off with rifles or found a watery grave before they reached the opposite shore.

Those on the island kept up a severe fire from behind logs and driftwood upon the men as they advanced to the charge; and here a number of regulars and volunteers under Dodge were killed and wounded. But most of the Indians secreted there were either killed, captured, or driven into the water, where they perished miserably, either by drowning or by the still more fatal rifle. During these engagements a number of squaws were killed. They were dressed so much like the male Indians that, concealed as they were in the high grass, it was impossible to distinguish them. It is estimated that the Indian loss here amounted to one hundred and fifty killed, and as many more who were drowned in the river. Fifty prisoners were taken, mostly squaws and children. The residue of the Indians had escaped across the river before the commencement of the action. The twenty men who first commenced the attack, led by Black Hawk in person, escaped up the river. The American loss amounted to seventeen killed, one of them a captain of Dodge's battalion and one a lieutenant of Fry's regiment, and twelve wounded.

September 21, 1832, General Scott and Governor Reynolds concluded a treaty of peace with the Winnebagoes, Sacs and Foxes, by which these

tribes ceded to the United States vast regions of country, and agreed to remain at peace with the whites; and for the faithful performance of this promise, they surrendered Black Hawk and his two sons, "The Prophet," and six other leaders or chiefs of the hostile bands, to be retained as hostages during the pleasure of the President. These Indians were afterward taken to Washington, and shown around the cities of the east, our navy and army, and our general arrangements for war, offensive and defensive. When presented to President Jackson, Black Hawk said:

"I am a man and you are another. We did not expect to conquer the white people. I took up the hatchet to revenge injuries which could no longer be borne. Had I borne them any longer my people would have said, 'Black Hawk is a squaw; he is too old to be a chief. He is no Sac.' This caused me to raise the war-whoop. I say no more of it. All is known to you. Keokuk was once here. You took him by the hand, and when he wanted to return, you sent him back to his nation. Black Hawk expects that like Keokuk, he will be permitted to return too."

The President told him that when he was satisfied that all things would remain quiet, Black Hawk might return.

Black Hawk died October 3, 1840, and was buried with considerable pomp, on the banks of the Mississippi River, near the scenes of his boyhood.



HENNEPIN TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXII.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



ENNEPIN commemorates the name of the great discoverer and explorer supposed to have been one of the first white men who set foot within its limits. It embraces about forty-five sections of land within its boundaries, or 29,800 acres, in round numbers, as indicated by a recent county map. The Illinois River washes its borders for twelve miles or more, and its surface is made up of wide-extended, fertile bottoms, wooded hills and productive prairies.

Running through the Township is Coffee Creek, a considerable stream which rises in Section 18, thence runs in devious windings through Sections 11, 12, 15 and 16, to the Illinois River below the city of Hennepin.

South of Florid, in the edge of a small prairie united to Grand Prairie on the east, rises the stream known as "Nelson's Run," which leads southwest through Section 2 to the river.

Further south Cedar Creek flows through a broken, timbered country, and in the northern part of the Township, Allfork Creek, an extremely tortuous stream rising in the prairie south of Greenville, makes a detour into Hennepin Township, in Section 36, and running west a mile and north another, enters the Illinois.

East of the city is a fine prairie, covered with fertile and highly cultivated farms. The southern portion is broken and diversified with deep ravines, wide valleys, rugged hills, "hog-backs," and small patches of barrens, or little sections of openings and prairies which industrious Germans have long since transformed into fine farms, thrifty orchards and large meadows.

There is, or rather was, an abundance of excellent timber in this section of the County, but in many localities it has been cut down and the ground

become cultivated fields. Saw mills put up here and there have been for years transforming the monarchs of the forest into lumber.

There are small prairies here and there, one to the east of Hennepin, another at Union Grove and Florid. Here the first settlers built their houses, and a few still remain on farms taken up before the red man had ceased to be the sole possessor. The soil is fertile and adapted to raising grain, live stock or fruits, in all of which the township excels.

THE CITY OF HENNEPIN.

Hennepin, or rather the prairie on which the town stands, was anciently called Prairie de Prue, in honor of a French voyageur and trapper who once had a cabin there. The circumstances which called the town into being have been narrated elsewhere, and it need only be stated that under an act of the Legislature a committee was sent to examine various localities with a view to the location of a county seat, and select the one most appropriate and best fulfilling the required conditions.

At this time a heavy belt of timber ran along its front, extending back to the Court House and beyond, so densely filled with underbrush as to shut out all view of the river, the bank of which in front of the town rose abruptly forty or fifty feet high, but has since been graded down to suit the demands of commerce. Properly the town should date back to 1817, when Beaubien, a Frenchman in the employ of the American Fur Company, built a trading house one mile above the town, on land now owned by A. T. Purviance. Thomas Hartzell at this time was trading at some point below in opposition to the American Fur Company, but in 1824-5 he became their agent and removed here. Beside the old building first referred to he had erected a substantial store of hewn logs, which he continued to occupy until the location of Hennepin, when he removed there. Across the ravine south of Hartzell a Frenchman named Antoine Bourbonais had a cabin built somewhere about 1820.

The town was surveyed in 1831 by Ira Ladd, Sr., on Congress land. Twelve blocks were laid off at first, and eight afterward, to which several additions have since been made. Lots were extensively advertised, and the first sales were made at prices ranging from \$11.68 to \$87.86 each. (Ford's History). The first lot was sold to J. and W. Durley, at that time trading with the Indians in a cabin built by James Willis, opposite

the mouth of Bureau Creek, one mile above Hennepin. They proceeded at once to build on this lot, now the site of the Town Hall, corner of Front and Court streets, and when finished, removed their stock there.

Dunlavy & Stewart built a trading house at the same time, preceding the Durleys a few days in commencing business.

J. S. Simpson and a man named Gleason each built log cabins that fall, and Ira Ladd, first Sheriff of the county.

In the spring of 1832, the first hotel was built. It was a double log cabin, built by James S. Simpson, and run by John H. Simpson. About this time Hartzell built a store and removed here his stock of goods.

The old trading house deserves more special notice. Its foundations are still seen adjoining the pleasant residence of A. T. Purviance, and are a pleasing reminder of the days when the red man held sway over this territory, and neither steamboats nor commerce, in the modern acceptation of the term, existed on the river.

In 1832 came the Black Hawk war, and Hennepin was made the headquarters and rallying point of the rangers. When news of the outbreak arrived, there was great consternation. Few of the settlers were armed, and no means of defense were available.

In this predicament, Thomas Hartzell came forward and offered to donate his log store for a block house. It was a noble act, and bespeaks his character. Every man and team in the settlement was set at work, and in two days the building was taken down, the logs hauled to the village, and a commodious block house, with embrasures for riflemen and an upper story, constructed, in which the families of settlers took refuge until the scare was over. It stood on Front street, and for a dozen years was one of the landmarks of the town until the authorities ordered its removal.

When the old building was torn down to be reconstructed into a fort, the chimney was left standing. A Frenchman with a half-breed wife occupied the Beaubien cabin, and she often repaired to the old chimney to do her cooking. One day while thus engaged a high wind blew it down, killing her instantly.

The first election in the new County was held at the house of William Hawes, near Magnolia, and beside the Judges of Election, but one voter appeared (Warner). Of course there were no "split tickets," and Thomas Gallaher, George Ish and John M. Gay were declared elected as County Commissioners, Ira Ladd as Sheriff, and Aaron Paine as Coroner. James

W. Willis was subsequently appointed Treasurer. Hooper Warren filled the offices of Recorder, Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts, and Justice of the Peace.

Among the members of the bar who attended Court here were: Senator David Davis, who came from Bloomington on horseback, and Judge John B. Caton, who came down from Chicago, riding an Indian pony.*

The first death in the Counties of Bureau, Putnam or Marshall was in the family of Aaron Mitchell, who lost a child in August or September, 1829. There being no lumber in the country, a puncheon coffin was made by N. and S. Shepherd, and the child was interred near Captain Price's.

The first corpse buried in Hennepin Cemetery was that of Phillips, shot by the Indians, June 4, 1831. No memorial stone marks the place, and his grave is unknown.

OLD TIME RECORDS.

Most of the early settlers were young men, and in those days a woman or a baby was as much of a novelty and excited as lively an interest as ever they did in "Roaring Camp." Some of the men, however, brought their wives, and with them came their "sisters, their cousins and their aunts," who speedily found husbands; and we find among the early records the following marriages:

John Shepherd to Tennessee McComas, July 5, 1831; by George Ish, County Judge.

Elisha Swan, of Lacon, was married to Zilpha Dent, February 25, 1832; by Rev. Zadok Hall.

Livingston Roberts to Margaret Dent, January 24, 1843; by Hooper Warren, Justice of the Peace.

Lemmel Russell to Sarah Ann Edwards, February 23, 1823; by Rev. Edward Hale.

Wm. Munson to Rachel Hall, March 7, 1833, by John M. Gay, Justice of the Peace.

Wm. S. Horn to Sylvia Hall, May 5, 1833; by Rev. R. Horn.

The ladies whose names appear in the last two notices were the Hall girls, whose thrilling experience with the Indians is given elsewhere.

*Warren.

The early ministers of the township were Revs. John McDonald, Elijah Epperson, Wm. Heath and Joel Arlington.

The first farm opened in the township was that of James Willis, at Union Grove, in 1828, and his was the first dwelling house outside of the village of Hennepin.

Elizabeth Shepherd was one of the first white women in this locality, coming in 1829.

Austin Hannum is claimed as the first white child born in the county. His parents lived in Magnolia.

Isabel Patterson, since Mrs. R. W. Bowman, was born in 1832, and Augustus Shepherd in 1830.

THE PIONEERS.

In the Court House at Hennepin hangs a large frame with the portraits and names of many old settlers, and the date of their coming to the County. It will better preface what follows than aught else we can give:

1817—Thomas Hartzell.

1827—Thos. Gallaher, Jas. W. Willis.

1828—Stephen D. Willis, Smiley Shepherd.

1829—James G. Ross, Nelson Shepherd, Elizabeth Shepherd.

1830—Harvey Leeper, Flora Zenor, Augustus Shepherd, Wm. Patterson, L. E. Skeel, David Richey, Lucy Dick, Olive Skeel, Wm. M. Ham, Anthony Turk, Samuel D. Laughlin, Catherine Shepherd.

1831—Alvira Zenor, Lewis Durley, Lucy Durley, Mary Stewart, Mary Shepherd, George Dent, Comfort Dent, Williamson Durley, H. K. Zenor, Emeline Durley, E. G. Powers, Louisa Nash, John Gallaher, Aaron Gunn.

1832—John G. Ross (born here), Stephen W. Stewart, Nancy Skeel, Sarah Stewart, John W. Stewart, B. F. Whittaker, J. W. Leech, Mary Leech, Robert Leech, Mary A. Templeton, S. G. Leech, Sarah Brumfield, Thomas Brumfield, Mary Ann Noys, John Brumfield, Aaron Barlow, John N. Laughlin.

1833—Bayliss Culter, Wm. H. Zenor, Elizabeth Durley, Joseph Fairfield, Wm. E. Fairfield, Joseph Cassell, Augustus Cassell, Thomas Coleman, Chas. Coleman, Oaks Turner, Wilson Everett, Jeremiah Everett, Alex. Ross, Milton Robinson.

1834—Cyrus Shepherd, William Baxendale, Thomas W. Shepherd, Guy W. Pool, Thomas Atwater (the first lawyer), H. J. White, Washington Webb.

1836—Lyle Shepherd, Samuel Holmes, Sr., Alfred Turner, David Cryder.

SMILEY SHEPHERD, the oldest living person of Hennepin, visited this country in August, 1828, on a prospecting tour. He bought a claim from James Willis, at Magnolia, but sold it and selected the well-known farm east of Hennepin, where he has ever since lived. Returning to Ohio in December, 1828, he married, and in June, 1829, settled permanently at Hennepin.

When he came to Hennepin in 1828, Hartzell, the Indian trader, was doing a prosperous business. He was operating in his own name, and had several Indians, squaws and half breeds around him. He was assisted by a young man named Benny, who had charge of the business, buying and preparing the furs for market, and supplying hunters and traders in other localities, shipping his furs to Montreal.

The American Fur Company had three stations at and near the mouth of Bureau Creek, under the management of Gurden S. Hubbard, who generally made his headquarters at Chicago, but was often here to look after the interests of the company.

WILLIAMSON DURLEY came to Hennepin August 8, 1831, and opened a store along with his uncle, John Durley. They bought their goods at St. Louis, brought them up on a boat to Pekin, and hauled them "by land" to their new store in the village, which had been laid out in September, the goods reaching here in October, 1831.

Mr. Durley first visited this locality in 1828, stopping on the way at Bailey's Point, La Salle County, where himself and friends found shelter, with permission to "board themselves" in the cornfield. The corn was but partially ripe, and had to be planed off the ears and then boiled. They found this fare and the hospitality of the people so agreeable that they remained two days on these terms. During their stay they explored the country thereabouts, returning to their host each night, who on their departure refused to take pay for their keeping, saying, "as he had freely given them the best he had, and didn't want to be insulted."

At Covell Creek they found an Indian burial ground, in which the departed were placed in a sitting posture, back to back, between white oak

poles fixed in the ground. Mr. Durley likewise remembers one two miles south of Hennepin, where the corpses were similarly arranged.

The mails in early days were irregular. A line extended from Peoria to Galena, and a route was established about 1831 running from Hennepin to Boyd's Grove. A few years later a stage line between Chicago and Peoria was established, with a cross line to Hennepin, connecting at Robert's Point. The next change was from Ottawa via Peru, Hennepin and Lacon to Peoria, making three trips a week each way.

Mr. Durley's recollections of the old pioneers are valuable. He remembers Thomas Hartzell as a man of generous disposition, open-hearted and easily duped. He believed all men honest like himself, and lost his property by going security for others. About this time a wealthy relative in Pennsylvania died and opportunely left him a considerable sum, which went in like manner. Again he inherited property, and not long after removed to Waukegan, where he died.

DANIEL DIMMICK—The Township of Dimmick, in La Salle County, takes its name from an early settler who formerly lived in this vicinity. He came to Peoria in 1828, to Princeton in 1829 or '30, and not long after to Putnam County, building a cabin in the timber near Hartzell's trading house. He is said to have made the first claim and broken the first prairie in Putnam County, and sold his "betterments" to George Mills. They are now a part of the farm of William Ham. Dimmick lived in great seclusion, avoiding society and companionship, and was chiefly intent on making money. It is said he never had a floor to his cabin, and never washed. His single tow shirt sufficed so long as it held together. He slept on a bundle of straw in the corner, and his coat was patched with an old saddle blanket. In 1833 he sent his son Elijah to Dixon to learn if it was safe to venture to the north side of the Illinois River, and if the Indians were really at peace with the whites, and the war over. On getting satisfactory answers, he packed up his household goods and moved over to the prairies and began his new and permanent home, where he built a fine residence in after years, and died much respected.

THE GALLAHER FAMILY played an important part in the early history of Putnam, and deserves a more extended notice. The first representative, Thomas Gallaher, Sr., came here in September, 1827, and settled on the south-east quarter of Section 30, Town 32, Range 1 west, 3d principal

meridian, four miles south-east of Hennepin. He was accompanied here by his wife and eight children, viz:

Thomas, Jr.—Born March 17, 1810; afterward moved to Henry, and died August 17, 1854.

Eliza—Born November 13, 1811; now Mrs. Ladd, wife of Ira Ladd, first Sheriff of Putnam County. She is now a resident of New Orleans.

Mary—Born March 17, 1814; married B. Willis, and afterward went to Hannibal, Mo.

James—Born April 13, 1816; lives at Sioux City, Iowa.

William—Born July 19, 1818; moved to Henry in 1851, where he now resides.

Nancy J.—Born February 8, 1821; married Mr. Heath; died in September, 1848.

Samuel—Born April 18, 1823; died in August, 1879.

Margaret H.—Born August 6, 1825; died May 27, 1874.

After arriving here, there were born:

Robert K.—May 20, 1828, the “first white child born in Putnam County.” Died March 4, 1845.

John McDonald—October 6, 1830; living on the old farm.

Nathaniel C.—August 12, 1833; died of wounds received at Fort Donelson.

Elizabeth, Margaret and Robert, born subsequently, remained on the old homestead until their death.

Thomas Gallaher, Sr., was born April 22, 1782, and died of cholera, while on his way to Pennsylvania, June 5, 1852, aged 70 years.

His wife (Elizabeth Kelly) was born March 17, 1792, and died April 23, 1878, aged 86 years.

Mr. Gallaher, after arriving here put up a cabin in the fall of 1827, and in 1828 broke prairie for eighty acres of corn and wheat.

The cabin was eighteen feet square, with a “shake” roof, and a fire-place so big that logs were hauled through the room by oxen to feed its capacious mouth. His first crop was exceeding fine, and Major Elias Thompson and Wm. Studyvin helped cut the wheat in 1829; wages, twenty-five cents per day.

In 1828 he built a hewn log cabin, fifteen feet square, the first of the kind in this region of country.

These were the first houses in this neighborhood of any description, and their ruins may yet be seen on the old historic ground.

In the fall of 1827, after Gallaher had put up his log dwelling, James Willis built a house on ground afterward enclosed within the village plat of Florid. He left his family on this claim during the winter of 1827-8, and went to Bond County, Ill., to close up some business affairs. He had in his employ a likely colored boy who was a fugitive from slavery, whom he left in charge. The boy worked faithfully all winter, but when spring came and he found himself in debt, he concluded there was not so much difference between freedom and slavery as he had supposed.

During the winter of 1827, there were no settlers south of Gallaher's, none at Magnolia, Roberts' Point, Lacon, or Crow Creek; no one at all nearer than the Dillon settlement, on Mackinaw River.

In those days farm laborers were not numerous, yet the prices for work were not extravagantly high, as three bushels of meal, equal to three "bits," was considered a just equivalent for cutting and splitting one hundred 11-foot fence rails, and eight dollars per month and board and washing were the wages for farm hands.

THE HENNEPIN FERRY.

Prior to 1831, when Putnam was set apart as a county, with a tangible boundary and a real organization, the ferry at Hennepin, or rather at and above Hartzell's trading house, had been a private enterprise, and was generally "run" by whomsoever came along, white, red, or mixed. The Indian traders claimed to own the boats, and every one used them,—such as they were. At the first term of the County Commissioners' Court, that wise body took the subject in hand and "Ordered that public notice be given of the letting of the building of a ferry boat." Alexander Wilson put in the lowest bid and got the job, for a sum not stated, to build the first boat capable of carrying loaded wagons.

September 8, 1831, Ira Ladd, the Sheriff, was appointed to take charge of the ferry boat when finished.

August 14, 1832, James Laughlin was appointed to take charge of the ferry boat till next term; also to procure a skiff for the same.

September 3, 1832, J. S. Simpson was allowed \$11.00 for keeping the ferry.

B. M. Hays was appointed to run the Hennepin ferry from December

17, 1832, one year. A committee was appointed to watch him, see that he did his whole duty, and say when the boat should or should not run in the season of ice, high water and other dangers. This committee were R. Blanchard, John H. Simpson, Geo. B. Willis, Williamson Durley and Nathan Skeel.

In March, 1833, John H. Simpson, then ferryman, was instructed by the Court to allow footmen to go free; and citizens upon horseback on muster, election and court days, were not to be charged for themselves or their beasts.

The ferry boat having been carried away by ice, Jonathan Wilson followed it down to the island below Henry, captured and returned it, and the Court, March 3, 1836, allowed him \$6.00 for that service.

The ferry, instead of proving a blessing to the County of Putnam, was a constant source of annoyance, and though its income some years was considerable, by reason of accidents and the large proportion of patrons who managed to shirk payment, it rarely made any profit for its managers. An embankment a mile or two in length was needed on the west side, besides expensive bridges. This territory was in Bureau County, beyond the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of Putnam County, and the people of Princeton could see no advantage in improving a road or building embankments and bridges for the convenience of a rival market at Hennepin. Things wore on for years until a goodly settlement of tax-paying people had gathered in the bottom and prairies beyond, who demanded a road to the river as an outlet for their products, and at length the Commissioners of Bureau County consented to meet with their equally exalted brethren of Putnam County, and jointly take action in the all-important question of improving the bottoms and making a road and suitable bridges across Bureau Creek and other water courses toward Hennepin.

Accordingly these august bodies met at Hennepin, September 8, 1845, and after much deliberation leased the ferry for a term of eleven years to one Hugh Feeny, who, at his own expense, was to make all necessary improvements in the roadway, and in addition to the rents and profits of the ferry was to have the sum of \$275 in cash paid him, one-half of said sum by each of the counties.

This arrangement lasted a couple of years, when Feeny failed to keep his contract. We find the two high joint powers at Hennepin again in session, declaring that Feeny had forfeited the contract, and legal proceedings in the nature a *quo warranto* were instituted to make him surrender

the ferry. After tedious litigation, lasting until February, 1850, Feeny voluntarily abandoned the fight, and the ferry was placed in charge of William Ray.

Subsequently an act of the State Legislature was passed giving the entire ferry and rights of way in Bureau and Putnam Counties to the exclusive control of the corporation of Hennepin, where they now rest.

FRINK AND WALKER.

This enterprising firm were the pioneer stage proprietors of Central Illinois. They controlled and operated most of the lines, with general headquarters in Chicago. Their monopoly of the business covered a period of about thirteen years, from 1838 or 1839, during which their headquarters in Hennepin were with John Lyons, an old hotel keeper. At first they ran from Peru to Magnolia, and on to Peoria, but afterward took in Hennepin on the route, passing thence through Lacon and down the river.

One night in the winter of 1839 the stage coach was lost upon the Hennepin Prairie. There were two passengers inside, and the driver vainly sought to find his destination. Afterward it was found he had traveled in a circle most of the time.

Mr. Nicholls related how an old English "milord" was once his guest, and the trouble the great man experienced. The hotel was a good-sized log cabin, and had but a single sleeping room for the accommodation of guests, who were expected to be reasonable and share their beds with strangers. As nine o'clock came the traveler signified a desire to retire, and asked to be lighted to his quarters. Nicholls showed him up, and stated that one-half the bed would be occupied by another party. "Do you expect me to sleep in this room with other men?" said "milord," almost gasping for breath. Nicholls said he could either do that or sit up, as he preferred; and the old fellow sat in his chair all night, groaning over his aches and cursing the "blarsted country."

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The early settlers were pre-eminently a religious people, and one of the first things provided for was the preaching of the Gospel. There was

no lack of earnest, devoted, self-sacrificing ministers, and in the absence of suitable places of worship, services were held at private houses or in the groves. These services were invariably well attended, and received earnest, respectful attention. The good these men did was not interred with their bones—for most of them have gone to their reward,—but it lives after them, and bears fruit to this day.

THE M. E. CHURCH OF HENNEPIN.

This society is an old one, dating back to 1833, when the first class was formed. The record of the first proceedings, if any was made, has been lost, and such history as can be gathered of the organization thereof depends upon the recollection of one or two persons who helped at its inception. In July or August of the year named, a few of the earnest Methodists of Hennepin and vicinity bethought them that as their numbers were nearly large enough to form a church society, it would be well to take initiative steps in that direction. After some preliminary conversation a small meeting was held at the house of Dr. Ritchie, in the village, and the first class was enrolled, consisting of the following members: Hiram P. White and wife, Dr. David Ritchie and wife, Miss Betsey Carpenter, afterward Mrs. Hays, Mrs. Sarah Bloomfield, and perhaps one or two other persons whose names have been forgotten. Another meeting was held at the same place in November, 1833, and further steps taken toward forwarding the work. About this time Linas B. Skeel was added to the list as the first convert, and Mrs. Olive Skeel and Mrs. Emeline Durley also added their names to the membership.

For some time after they had no meeting house nor any convenient place of worship, and met from time to time at the dwellings of the brothers.

In 1834, Rev. Zadok Hall, the first minister, on February 16, at Dr. Ritchie's, preached a sermon, taking his text from Matt. ix., 12. Rev. Wm. Arrington came the same season at a later date, and also Rev. John St. Clair, as Presiding Elder.

Rev. Father Walker, from Ottawa, occasionally came here to look after the infant flock, as also did Rev. Jesse Hale and Wm. Royal, all Indian missionary preachers.

During the year 1834 there was a revival of considerable strength, and many new converts were made and the Society largely increased in numbers and influence.

In 1835, Rev. A. E. Phelps officiated, and Rev. Asa McMurtry in 1836. Mr. Phelps contributed his personal efforts largely toward building the old church. The latter part of 1836, Hennepin and Pekin circuits were divided and changed to Hennepin and Washington circuits. In 1837, Rev. Wm. Condiff was the preacher, and died at the close of the year, at Caledonia.

In 1838, Rev. Zadok Hall and Rev. Mr. Moffit were sent here to the work, and were aided by Rev. S. W. D. Chase, of Bloomington, who with them made excellent progress in procuring new members.

Among the other reverend gentlemen who appeared at Hennepin from time to time from 1829 to 1835, was Rev. Mr. Cook, a Presbyterian, father of Hon. B. C. Cook, formerly of Ottawa, now of Chicago. Rev. Mr. Hays was a local preacher of Hennepin and vicinity for many years, and among the first who came to this locality. He put up the first frame house on Henry prairie, and one of the first frame houses in the village.

In 1839, Rev. John Morris came and officiated occasionally, and Rev. John appeared and took charge of the Church about 1840.

The first records commence in the Trustees' book, June 14, 1836.

Efforts had been made to raise money to build a meeting house, but with ill success, and we find them in 1837 adopting an order to refund the small sums of money which had been raised for that purpose.

At a meeting of the Lacon and Hennepin Conference, February 25, 1839, Joseph Caterlin, David Markley, Thomas Forney, Jacob G. Forney, Hiram P. White, Linus B. Skeel and J. P. Hays were appointed Trustees of the Hennepin Church, the first Board regularly chosen for this Society.

March 2, 1839, the Trustees "met at Hennepin for the purpose of attempting to build a church." They figured out a plan for a modest frame meeting house, twenty-six by thirty-six feet. A subscription paper was circulated and the cash returns were such as to warrant the immediate prosecution of the work. The house was accordingly built and occupied the same fall and for years after, and now stands, used as a private dwelling, a few rods to the rear of the larger and more pretentious structure. The old house, however, was for some time under a cloud of debt, which for a long time the young and struggling pioneer church could not lift. At length they succeeded in removing this incubus, and on the 13th of August, 1842, the Trustees met and adopted a resolution, "That all

persons having claims against the Church present the same forthwith, by Saturday following, for full settlement." This seems to have been done, and the church dedicated on the next Sabbath, by Elder A. E. Phelps.

In 1858, the congregation having outgrown the capacity of the old building, proceeded to erect the present church edifice, a handsome structure of two stories, forty feet by sixty, divided below into lecture and class rooms, and above a finely decorated, finished and furnished church room, which bids fair to afford ample accommodations for the people for many years to come. It cost \$10,000, has two good organs, and is well seated, having comfortable pews for 450 to 500 persons. It was dedicated November 29, 1866, by Rev. Joseph Cummings, of Lacon. Before being finished the basement was completed, and services held therein by Rev. A. C. Price.

A neat parsonage stands near by in the same lot with the church, costing about \$600.

In 1879, the Presiding Elder was J. D. Smith; Pastor, J. M. Murphy; Recording Steward, L. E. Skeel.

The Society numbers about seventy-five in good standing, and the church and parsonage are free from debt.

HENNEPIN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

As early as 1845 the Catholic people of Hennepin and vicinity began to hold public religious exercises, and the Brothers of the Lazarus Society of La Salle sent different priests there to minister to the spiritual wants of the communicants of the Church. The first remembered priest who visited this place was an Italian, Rev. Father _____, who also occasionally conducted services in Henry.

Among the other earlier missionaries of this faith were Rev. Fathers Gregory and Anthony, the latter in 1848, both coming at intervals depending upon circumstances, such as deaths or the sickness of some Catholic who desired the last sacrament. When here upon such occasions, the people would be notified, an altar improvised in some one of the more commodious dwellings, and mass duly celebrated; and now and then a priest would come from Peoria, or even St. Louis, to minister to the spiritual wants of the faithful and look after the temporal affairs of the Church.

There was no successful attempt to have regular services oftener than once a month, until about June, 1852, when sufficient money was raised

for the erection of a church building. It was a plain frame structure, twenty-four by forty feet. This furnished ample room for the congregation till about 1866, when an addition was put up, making the building twenty-four by sixty feet, with fifteen feet ceiling. The cost of both was about \$2,500, and the organ, altars, seats and lamps about \$1,000 more. About seventy-five families now constitute its regular membership.

Those who next to the priests took the lead of the Church were Anthony Failing, Chas. Trerweiler, Henry Reavey and Peter Feltes. The first resident priest was Rev. Father Deifenbrock, who came about 1867.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In September, 1874, Miss Ella DeVoe, of Hennepin, wrote to Rev. Wm. E. Catlin, detailing the needs of a church at this place, and set forth the prospects of effecting an organization in such an eloquent manner as to induce that gentleman to come and co-operate in the movement. He arrived October 17, and on the following Sabbath preached by invitation in the M. E. Church, and at the Court House on Sunday, October 25.

At a meeting for consultation immediately after the Sabbath morning service, it was decided to not then take any steps toward the formation of a society, but a prayer-meeting was appointed for the next Wednesday evening, and the following paper presented:

We, the undersigned, believing that another Evangelical Church in this community would be for its spiritual and temporal good, have thought it best for the present to associate ourselves together for the purpose of holding public and social worship at such times and places as shall appear best, hoping in that way, with God's blessing, to develop such an interest as may in time warrant a more perfect organization. To this endeavor we pledge ourselves, and invite the hearty co-operation of all who are like-minded.

This was circulated, but did not receive a single signature!

Weekly prayer-meetings were kept up and well attended, but Mr. Catlin, discouraged with the project, finally left the place. The next appeal was to John E. Roy, a Home Missionary, who came December 12, began and pursued his labors with great industry, and soon accomplished the desired end.

The numbers increased from two to fifteen, when the Church was organized with the following membership: Aug. Shepherd, Mrs. Ellen Shepherd, David Field, James Adams, Miss R. Ellis and Mrs. Lucy Ham by letters from the Congregational Church, Granville; Martin Nash, letter

from the Presbyterian Church of Granville; Miss Ella DeVoe, letter from the Congregational Church of Forrest; T. J. Nicholl, certificate from Episcopal Church; Mrs. Ellen Nicholl, same; Chas. M. Shepherd, letter from the Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Miss Clara Lamm, Miss Emma Connelly, Mrs. Elizabeth Durley and P. B. Durley, on profession.

The officers chosen were: David Field and James Field, Deacons; Williamson Durley, Aug. Shepherd and T. J. Nicholl, Trustees; Miss Ella DeVoe, Clerk; P. B. Durley, Treasurer.

A council was called, and the Church organized December 22, 1874. Rev. A. J. Bailey was at once called as pastor, and began his labors January 24, 1875, the Church in the meantime having been supplied by Rev. F. Bascom. Services were held in a room at the public school building, the exclusive use of which was offered the Society by the School Board.

A Sunday School class was organized December 27, 1874. April 5, 1875, a business meeting was called for the purpose of considering the building of a church edifice. A building committee was appointed, and by the united efforts of the Society ground was broken May 16, 1875, and liberal aid obtained from the citizens generally. The Congregational Union contributed \$450 in aid of the building, which was completed and dedicated December 22, 1875, just one year from the date of the organization. The building and site cost \$4,317.90. In 1878, a 1,050 pound bell was hung, at a total expense of \$330.53.

Forty persons had united with the Church up to April, 1878, in addition to the original fifteen, but a few deaths and dismissals had made the membership forty-six persons.

This religious Society, called the "Congregational Church of Christ of Hennepin," is organized on the "Declaration of Faith" adopted by the National Council of the Congregational Churches held at Boston in June, 1865, on the spot where the first meeting-house of the Pilgrims stood.

This Church, in a series of resolutions adopted soon after its organization, and circulated in a history of the Society published in pamphlet form, declared that,

WHEREAS, There is a tendency to the desecration of the Lord's day, by turning it from its proper use to a day of social visiting, a time for unusual feasting, for walking the streets and driving for pleasure, and in many other ways destroying its sacredness and hindering its usefulness for religious edification; therefore,

Resolved, That we do earnestly protest against this prevailing sin, and call on Christians and all others to honor the Lord by a proper observance of His day; and we do earnestly en-

treat all to "Remember the Sabbath day" by reading the Scriptures, by appropriate religious exercises at home, by meditation and prayer, by attending the ordinances of God's house, and by observing the day in every way as the Scriptures direct."

Another resolution recommends daily family worship, another denounces intemperance, and a fourth is as follows:

Resolved, That any deviation in business, society or politics, from the strict principles of integrity, as taught in the Scriptures, we deem a sufficient cause for censure.

THE SCHOOLS.

The first school in Hennepin was taught by Thomas Gallaher in 1833, in a log house almost diagonally opposite the present flouring mill site, on the lot now occupied by the public Hall.

In 1835, school was kept in the old Simpson Tavern, in the room used sometimes as a hall.

In 1836 there was a school in the old Presbyterian meeting house. In 1837 another was held in the old Court House.

Calvin Dickey in 1842 conducted a private school in a log cabin near where Mrs. Reed now lives.

In 1843 a frame school house was erected on High street, and soon after moved further up to near and east of the present public school building, where a school was taught until the new house was completed.

All these schools were run on the subscription plan. The free public schools began in 1845, in the building put up by subscription as an academy, that scheme having been abandoned and the property turned over to the district.

School houses were poorly constructed, and the rooms were shared by others than those seeking to climb the hill of science. One person tells us of finding a huge rattlesnake coiled beneath the benches, and occasionally a skunk would get under the floor and make it decidedly "warm" for the inmates while he remained. Mice were frequent visitors, and one of the pupils, now a staid and dignified business man, remembers how he and a chum used to place a boy's cap on the floor, with a stick to hold one edge up and a string to pull the stick out when the unsuspecting mouse went under to eat a bit of bread temptingly displayed, and how

they caught the mouse and then a wholesome flogging at the hands of the irate pedagogue.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

MASONS.

October 3, 1849, the Masons of Hennepin obtained a charter and organized Lodge No. 70. The first members, as named in that instrument, were John Pulsifer, Thomas Hartzell, Ben. R. Wardlaw, Wm. D. Mann, Nathaniel Applegate, John Folger, John Hall, Abram Phillips, Brown Searls and E. Mott. The officers were: Abram Phillips, M.; John Searls, S. W.; John Pulsifer, J. W.

The first lodge rooms were in Hartenbower's house, north-west of the Court House. They now occupy rooms in Mrs. Flora Zenor's building. A Chapter is connected with this Lodge, organized in 1879.

The fraternity are in a good financial condition, and keep their Society in an active and sound state, numbering among its members many of the leading citizens of the community.

HENNEPIN ODD FELLOWS.

Hennepin Lodge No. 118, I. O. O. F., was installed March 24, 1853. The charter members were: Oakes Turner, Thomas H. Bradway, N. Pickering, John S. Margison and Wm. H. Smith. The first officers of the Lodge were: O. Turner, N. G.; J. S. Margison, V. G.; Wm. Eddy, Secretary; N. G. Pickering, Treasurer.

The persons initiated the evening of the installation of the Lodge were: A. H. Turner, L. E. Skeel, Wm. Allen, Wm. Eddy, S. B. Wharton and Willard White.

The Society is in a prosperous condition, and numbers among its members many of the prominent citizens of the town.

THE BUEL INSTITUTE.

This is not only the oldest Agricultural Society in Central Illinois, but the first formed in the entire West. The initiatory steps were taken to organize it, February 23, 1846, at Lowell, LaSalle County. J. S. Bul-

lock was Chairman of the meeting, and Elmer Baldwin, Secretary. After some general debate and informal talk among the four or five farmers assembled, a resolution was adopted "To form a society out of the friends of the movement living in that part of La Salle County south of the Illinois River, and so much of the counties of Putnam and Marshall as may choose to unite."

Elmer Baldwin, R. C. Elliot and L. L. Bullock, of La Salle, Ralph Ware, of Putnam, and Wm. M. Clarkson, of Marshall, were appointed a committee to draft a constitution and report.

March 18 another meeting was had at the same place, where a constitution was reported by the committee, and adopted. The first officers were then elected, and were: Elmer Baldwin, President; Ralph Ware, Wm. M. Clarkson and John T. Little, Vice Presidents; Dr. J. S. Bullock, Treasurer; Oakes Turner, Corresponding Secretary; L. L. Bullock, Recording Secretary.

They adjourned to meet at Granville the first Tuesday of June, when Mr. Baldwin was appointed to deliver an address. At this meeting and subsequent ones within a short time, one hundred and seventy persons were induced to sign the Constitution and pay into the treasury fifty cents, which constituted the membership fee. At this meeting arrangements were made for discussing important topics connected with farming, stock-raising, fruit-growing and the like, the question to be agreed upon at the previous meeting.

These meetings were to be held every three months, at some place easy of access within the boundaries of the Society.

At the first meeting at Granville the subject was, "The best mode of cultivating corn." At this meeting also an annual fair was decided upon, to be held at Lowell, on the first Tuesday of October.

These discussions took a wide range as to subjects, bringing within their scope everything relative to the farming interest, and at an early day, almost from the first meeting, people attended from a distance, coming on horseback many miles at inclement seasons of the year; and the ladies, too, became regular attendants at these gatherings, looking forward to their recurrence with pleasing anticipation. They were really profitable to the thinking farmer, and should be a feature of every agricultural society.

The meetings for debates were fixed for the first Tuesdays of December, March, June and September each year, the place to be chosen at the

previous quarterly meeting; also, every member was requested to keep a memorandum of each crop planted, how tended, harvested, and the results, and report.

The Fair of 1846 was abandoned, in consequence of the great amount of sickness then prevailing throughout the country. The quarterly meetings, however, were regularly held at Lowell, Caledonia, Point Republic, Cedar Point, Granville and Magnolia in turn, and leading members delivered addresses and read essays, while oral discussions were freely indulged in.

Though the general Fair was not held, a local exhibition was gotten up at the farm of Wm. Groom, October 3, 1847, and held under the auspices of the Society, but the record makes no mention of any premiums having been awarded.

The second regular Fair was appointed to be held at Granville, October 6, 1848, and premiums were offered,—probably badges and honorable mention, as no amount of premiums is stated.

At the Third Annual Fair, which was held at Lowell, one hundred dollars was voted for prizes, and “two solicitors” were chosen to circulate among the people to raise the funds therefor. “The Executive Committee were also notified that they place on their show bills a request that there be no horse racing in or near the show ground”!

All future fairs were to last two days; evidence that the last fair had been too extensive to be satisfactorily viewed in one day.

Granville was honored with the Fourth Fair. Upon this occasion the Society adopted a resolution as follows:

Resolved, That this meeting recommend that all male animals be not allowed to run at large.

They also considered it wise to advertise the coming exhibition, and to this end directed the committee to procure one hundred show bills and one hundred premium cards, and the committee were directed if possible to procure a “*derometer*”!

The membership fee in 1850 was raised to \$1.50 per annum, and the next fair appointed at Hennepin.

The Fifth Annual Fair, the first at Hennepin, was duly held, and was rather more expensive than any of its predecessors, but seems to have been proportionately successful. The musicians cost \$5.00, and the door-

keeper \$2. The exhibitors of fruits donated their samples to the Society, which goods being sold at auction, netted as follows:

C. R. & N. Overman, Canton, Fulton County, \$1.50.

Arthur Bryant, Bureau, 60 cents.

Underhill & Co., La Salle, 65 cents.

A. R. Whiting, Lee County, \$1.10.

Cyrus Bryant, Bureau, 65 cents.

McWhorter & Co., Mercer County, \$1.22.

L. P. Pennington, Whiteside County, \$1.20.

H. N. Shooler, Putnam County, 70 cents.

This indicates that the Fair was widely known and well patronized.

The Treasurer's report for 1851 exhibited: Admissions \$74.00. Expenses—music \$5.00; printer \$22.25; premiums in full, \$15.50; and cash above all expenses, \$144.80.

This Society is entitled to the credit of first suggesting to the Government a Bureau or Department of Agriculture. In June, 1851, the subject came up and was fully discussed by the Institute, and the result of this debate was a petition, signed by the leading farmers of Putnam, Marshall and La Salle Counties, which was forwarded to our Representatives at Washington, in which was set forth the importance to the country of agriculture, the basis of all pursuits, and urging upon Congress to protect, foster and encourage it. Thus the matter came before that body from a respectable source, and was not only heard, but acted upon, and resulted in forming the Department of Agriculture, as stated.

The Fairs were held at Peru one or two years, but the disadvantage of moving about without permanent buildings or grounds; the growth of the Society, and the importance and increasing size of its annual exhibitions made a permanent location necessary, and the Society settled upon Hennepin as central and sufficiently accessible from all directions for the purpose.

Fairs are held here every year, but of late years the exhibitions of this veteran Society are overshadowed by the greater magnitude of the neighboring fairs at Princeton, Wenona and Ottawa.

THE GALLAHER AND OTHER MILLS.

The pioneer mill for grinding any kind of grain in all this region of country was put up by Thos. Gallaher, Sr., in the fall of 1828. The

burrs were "nigger-heads," or dark granite boulders found upon the prairies, such as geologists tell us belong to the "drift" period, and were brought here from high northern latitudes some hundreds of centuries ago. Mr. Gallaher dressed these firm-grained rocks himself, drilled holes in them and wrought upon them at odd spells for a long time, exhausting a large stock of patience upon their stubborn and ragged outlines before he could reduce them to a fit shape and finish for his purpose. The mill was built on a hill or slight elevation in Section 30, one mile south of Florid. The building was of logs, sixteen feet square. A shaft was set up outside, and holes mortised in it for arms. A raw-hide band was stretched around, connecting the shaft with the upper stone, and with two or four horses was made to revolve, and thus turned the stones. In this primitive manner a couple of bushels of corn could be ground in an hour. One of these old burrs was sold to a Mr. Trusten, who removed it to Sandy Creek, where it was used for a time, and afterward fell into the hands of Mr. Bowers, and now is a step in front of Morrill's store in the village of Magnolia. At first the corn-meal, bran and all were delivered to the customer, but a year or so after a sieve was added, when he also began to make wheat flour, improvising some sort of bolting apparatus.

Two years thereafter Mr. Gallaher employed Mr. Shugart to make cog-wheel gearing, which greatly accelerated the speed, and a bolt was also put in. With four horses—two on each sweep,—he could now grind and bolt about three bushels per hour. At this time there was no flouring mill nearer than Salt Creek, Sangamon County, eighty miles away.

About 1832, Hollenback built a mill near Magnolia, the second in the County, greatly relieving the pressure on the Gallaher mill, which up to that time had done all the grinding for the settlers for many miles around.

Gallaher's mill continued to run until about 1836.

In 1831, Simeon Crozier erected a water power mill on Cedar Creek, which attracted some little custom from the north-eastern corner of Granville Township.

A mill located at Vermilionville ground much of the wheat for the farmers of this region, and sometimes they patronized John Green's mills, at Dayton, four miles above Ottawa, on Fox River.

CHAPTER XXIII.

GREAT SNOWS.



FOR several years, beginning with 1828, heavy falls of snow were experienced, of which the early settlers have vivid remembrances. In that year Thomas Gallaher, Sr., brought up from Dillon's settlement 150 head of cattle, eighty sheep, and 100 hogs, known as the Shaker breed, having been brought from Ohio. He had secured a crop of hay, but it was beneath the deep snow that everywhere covered the ground, and could not be reached. There was an abundance of "mast" that season, and his hogs took to the woods, and rooting beneath the snow, fared well. Many of them escaped to the bottoms and became in a measure wild. His cattle and sheep fared worse, many of them dying.

Seeing the necessity of procuring feed for his stock, Mr. Gallaher sent his son Thomas, Jr., and a young man named Kelly to Crozier's, in La-Salle County, where it was reported feed could be had. They had a single horse between them, which they alternately rode. They did not succeed in finding corn, and were returning by Bailey's Point, when they struck a swampy place north and east of Granville, where Kelly got wet and froze both his feet. The locality was long after known as Frozen Point.

Mr. Gallaher's stock became so weakened toward spring, by reason of scanty feed, that he feared their entire loss unless more nutritious food could be had, and the nearest or most feasible place where it could be procured was some distance below Peoria.

He and Mr. Kelly went to Hennepin, (the young man's feet still much swollen, the result of the freezing), where they hoped to get boats from the Indian traders, but none were to be had. He next visited Shick-Shack's camp, hoping to obtain canoes, but the chief and his men had gone to "Coch-a-Mink," as the Indians called Fort Clark, with his boats loaded with furs. Although unsuccessful in both these attempts, Mr. Gallaher was not a man to be discouraged. His cattle and sheep were

not only on short allowance, but his family were "out of meat," and he felt that something must be done at once; so he determined to push on to the probable land of corn. Young Kelly, though suffering severely, insisted on accompanying him, and together they started on foot. The river was high, and the streams emptying into it were swollen by the melting shows. They had neither guides nor assistance, but reached their destination safely.

They found there plenty of corn and meal, but no boats. Here again Mr. Gallaher's grit was put to the test, and getting a couple of axes, he and his man went into the woods, and cutting down a suitable tree, made and launched a large dug-out. Purchasing one hundred bushels of corn, fifty bushels of corn-meal, a barrel of salt and some groceries, they started for home, and after many days of hard work, they reached the head of what is now the Sister Islands, and landed. This was about the second week of April. Grass had begun to grow, but as yet there was but little feeding for stock. Having no way to haul his grain to the farm through the woods, he drove his cattle to the boat, and there fed such of them as could get to the river, and others were assisted until all were able to sustain themselves.

But the great snow was in 1829-30, according to some, and in 1830-31 according to others, though it is possible both seasons were noted in this respect, and each statement is correct. It made the prairies one uniform level, over the frozen surface of which footman easily traveled; but the sharp hoofs of the deer cut through and made their capture easy. Stock was kept in groves convenient to the cabins, and subsisted on the tender tops of trees cut down to "browse" upon. There was much suffering among the few settlers in the vicinity. A man traveling on horseback was reported lost in the snow, and his remains were found the following spring, south of Peru. According to Mr. Smiley Shepherd's recollection, it came between Christmas and New Year, falling constantly and drifting for three days, and then crusted over so that the Indians were enabled to run upon the surface. It lasted until February 16, the day of the total eclipse of the sun. The next day the weather turned warm, and the snow melted and disappeared four days thereafter.

A man traveling in a wagon, near Florid, was caught in the snow and had to abandon his vehicle, where it remained till spring. Another person named Swainford, in attempting to cross from Granville to Florid, had to abandon his horse. Returning next day he found it had

been killed by the wolves. Another man started with a hog in a sled to go from Gallaher's to Hennepin, and got fast in the drift. He went to a neighbor's, and on his return the hog had loosened the cords that bound her and struck out for itself. He cut off its tail as a mark, and let her go, and the next season found her and a litter of nice young pigs doing well. She had managed for herself in a creditable manner.

The summer of 1836 was exceedingly cold and backward. Corn in the neighborhood of Hennepin, and especially on the bottoms and low places, was cut down when from eight to ten inches high, on the 16th of June, but as the stalks had not yet jointed, they grew again. The weather continued cold until fall, which came early, with freezing spells, and but little of it matured. The following spring the farmers had much difficulty in procuring seed corn, and many sent to the southern part of the State for supplies.

ODD CHARACTERS.

The settlement of a country is usually preceded by a lawless, ungovernable, uncivilized race, that hang on the verge of civilization and seem to think their free and easy existence the acme of enjoyment. As a rule they are open-hearted, brave and generous, and their vices all "lean to virtue's side." They have a weakness for poor whisky, a contempt for danger, are prompt to resent an insult, and ready at all times for a fight. Usually they are honest, but being tempted, are liable to fall, and often become bandits and robbers.

A representative man of this class was Dave Jones, of unenviable notoriety. He was brave and fearless, and when news came of the massacre of the Hall family, and all were paralyzed with fear, he saddled a horse and rode alone to the scene of murder. He once ran a foot race with an Irishman for a sum of money. They were to go to a certain point and return, and the Irishman started off at his best, while Dave walked leisurely down the track until meeting his opponent on the return, he knocked him down, came in first and claimed the stakes. The Irishman determined to get even with him, and when Dave was drunk, beat him so badly that, believing the man would die, he fled the place. But Dave recovered, and lived for many a day after. For years there was not a session of court in which he did not figure as defendant in cases where the people were plaintiffs. He was the first occupant of the Hennepin jail, and its frequent tenant afterward. For several years he lived in the tim-

ber west of Granville, where he raised a family as wild and untamed as himself. He had a stout, healthy daughter, a dozen or more years old, whom he undertook to send to school, but with the perverseness of her sire, she refused, telling him flatly she would n't go. She was fleet of foot, and when Dave essayed the persuasive virtues of a healthy-sized whip, she ran away, with her irate sire in hot pursuit. Not far from the house was a pond of water with a substratum of deep mud, round which she skipped, but Dave, hoping to cut her off on the opposite side, dashed through. The depth was greater than expected, and he emerged covered with mud and half drowned, though he continued the race to the school house, where pupils and teacher set up a laugh at his plight, in which Dave too joined, — his hopeful daughter shaking her sides with mirthfulness, and exclaiming, "Golly! I out-run dad."

"In the spring of 1832 a dead Indian was found in the creek, near the present site of the Bureau Valley Mills, with a bullet hole in his back, showing that he came to his death from a rifle shot. The corpse was taken out of the water by Indians, buried in the sand near by, and the affair was soon forgotten. Jones said while hunting deer in the creek bottom, he saw this Indian setting on a log over the water, fishing, when all of a sudden he jumped up as though he was about to draw out a big fish, and pitched headlong into the water, and was drowned when he came up to him. Two other Indians disappeared mysteriously about the same time, who were supposed to have been murdered, and on that account it is said the Indians contemplated taking revenge on the settlers.

"One warm afternoon Jones, with a jug in one hand, came cantering his old mare up to the Hennepin ferry, saying that his wife was very sick, and would certainly die if she did not get some whisky soon. In great haste Jones was taken across the river, and on landing on the Hennepin side he put his old mare on a gallop up the bluff to Durley's store, where he filled his jug with whisky. Meeting with some old chums, he soon became intoxicated, forgot about his wife's sickness, and spent the afternoon and evening in wrestling, dancing 'Jim Crow,' and fighting with some of his friends.

"It was long after dark when Jones started for home, but on arriving at the ferry he found the boat locked up, and the ferryman in bed. Jones rapped at the door of the ferryman's house, swearing if he did not get up and take him across he would pull the house down, and whip him besides. But all his threats were in vain; the ferryman could not be moved. Jones

went down to the river, took off the bridle reins, with which he tied the jug of whisky on his back, then drove his old mare into the river, and holding on to her tail, was ferried across the river, as he afterward expressed it, 'without costing him a cent.'

"One afternoon, while Dave Jones was engaged in cutting out a road from Hennepin ferry through the bottom timber, his coat, which lay by the wayside, was stolen. Although the value of the old coat did not exceed two dollars, it was all the one Jones had, and he searched for it throughout the settlement. At last Jones found his coat on the back of the thief, whom he arrested and took to Hennepin for trial. The thief was at work in Mr. Hays' field, immediately west of Princeton, when Jones presented his rifle at his breast, ordering him to take up his line of march for Hennepin, and if he deviated from the direct course, he would blow his brains out. The culprit, shaking in his boots, started on his journey, while Jones, with his rifle on his shoulder, walked about three paces behind. On arriving at Hennepin, the thief plead guilty, being more afraid of Jones than the penalties of the law, and was therefore put in jail. After Jones had delivered up his prisoner, he got drunk, was engaged in several fights, and he too was arrested and put in jail. At that time the Hennepin jail consisted of only one room, being a log structure, twelve feet square, and Jones being put in with the thief, commenced beating him. Seeing that they could not live together, the thief was liberated and Jones retained. At this turn of affairs, Jones became penitent, agreeing to go home and behave himself if they would let him out. Accordingly, the Sheriff took him across the river and set him at liberty; but Jones swore he would not go home until he had whipped every person in Hennepin, so he returned to carry out his threats, but was again arrested and put in jail.

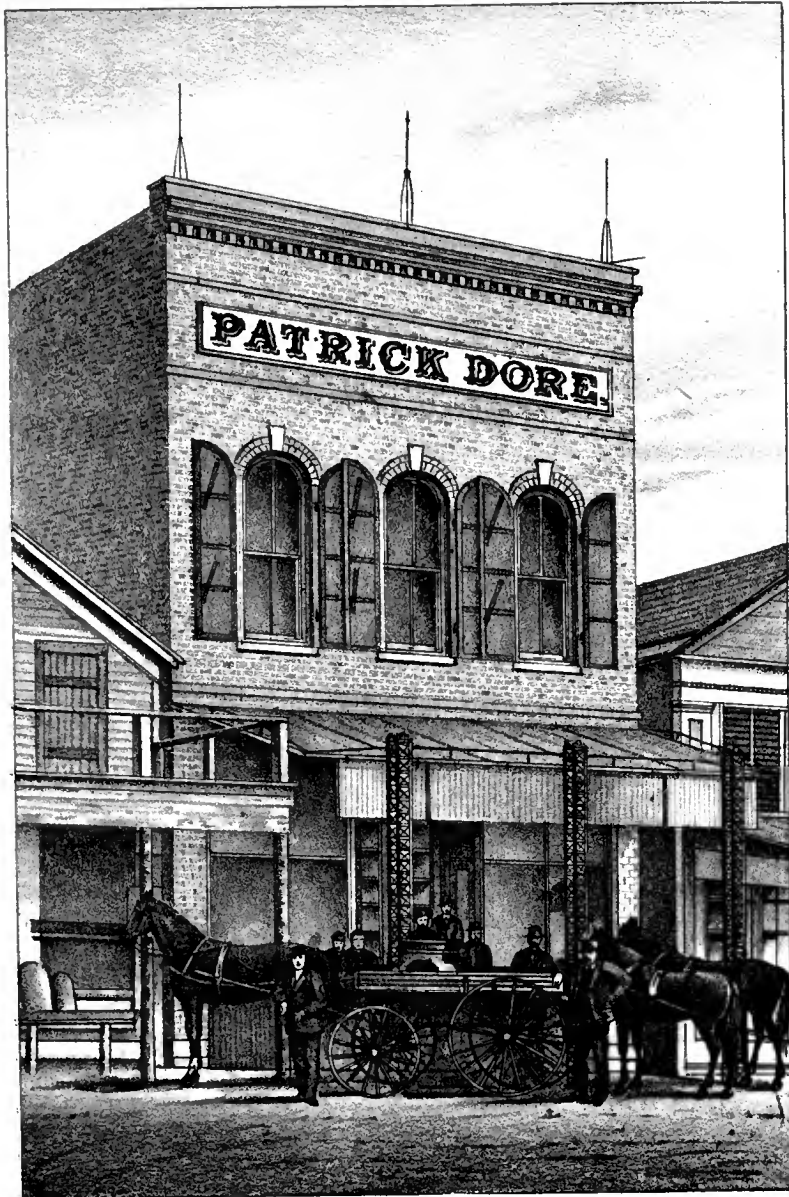
"A short time after the Hennepin ferry was established, Dave Jones was on the Hennepin side of the river with a wild yoke of cattle, and wished to cross over, but was unwilling to pay the ferriage. He swore before he would pay the ferryman's extravagant price he would swim the river, saying that he had frequently done it, and could do it again. Jones wore a long-tailed Jackson overcoat, which reached to his heels, and a coon-skin cap, with the tail hanging down over his shoulders, the weather at the time being quite cool. He drove his oxen into the river, taking the tail of one of them in his mouth, when they started for the opposite shore. Away went the steers, and so went Dave Jones, his long hair and long-

tailed overcoat floating on the water, his teeth tightly fastened to the steer's tail, while with his hands and feet he paddled with all his might. Everything went on swimmingly until they came near the middle of the river, where the waters from each side of the island come together; here the current was too strong for the steers,—they turned down stream, and put back for the Hennepin side. Jones could not open his mouth to say gee or haw, without losing his hold on the steer's tail, and was therefore obliged to go where the steers led him, but all were safely landed some distance below the starting place. Jones was in a terrible rage at his failure to cross the river—beat his cattle, and cursed the bystanders for laughing at his misfortune. After taking a big dram of whisky, he tried it again but with no better success. Three different times Jones tried this experiment, each time whipping his cattle and taking a fresh dram of whisky. At last he was obliged to give it up as a bad job, and submit to paying the ferryman the exorbitant price of twenty-five cents to be ferried over.”*

The influx of settlers and the establishment of law and order made it too sultry for Jones, who returned to Indiana, where he was hung by a party of regulators for his numerous crimes. He died as he vowed he would, “with his boots on.”

Another family of semi-outlaws were the Harts, living in the bottoms below Henry, between whom and the Bakers, living on Ox Bow Prairie, desperate war waged with varied success. They were of the class known in the South as poor white trash, and were idle, vicious and pugnacious, quick to take offense and prompt to resent an insult. The question of supremacy was never fairly settled, victory inclining first to one faction and then to another. At one time a Baker challenged a Hart, and the fight was arranged to come off on a certain day. Hart perhaps feared the result and was inclined to back down, but when his wife heard of it she declared with an oath, if he did not fight Baker and whip him too he should not live with her another day. Like most borderers, he wore his hair very long, and in preparation for the contest she sheared it close to his head, divested him of everything but his pants, smeared his body all over with soft soap, and sent him forth to battle. Baker came on the ground stripped likewise to the buff, with a handkerchief “girt about his loins,” and in the expressive language of the ring, “just spoiling for a fight,” and

* Reminiscences of Bureau County.



HENNEPIN.

PUTNAM Co.

vowing he could whip any two Harts on the ground. The latter was arrayed in a long camlet cloak that completely hid his warlike preparations, and when asked if he was ready, said "He guessed not; he had no quarrel with Mr. Baker, and did n't think he could whip him." This still more excited the latter, who pranced round like a mad bull, saying Hart was a coward and dare not fight him. At last the preliminaries were arranged and a ring formed, into which the men stepped; and Hart, throwing off his cloak, displayed his gladiatorial form and careful preparations. Baker's tactics were to grasp his antagonist, hold him fast and bite or gouge, as circumstances warranted; but the latter was slippery as an eel, and pounded his antagonist severely, easily winning the fight.

NEGRO SOLD IN HENNEPIN.

About 1835, a negro was sold in Hennepin under the operation of the infamous black laws of the State. He was a refugee from below, and probably reached here on board one of the many steamers plying on the Illinois. He possessed "no visible means of support," and either cared not to work or could not get the opportunity, and at the instigation of interested parties was arrested under the provisions of the vagrant act, and advertised for sale for his keeping and costs. There was an active Abolition element at Granville and elsewhere in the County, and on the day of sale the members were present, but finding there was no claimant present for his person, nor any arranged plan to return him to slavery, they allowed the sale to go on, and he brought, we believe, one dollar and costs. William M. Stewart, of Florid, became the purchaser, who put him in the harvest field and paid him regular wages. The "man and brother" earned a suit of clothes besides his freedom, and some money to take him on the road to Canada.

A slave was brought to Union Grove in 1830 by Saml. D. Laughlin, and remained some time. He was taken to Chicago by Thomas Hartzell, and sent on his way.

ILARD FOR BACHELORS.

In 1833 there were eleven families, all told, in Hennepin, half a dozen marriageable females, and about forty eligible bachelors and widowers. Of course the former were in good demand among the young settlers wanting wives, but the widowers had the inside track and carried off the best ones.

In those days an extensive outfit and wedding trip were not thought of, for both parties "meant business," and proceeded in a business way. The groom prepared his cabin for its new occupant, and she, dressed in a clean calico gown, with hair nicely combed, was ready for the ceremony. Next the services of a minister were invoked, a few friends called in, and a bountiful supper of venison and johnny-cake concluded the festivities, after which the bride was conducted to her future home, and their new life began. For ten years there was a marked scarcity of marriageable women, and the first indictment in the County (as stated elsewhere) was found against a man for having two wives. The culprit, a man named Hall, lived in the vicinity of Hennepin, in a small cabin, and claimed to have been lawfully married to the two women with whom he lived, and that his religious views justified his conduct.

The jurymen, most of whom were bachelors, thought it smacked too much of monopoly, and some favored hanging as an example for the future, but their advice was not taken.

What was strange about it was that the women seemed satisfied, and on hearing what had been done by the grand jury, voluntarily followed their much married husband elsewhere.

A PREACHER ANSWERED.

Somewhere about 1831, a minister named Jesse Hale came to Hennepin to establish a mission among the Indians. He was a man of simple faith and very earnest, believing himself able to convert and civilize them if only a hearing could be obtained.

Old Louis Bailey was sent for as an interpreter, and the Indians came from far and near. Hale mounted a stump in the woods below Hennepin, and harangued his dusky audience for an hour. When the interpreter had translated the last sentence into the Pottawatomie dialect, old Shaubena came forward, and motioning silence, made reply: "To what white preacher say, I say may be so! Are all white men good? I say may be so! Do white men cheat Indian? I say may be so. Governor Cole gave me, Shaubena, hunting grounds, and told me to hunt. Your big White-sides (General Whiteside) come along and tell Shaubena *puck a chee* (clear out)." Here the angry chief exhibited his papers, bearing the signature of the Governor and the great seal of the State, and throwing them upon the ground, stamped them under his feet. Hale tried to pacify the

indignant chief by saying that “Whiteside is a bad white man;” whereupon Shaubena retorted, “If white man steal Indian’s land, hang him!” Hale thought this meant himself, and he fled through the bushes for town, nor ever sought to convert an Indian again.

A PARSON OUT OF MEAT.

During the year 1830 the Gallaher boys caught a fawn, which was easily domesticated, and became quite a pet. They tied a strip of red flannel about its neck, and turned it out to roam the woods at will. It grew rapidly, and the neighbors soon got to know it as the “Gallaher deer.” It rambled through the woods, and even the Indians, though constantly hunting, never molested it. But one afternoon it ventured too near the smoke-house of a certain parson living near Union Grove, and was never after seen alive. It was not best to insinuate the minister afterward lived on venison, but his influence with the Gallaher boys was gone from that day.

A WOLF STORY.

As previously stated, Mr. Gallaher’s sheep did not suffer so much from scanty feeding as the cattle, and “came through,” though in a very lean condition. Their worst foe was the gaunt and hungry wolves, which required continual watching. One day the boys on whom devolved this duty allowed them to range beyond their sight, and stray over the hill into the woods beyond. At night they failed to appear as usual. Search was made, and soon the cause was apparent, as scattered along the course were the dead and mangled carcasses, but no living sheep. Several days later they came upon a ewe alive and unhurt, several miles from home. How she had escaped the fangs of the destroyer was a mystery. She was taken home and a bell put around her neck, and for several seasons she ran with the cattle, unmolested by dog or wolf, as if possessed of a charmed life. She was the only survivor of the flock of eighty originally brought to the country by Mr. Gallaher.

A STILL HUNT.

When the news of the Indian outbreak, the massacre of the whites on Indian Creek, and the killing of Phillips in Bureau had been promulgated, the white settlers, with very few exceptions, turned out promptly to

fight the savages. They had no arms save fowling pieces and squirrel guns, but hastily arming themselves with these, they hurried to the front.

Mr. Gallaher relates how he met about sixty of these brave defenders under Captain Hawes. They had no uniforms, each soldier coming out in such clothing as he had, and consequently no two were dressed alike. They came singing and shouting, yelling and cat-calling, like so many boys on a jamboree, and altogether presented a sight that would have inspired unlimited mirthfulness instead of fear, even in a savage.

This manner of marching became all the more ridiculous when it is remembered that they had started out on a "still hunt," to surprise a foe the most cunning and cat-like known to history.

A STARVED RECRUIT.

One evening during the Indian war excitement, while the rangers were searching the woods near the mouth of Bureau Creek, they were hailed in a weak, piping voice, and found a poor, emaciated fellow in soldier's uniform, barely able to walk, who told his pitiful story with much difficulty. He was at Stillman's defeat, on Rock River, and had been hiding in the woods, with very little food, ever since, and was nearly starved. He believed himself the only survivor, and thinking the country in the possession of the Indians, had not dared to venture in the vicinity of the white settlements. He was taken to town and well cared for until he recovered and joined his company.

JAIL BURNED.

The Hennepin Jail was set on fire and burned down September 27, 1842. A fellow named Frederick was confined in it for burglary, having broken open the store of Pulsifer & Co. and stolen valuable goods, for which he was under indictment. It was built of brick at a cost of \$3,000, was lined with heavy timbers, and supposed to be burglar proof. While burning the prisoner was placed in the Court House for safety, but gave his guard the slip and escaped. The enraged tax-payers however turned out and hunted him down, keeping him safely until his trial.

A PIONEER EXPRESS.

Before the introduction of steamboats upon the Illinois, business was carried on by keel-boats or pirogues, manned by adventurous boatmen,

who made regular trips to St. Louis, stopping at intervening points and transacting such business as was required. For many years a couple of half-breeds ran a light batteau on the river, taking furs and light produce to market and filling orders with scrupulous fidelity. When they first began the trade they were but boys, and they continued until the more rapid steamboat drove them from the river.

In the absence of banks of exchange, they were sometimes entrusted with heavy sums and commissioned to make valuable purchases, which they did with entire satisfaction, accounting for every dollar.

INDIANS OUTWITTED.

One of the first merchants of Hennepin was John Durley, and the following incident in which he was an actor, though occurring elsewhere, is told by his descendants. Previous to his removal to Putnam County, he resided in Madison County in this State, where in 1824 they were greatly annoyed by a band of thievish, impudent Indians, encamped in the vicinity. Having previously sold their lands to the Government, and consented to emigrate beyond the Mississippi, application was made to the Indian Agent, who sent a company of soldiers to order their removal. The former were few in number, while the Indians were well armed and supplied with ammunition, and the advantages, if force were resorted to, would be all on their side. In this predicament a ruse suggested by Mr. Durley was tried, and proved entirely successful. Accompanied by his son James, now of Hennepin, he rode over to the Indian village, with the chief of which he was on friendly terms, and told him the purposes of the Great Father, who had sent a thousand warriors with orders to kill all Indians who had not left the country as agreed in their treaty, adding that in half an hour they would pass in front of Sugar-loaf Hill, a small conical eminence a mile from the Indian village, and near which they were to camp. He advised the chief to leave, or, doubting his word, to hide among the trees and count the soldiers.

Soon after the troops appeared, marching slowly in front of the hill, and running at full speed on the opposite side, so as to keep the show in front continuous. In this way the duped chief was deluded into counting thirty or forty men over and over until they numbered a thousand or more, when he broke for the camp, hastily packed the ponies, and left helter-skelter for the Mississippi River, followed by the soldiers at a safe

distance all night. While crossing the Illinois River, the Indians were fired upon by the troops and several killed. A pony on which was strapped seven little children, while swimming the stream, was shot, and its load of helpless infants all drowned.

FASTIDIOUS TRAVELERS.

Hotel accommodations in 1834-5 were not what they are at present. There was plenty to eat, such it was, but French cooks had not been imported, and cook-books were unknown to our grandmothers. Hog and hominy, coffee and molasses were the staples, and the traveler who could not appreciate them after a six hours jolt in Frink & Walker's "mud wagons" was set down as "too nice for anything." For lodgings, a blanket, buffalo robe, or a sheepskin was provided, and the traveler told to select the softest plank he could find. As landlords grew in wealth they increased their accommodations, and a single large room was devoted to sleeping purposes, filled with beds, upon which was a "shake down" filled with prairie hay, and a blanket. Sheets were a decided luxury, and it was not every "hotel" that afforded them. The traveler was expected to share his bed with others, and this "custom of the country" was accepted as a matter of course, though occasionally some fine-haired individuals objected.

Captain Hawes, of Magnolia, once entertained a choleric fellow who claimed to be "a gentleman," said he never in all his life slept with any one but his wife, and rather than do it, sat up all night. At intervals he would groan and wish himself out of the barbarous country, to which the unfeeling lodgers would respond with a hearty "Amen!"

THE INDIAN'S RIDE.

Indian boys affiliated readily with the whites of their own age, and joined heartily in the sports common to both. They were athletic and "springy," but usually under size, and could not cope in a fair rough and tumble with the pale faces. They did not easily take offense, but when once angered, their wrath was fearful. Mr. William Gallaher tells an amusing story of one who was his frequent playmate. Mr. G.'s business was hauling logs with a yoke of oxen, one of which, a very quietly disposed brute, he used to ride, while his mate was wild and vicious. The Indian one day wished to ride, and G., in a spirit of mischief, put him on

the wild animal, at the same time releasing him from the yoke. The ox has an instinctive fear of an Indian, and unused to such treatment, started off at a desperate pace, setting up a bellow that infected every animal on the place with a like frenzy, and away they started in pursuit. The Indian was good rider and held on like grim death, while the ox tore through the fields, brush and briers until he reached the larger timber, when a projecting limb brushed his rider off unhurt. But the Indian never forgave this too practical joke, and sought to kill young Gallaher, who was careful ever after to keep out of his way. •



CHAPTER XXIV.

A NOTED BURGLARY.



DURING the summer of 1869, the hitherto exceedingly quiet city of Hennepin became the scene of a most intense and long continued excitement, owing to the stirring events here narrated.

About the 10th of June a rather suspicious person made his appearance in town, and wandered about from day to day, with no apparent object other than to ask a good many questions, look into alleys and by-ways, and make the acquaintance of the roughs and idlers of the place. On one occasion he went into Leech & Bros'. office, where they kept their safe and funds, ostensibly to get a \$10.00 bill changed, but in fact to note the lay of things in the office, the fastenings upon the safe, its lock, and the position of the windows. This fellow also went to Hartenbower's warehouse for the same purpose, and asked of a young man whom he had made a "chum" of, "Where these grain dealers kept their money?" and "Where they lived?" He disappeared the morning before the attempted robbery. Another fellow had appeared upon the scene—a tall, lank, illy dressed, gray-whiskered chap, who was seen in several places, apparently drunk, the day before the attempt on the safe was made, and was found next morning in a corn-crib near the scene, where it was thought he had been "telegraphing" his pals when in the warehouse, but when discovered was too drunk, or simulated it so perfectly as to completely deceive his captors, who could make nothing out of him and turned him loose. He was either too drunk for a sober man or too sober for a drunken one. In three minutes after, when the enraged citizens had begun to connect him with the gang, he was not to be found!

About one o'clock of the morning of June 23, 1869, Mr. John B. Gowdey, a respectable tradesman of Hennepin, had occasion to get a drink of water. After rising he concluded to go down to his shoe-shop for a smoke, when he was astonished to hear the sound of iron striking iron close in his neighborhood. Going out softly, he heard

the noise more distinctly, and followed it up cautiously, till reaching a window of Leech Bros'. warehouse, he saw three men—one holding a dark lantern, one a cold-chisel, and the third a sledge-hammer, which tools are now to be seen in the County Clerk's office at Hennepin. Mr. Gowdey's first impulse was to "yell" at them to drive them off, but as they had not got in the safe, and didn't seem likely to for a few minutes more, he crept away and ran softly to wake up the citizens nearest the scene, and secure the burglars if possible. He aroused J. W. Leech, Mr. Small and Frank Sunderland. These men and a few others gathered around the warehouse as soon as possible. Mr. Leech stationed Mr. Sunderland near the window, going himself to the door toward the river, rightly judging that the robbers had come across in a canoe or skiff, and would head that way on being alarmed. Some one, in coming down the hill near the warehouse, tripped upon a loose stone, and thus prematurely alarmed the villians, who immediately rushed out of the building through a drive-way toward their skiff, yelling to the citizens to "stand back or get hurt," and the former, with only one gun that was available, and not being able in the dark to distinguish friend from foe, could not safely fire. The robbers returned to their boat. They were ordered to halt, and answered with a shot from a revolver, which fortunately hit no one. A lad named Everett had no gun, and began throwing stones at the retreating party, whereupon they returned several shots with their revolvers. As the boat emerged from the deep shadow of the buildings, they opened quite a lively fire upon the crowd which had by this time assembled upon the shore. Frank Sunderland took the shot-gun and replied with better luck, for the oarsman in the departing boat was numerously peppered, one shot lodging in his face under the eye and in dangerous proximity to that organ. He fell forward, or rather dropped his face between his hands and quit rowing, while his companion seized the oars and exerting his full strength; one of them broke, and he was obliged to paddle toward the shore with the other as best he could.

The country opposite town is low and flat, with a single narrow causeway leading to the main land. At all times it is little better than a morass, and now the river, swelled by the spring rains, was high, and the whole territory, with the single exception of the causeway alluded to, was more or less submerged. At the point dwelt two men engaged upon the ferry, named Barmore and Thornton, who, hearing the alarm and understanding the situation, came down to the river prepared to give the rob-

bers the warmest possible reception. Had it not been for the broken oar, and knowing the locality well, they would doubtless have gone direct to the landing and fought their way out, or at least attempted to; but that changed all their plans, and the current carried them down stream, where they landed in the half submerged timber, seeking what safety they could.

As soon as it was sufficiently light and skiffs could be procured, the people, now thoroughly aroused, turned out, armed with every available weapon, and the river bottoms were effectually scoured for the skulking vagabonds. Early in the morning the fellow who had been wounded was caught. He maintained a degree of innocence of the attempted crime and knowledge of the whereabouts of his pals that was refreshing! "He had been out hunting, and had scratched his face with a thorn," but at a later period confessed that he had been shot as above stated, and had fallen behind his comrades while endeavoring to allay the pain and stop the flow of blood from the wound on his face, and while bathing his eye the others had left him, and he dare not call them for fear of attracting their pursuers. About eight or nine o'clock in the morning the remaining burglars were found lying by a log in the edge of a swamp or slough. Mr. Thornton, who discovered the culprits, made signs to Holland, Cook and others to come to him. The signals were speedily passed along the line, and each man, with weapon in hand ready for use, advanced. The leader, seeing the situation and knowing his retreat was cut off and resistance useless, held up both hands, exclaiming, "Don't shoot; I give up." His companion also surrendered. They were searched, and no weapons found, but afterward revolvers were found hidden deep in the mud near the place of arrest. Seeing themselves surrounded by so many persons all in citizens' attire, they feared violence, and begged not to be mobbed. One of them was escorted by I. H. Cook, but he pretended entire ignorance of what had transpired. He was a poor trapper looking after his traps, and could not understand why he should be arrested by armed men. As they neared the shore, where a large crowd waited their arrival, he thought of the possible lynching that might follow, and forgetting the trapper *role* enquired "what they did with the other fellow they caught;" to which the reply was made that they "hung him before breakfast."

The prisoners were escorted up town through a dense crowd of excited, scowling citizens, only waiting a leader to take the law into their own hands and give the villains the justice they richly deserved at the end of a rope. An examination was had before a Justice of the Peace, and the

prisoners placed under heavy bonds to wait the action of the Grand Jury, which they not being able to give, were escorted to the jail and a special guard put over them.

Subsequent events proved this to have been a deep laid scheme, coolly planned by the leading cracksman of Chicago, the notorious Buck Holbrook, well known to the police and dreaded by them as a desperate scoundrel of herculean strength, cool courage and utterly devoid of fear. Hennepin had no bank for the safe keeping of valuables, it was an important grain market, and they rightly considered if the haul was made it would be a rich one.

Two previous attempts had been made, both failures. In one of them they stole a couple of horses and hitched them to a sled, loading the safe (a small one) upon it with the intention of hauling it away; but in their ignorance they had harnessed an unbroken colt which refused to pull, and their plans were frustrated.

Another was upon the safe of a Mr. Atkins, which they tried with all the improvements known to burglars; but the noise alarmed a servant girl, who frightened the robbers off. Various reasons conspired to invite an attempt of the kind. The place had no trained police, no watchmen; the town stands on the high bluff of a deep river, with its business houses near the stream; across the river a wilderness of swamps, lakes, tangled weeds, trees, underbrush etc., all afforded splendid hiding places for the thieves and their plunder.

The capture of Holbrook and his pals deeply excited his friends in Chicago, who sent messages of condolence and friends to visit the unlucky trio in the Hennepin jail. Among the latter came a richly attired female claiming to be Holbrook's wife. She was known as Mollie Holbrook, the keeper of a noted bagnio, and wore upon her person a profusion of laces and diamonds of "purest ray serene." Her will was law among her associates, among whom she ruled like a queen, and it was hinted a golden key she carried had unlocked dungeons ere now and set her friends at liberty. She played the *role* of an injured and innocent female, whose husband, a perfect paragon of honesty, needed no other vindication of character than her word. He was the victim of conspiracy, and should be liberated without a question. Failing in this mode of attack, she grew indignant and threatened to burn the town and murder the citizens. She obtained permission to visit her husband, and it is believed handed him a ten dollar bill in which was hidden some diminutive tools for breaking jail.

The citizens were prepared. They had observed strange faces about the vicinity of the jail, and a class of comers and goers far different in their dress, manners and looks from their own people. The Sheriff, if not on terms of social intercourse with these suspected persons, was too confiding in their word of honor, too indulgent to them, so people argued, and they recommended a special police force to help guard the jail. The Sheriff became angry at this, and intimated that he would attend to his own business, and the citizens, unknown to that officer, guarded not only the jail, but the town, a precaution which, though expensive and arduous, was rewarded most amply, as will be seen.

On the night of Saturday, June 28, 1869, a guard of two citizens who had been recently placed on duty in a barn near the jail, heard a singular noise, like a cat "whetting its claws" upon a tree or fence, as the saying is. They watched intently, and became convinced it was near or under the jail. Between one and two o'clock of Sunday morning this sound ceased, and presently from a hole at the side of the jail emerged the form of a man, which proved to be that of Buck Holbrook. Standing a moment, he looked cautiously around, and exclaimed in a low voice, "Boys, the coast is clear." In a few moments one, and then the other of his companions came forth, when Buck said, "Now for Chicago!" At that instant the guard fired, and he fell, his person from the top of the head to the lower part of the stomach riddled with shot, eighty-four having been counted afterward. He never spoke or groaned, but seemed to have fallen dead. The other two men fled; one around the building, and escaped, and the other ran to the kitchen door of the jail, and begged to be admitted. The former ran across two lots, into Mr. Unthank's barn, crept in the hay-mow, and lay hid all that night and next day until evening. In the meantime the excited citizens were alert everywhere. They never thought of looking for their escaped bird so close to his eage, but surrounded the town, posted watchmen, and sent trusty men to guard the avenues of escape. As the bells were calling people to church in the evening, the culprit came forth and joined a throng of people on their way to the house of worship. He slipped past and struck out for Peru, and at about eleven o'clock P. M., while crossing a bridge, fell into the hands of a policeman stationed to intercept him. He was returned here, and himself and his "pal," under the names of Watson and Norton respectively, on the 26th of October, 1869, were tried and sent to the penitentiary for five years.

The morning of the shooting of Holbrook, his reputed wife was notified of the fatal affair, and at once came down, accompanied by a repulsive looking fellow, with "villain" in every feature. They proceeded to the Court House, where the dead body of the burglar lay. As they entered the room, which was crowded with people, she uttered a wail like the scream of an enraged tigress, and he, looking upon the corpse, exclaimed, while a scowl of brigand-like ferocity gleamed from his hideous face, "Eighty-four buckshot, by ——!" Just then Watchman Cassell's gun was heard to "click, click," as he raised the hammer, ready for any emergency, which the heavy villain interpreted to "mean business," and quietly left with his howling charge, making a quick departure out of the city. She caused his remains to be expeditiously boxed up and shipped to Chicago, where the *demi monde*, roughs and lower order of thieves of the city turned out to honor the memory of their fallen chief with a pompous funeral procession.

The frail and furious Mollie not only shook off the dust of her shoes as a testimony against Hennepin when she left it, but, between groaning and moaning and screaming at the top of her voice, she put in some very bitter curses and frightful denunciations against it and all who had been concerned in the death of her friend.

Since then Mollie has served a term in the penitentiary, and Hennepin, instead of suffering from the fearful imprecations which the consort of Holbrook invoked upon it, has grown and prospered, and there is not a town in the State to-day of its size where better order reigns, and none which burglars, robbers, thieves and persons of that ilk seem as by general consent so willing to avoid.



CHAPTER XXV.

UNION GROVE.



ABOUT five miles east of Hennepin, on the line of Granville Township, is Union Grove, the name given to a fine body of timber that dots the great prairie extending eastward almost to the Wabash. It early attracted the attention of settlers, and increased more rapidly in population than any other portion of the County.

The first settler was Stephen D. Willis, who in 1829 built the first cabin, opened the first farm and planted the first orchard. He was followed a few months later by James G. Ross, a brother-in-law. His cabin had neither doors nor windows when he moved in, and fires were kept up at night to scare away wild animals that prowled about.

John L. Ramsey located at the south side of the Grove in 1828 or '29; James G. Dunlavy at the west end in 1830.

Hugh Warnock made a claim on what is now a portion of John P. Blake's farm, in 1828.

John McDonald, the first Presbyterian preacher, located where Dunlavy afterward lived, in 1829, and planted the second orchard in the township.

Mr. Ash settled on the prairie between Union Grove and Granville in 1828.

Rev. James H. Dickey lived in a small log house near Mr. Blake's, on the south edge of the Grove, in 1830, and occasionally preached for the people at the old log church.

Mr. Willis was a most industrious hunter, and carried his gun wherever he went. He used to say he "could raise sixty bushels of corn to the acre and never plow or tend it, and hunt all the time!"

For many years the only post office at all available for the people of Union Grove, and in fact the whole country around, was at Thomas's, on West Bureau Creek, twenty miles away and across the Illinois River.

The first temperance society was organized at Union Grove in 1832, and

Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Strawn rode together on horseback to sign the pledge. Meetings were held at Nelson Shepherd's cabin also, and many joined.

SCHOOLS.

The first school at Union Grove was taught by Mrs. Ramsey, in a blacksmith shop, in the summer of 1831. The building stood about half a mile east of the brick church at the west end of the Grove.

In the fall of 1831, John P. Blake was engaged to take charge of the school, and remained until 1833. Mr. Blake's school was taught in a log cabin which had been erected by the Presbyterian Church Society in 1830. It was a tolerably good room, eighteen feet square, with the logs hewn inside. The first school under this gentleman's management was attended by the children of James W. and Stephen D. Willis, Hugh Warnock, J. L. Ramsey, Thos. Gallaher, Mr. Leech, Isaac Stewart, Wm. M. Stewart and Torrance Stewart. Among the other pupils were two colored people, a young man aged 22 and a girl aged 20 years, runaway slaves. They lived with James W. Willis.

AN EARLY BIBLE SOCIETY.

January 12, 1829, the first Bible Society in this part of the State was formed at Union Grove Church, under control of the Presbyterian society. The officers were James A. Warnock, President; Christopher Wagner, Vice President; James W. Willis, Corresponding Secretary; James B. Willis, Recording Secretary; Hugh Warnock, Treasurer.

James W. Willis was Chairman and Geo. B. Willis Secretary of this preliminary meeting.

The boundaries of the territory over which this Society had jurisdiction were co-extensive with those of Putnam County, extending east to the Vermilion River, south to Tazewell County, west to the Illinois and north to the same river.

A PIONEER'S STORY.

Among the prominent early settlers about the Grove was John Pierce Blake, who made his way thither from near Detroit, Mich., in the spring of 1831. He had heard much of Illinois, and being impatient to begin for himself, joined a company of emigrants from North Hampton, Mass., engaging to drive team. There were few roads, and great hardships were

encountered, and when they reached the present site of South Bend, Ind., their teams were so badly used up that by the advice of some old Indian traders they concluded to make for the portage on the Kankakee, and engaging boats, float down to their destination. They built dug-outs, and loading their freight and getting aboard, started on their way May 1st, 1831. Their first night out was marked with an attack of mosquitoes, larger, more numerous and voracious than they had ever seen or heard before.

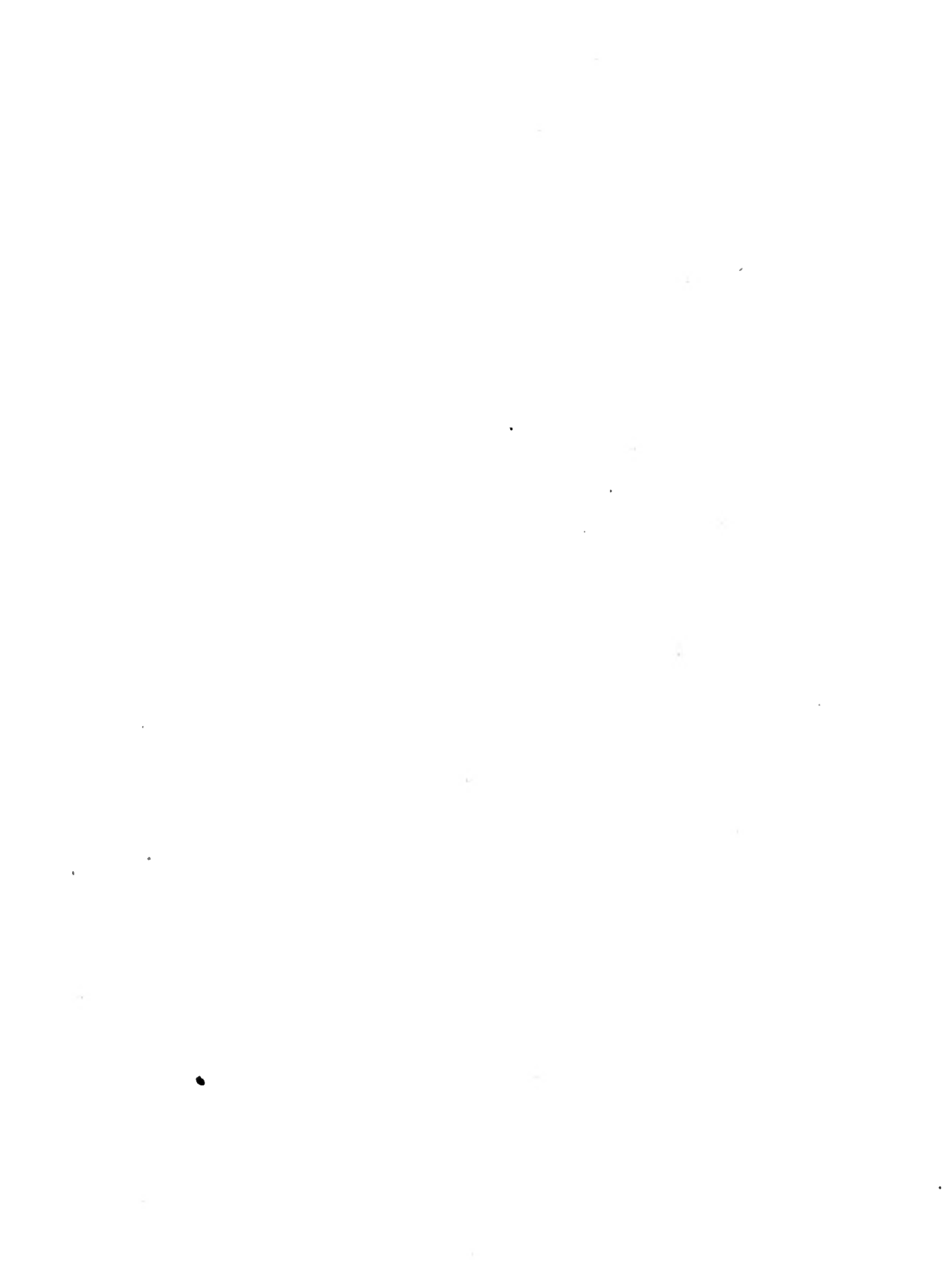
The stream was very narrow, and as they had lashed their boats together in pairs, it was found that the narrowness and tortuous windings of the current would not always permit a passage thus, so they were separated.

But new difficulties awaited them. Their meat all spoiled and had to be thrown overboard, and their meal, wet from the rains, also became worthless. There was plenty of game—ducks, geese, and even deer,—but they could not get within shooting distance of any bird or animal. They had been out of food two days and nights, save a few spoonfuls of flour to each, and were nearly famished, when a chance shot at a long distance procured them a deer, which, though old, tough and poor, was the most welcome food they had ever tasted. This, however, did not last long, and they were soon as destitute as ever.

After two days and nights travel they reached Antoine Peltier's trading house at Dresden, as since called, where they rested and took in a plentiful supply of provisions, and moved on. An accident caused their boat to upset, by which their provisions were lost again. On short rations, they reached the mouth of Mazon Creek, at Morris, and saw a log house in the distance. The owner had gone to Mackinaw to mill, and was expected to return that evening. The woman and a couple of children were alone, their stock of provisions being a peck of corn meal and some pork, which she gave the travelers, thus affording them a comfortable meal. They tried hunting that evening and luckily killed a fat deer and several ducks, which they divided with their hospitable hostess, and also pounded out a considerable quantity of corn, of which they left a portion with her. She told them that Walker's trading house was only twenty-three miles below, and Crozier's but nine miles farther, where they could supply all their needs, but forgot to mention the rapids at Marseilles, above Ottawa, where they were shipwrecked and some of them well nigh drowned. At length, reaching Walker's, and buying flour and meal, they



Rachel M^c Senghlin



floated on to where Utica now stands, and there left their boats to explore the country and select the site for their colony, sending some men in a "dug out" to Peoria for groceries for summer use.

On the 9th of June Mr. Blake left his companions and walked to Bailey's Point, where he planted and raised ten acres of corn.

In the fall, having disposed of his crop, and having heard of Union Grove as a desirable point for new settlers, he started across the prairie to explore this region, stopping on the way at a Mr. Williams', in La Salle County, who pointed out the way. He found an old Indian trail and followed it across the wide expanse of unbroken prairie. On the way he saw an object approaching that excited all his curiosity, and coming nearer, his fear; for it proved to be an Indian dressed in hideous war paint and feathers, armed with gun and knife.

Mr. Blake stepped aside and bade him "howd'y," but the savage never inclined his head or moved a muscle, and passed on in lofty scorn of the pale face, who felt relieved as between them time and distance, hill and valley crept in and widened into a respectable space.

On leaving the Vermilion country Blake had been directed to a lone tree, which for many years stood a mile east of Union Grove. Keeping this in sight, he reached the Grove toward evening, and found entertainment at the house of Mr. Willis. Here he selected his claim at the eastern limits of the timber, which became his future home.

THE FIRST CHURCH.

[One of the oldest churches of Putnam County is located at Union Grove, but its history we have been unable to secure, and all we can say upon the subject is copied from Henry A. Ford's History of Marshall and Putnam Counties.]

The first church erected in Putnam County was put up in the Grove in 1830 — a little, rude log building in the wilderness, whither the pioneers and their families for many miles around repaired for the worship of God. Here in the season of Indian difficulties there was an appearance of the warlike mingled with the devotional, as many settlers carried their guns to meeting, to guard against surprise from the savage foe. A strong religious sentiment pervaded the entire community, and the settlement was named Union Grove in token of the peace and harmony which

reigned there, and which it was hoped would abide forever within its borders.

THE VILLAGE OF FLORID.

Florid is the name of a one time flourishing country village, three and a half miles north from Hennepin, laid out in 1836 by Thos. W. Stewart and Aaron Thompson. It attained its greatest growth soon after, having a store, steam mill, church, school house and a couple of dozen houses. The place has since gone to decay.

This locality seems to have attracted some of the earliest settlers of Putnam County. In 1827 Thomas Gallaher, Sr., made his claim north of, and James W. Willis put up the first cabin in the town of Florid. Thomas Gallaher, Jr., built a cabin near it, and returned for his family, who came here in the spring of 1828. Nelson Shepherd came and located a mile south of Florid in 1828. James G. Ross and Wm. M. Stewart arrived in 1832.

Another settler worthy of special notice was Samuel D. Laughlin, who made his claim adjoining that of Nelson Shepherd, south of Florid, in the spring of 1827. Stephen D. Willis put up a cabin for Mr. Laughlin, and the latter broke about ten acres of ground that season. He remained here until 1830, when he brought his family, consisting of himself and wife, and John W., James G. and his wife, and Mrs. Dr. Davis, all living in Mt. Palatine; Mary, wife of H. P. Leeper, of Princeton; Wm. M., at Granville; Sarah A., now Mrs. Wm. McCord, of Onarga; Addison, born in Putnam County, April 11, 1832, now living in Wisconsin, and Caroline, born here, but now dead.

It is worthy of mention that during this long journey Miss Mary Laughlin, afterward Mrs. Babbitt, rode on horseback all the way, and helped drive the cattle and sheep.

During Mr. Laughlin's absence after his family, a claim-jumper named Ely undertook to "jump" his improvements, but the neighbors, at the head of whom was Jeremiah Strawn, sat down on him so effectually that he never showed himself again.

Samuel D. Laughlin remained upon his farm until his death in February, 1849. His wife, formerly Miss Rebecca Dunlavy, died three days

before him, and both lie together in the Union Grove Cemetery, which encloses the remains of Mrs. Geo. Ish, Mrs. McComas and Mrs. Hugh Warnock, the latter probably the first of the old settlers who was buried here.

FORT CRIBS.

Here in 1832 was erected one of those border forts or block houses for defense against the Indians, known as Fort Cribs, for the reason that a number of corn-cribs were in the enclosure. It was resorted to by all the settlers in the vicinity for safety, as many as ninety-eight being here at one time.

A memorable event was the birth while in this fort of Milton Shepherd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Shepherd.

Wm. Stewart, called "Big Billy," commanded the fort. No attack was made upon it, though an Indian was seen lurking about in the timber, probably a spy.

Among those quartered here during the scare, in addition to the families of Willis and Shepherd, was James G. Ross, Hugh Warnock, S. D. Willis, Wm. M. Stewart, William Stewart, Rev. Mr. McDonald, James Harper, Mr. Rexford, George Ramsey, William Ham, Mr. Wagner and Geo. B. Willis and their families, besides some unmarried men.

While the citizens were fortified up, the school that had been carried on at the "Grove" was removed to Mr. Willis' barn, near the fort, as a place of greater safety, where some forty pupils were in attendance. One day some little girls playing in the edge of the timber imagined they saw an Indian, and ran screaming to the fort. Mrs. Willis, with motherly instinct, thought of the unprotected little ones in school, and at the supposed risk of her life ran to the barn, crying at the top of her voice, "The Indians are coming; run for your lives." The school room was emptied in a twinkling, and all were got safe inside and the heavy doors closed. The alarm proved false, but it was a terrible shock to the women and children in the stockade.

Another time the fort was thrown into the wildest alarm by Mr. Ramsey, who was on guard, declaring he saw a whole row of Indians marching right towards the fort. The men got out their arms, but no enemy appearing, some over-bold volunteers investigated the matter and found his row of Indians was a row of poplars which the shadows gave a dis-

torted appearance, and his fears did the rest. The poplars were afterward known as "Ramsey's Injuns."

PUTNAM COUNTY NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper in Putnam County was the *Hennepin Journal*, established in 1837 by Dr. Wilson Everett. The country was sparsely settled, the value of advertising but little appreciated by business men, and it led a sickly existence until December, 1838, when it gave up the ghost. The *Genius of Universal Emancipation* was established in 1845, but opposition to its teachings was so great that it was removed to Lowell, near Ottawa, where a more friendly population welcomed it. In 1845 Philip Lynch started the *Hennepin Herald*, and ran it from 1845 to 1848. After this came the *Hennepin Tribune*, by Birney & Duncan, in 1856, and existed for three years. The Putnam County *Standard* was established by J. F. Grable, with Thomas Stanton editor, in 1860. In 1861 it was run by W. H. G. Birney, and in 1863 by J. S. Grable. In 1868 I. H. Cook began the publication of the *Putnam Record*, which still exists. It is a neatly printed seven-column paper, very industriously edited, and is well supported. The office is supplied with suitable presses, and a full outfit for all ordinary printing.

"Besides these home enterprises, the plan that finally resulted in starting at Chicago *The Herald of the Prairie*, afterward *Prairie Herald*, later and better known as the *Western Citizen*, was first discussed and settled by Zabina Eastman, Hooper Warren, and James G. Dunlavy, in the log cabin of the latter at Union Grove. This was before 1844. It appears from the facts here gathered that from 1837 to 1876 inclusive a paper has been sustained eighteen out of thirty-nine years."*

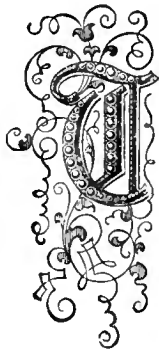
*Warren.



MAGNOLIA TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXVI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.



THE Township of Magnolia contains nearly forty-three sections or square miles of land, or 27,520 acres, made up of prairie and timber, its southern and western portions broken with ravines and seamed with ridges. It is drained by Clear Creek and Sandy, with their numerous branches, both flowing into the Illinois. It is agreeably diversified with prairie and woodland, its surface dotted with small groves resembling an extensive park platted by the hand of nature, and much of it under the highest possible cultivation. The southern and western portions are rough, and until recent years unoccupied; but a large colony of thrifty Germans have taken possession, and the rough hills and deep ravines are being cleared and made into pleasant, inviting farms. This land was for many years held by speculators at high prices, under the impression that the necessities of those living on the prairies would compel its purchase. In time it was demonstrated that the farmer required very little timber, and the speculators, after waiting vainly for purchasers, concluded to accept what it was worth.

The products are mainly agricultural, and much attention is devoted to the raising of farm stock, particularly cattle. Formerly large quantities of grain, principally corn, were sent to market, but most that is raised here is now consumed at home.

The town has always been foremost in religious and educational interests, and a more orderly, intelligent and thinking community cannot be found than here exists.

RAILROADS.

The County of Putnam is wholly destitute of railroads, and this want

of the means of transit has led to several expensive schemes, thus far without any result; prominent of which is the building of a line from Bureau Junction through the Counties of Putnam, La Salle, Grundy, Will and Kankakee. It was agitated in 1868-9, and meetings were held at different points along the line in the spring and summer. Putnam County voted to subscribe \$125,-000; Granville added \$10,000; Round Grove, \$15,000; Dwight \$30,000, Tonica \$50,000. La Salle and Livingstone together gave \$205,000, Bureau \$10,000, Kankakee \$165,000, making a grand total of half a million dollars. In Putnam County the first vote of \$75,000 had been nearly unanimous for the stock, but when the company demanded an increase of \$50,000 more, the people were not quite so eager. The question was submitted to the voters February 8, 1870, and the result was: For the additional sum, 475 votes; against it, 350. February 26, 1870, the road made an assessment of three per cent. upon its capital stock, a sum that though small, was not as cheerfully paid.

Magnolia had been deeply moved for and against the project, and much bitterness of feeling resulted. Finally they voted to subscribe, provided the company would build eight miles of the road in this township, the work to be completed to the eastern terminus before the bonds should be issued. This well guarded provision proved their safety. The road was graded in many places in Putnam County, and large sums of money expended in the work, but the company failed in making expected loans, and it was never finished, its history being that of many other railways in the West, where people subscribed bonds in advance of the completion of the enterprise. The County, though deeply swindled, is paying her obligations in full, thereby setting an example that wealthier corporations might copy with profit.

THE EARLIEST SETTLER.

Capt. Wm. Hawes was the first permanent white settler not only on this prairie, but, with the exception of Thomas Hartzell, the first in Putnam or Marshall Counties. He visited this section in the spring of 1821, while on his way from Sangamon County to Galena. He was so pleased with the general appearance of what is now Putnam County, its fertility of soil, fine timber, pure water, high and dry elevation, and general advantageous surroundings, that he resolved to mark the spot for his future

home, and hitching his horse to a tree, he cut his name thereon and slept beneath its friendly branches. He went to Galena and remained until November, 1826, when he more formally took possession of his claim and built an exceedingly primitive house, sixteen feet square, of round poles. He split puncheons for the floor and door, and carried rocks from the creek near by, on his back, for the chimney. There was not a nail used in its construction, and like the building of Solomon's temple, no sound of a hammer was heard, for he had none. He lived there all winter, keeping "bach," subsisting mainly upon the results of his skill as a hunter and some corn which he had brought with him from the South, which he pounded into meal upon a stump and baked with fat from venison and a little salt pork from his meagre larder. This cabin or pole-shed stood near the afterward northern limits of Magnolia, in the edge of the timber near the creek, upon the farm he still owns and occupies.

In the following spring he put up another and more substantial cabin near the first, and the latter furnished him and his family a comfortable home for many years.

In the spring of 1827 he cleared away a small patch of ground from underbrush, and broke it up for a crop, using an old-fashioned barshire plow, stocked by himself. He raised a good crop of winter wheat, which yielded twenty to thirty bushels per acre, threshed it out by tramping, and cleaned it in nature's fanning mill—the wind. He also obtained a fair return of corn by cultivation, which found a ready sale among the new-comers at twenty to twenty-five cents per bushel.

He had no stock worth mentioning then, merely a cow and calf and two yokes of oxen, but as soon as he was able, added horses and hogs to his possessions, bringing them up from his old neighborhood near Springfield.

During the first few years cows were worth \$10.00 to \$15.00 each, and pork from three to ten per cwt., depending upon the wants of the settlers; but after awhile hogs got wild and bred in the timber, and when any one wanted pork, he simply shouldered his gun and went hunting, and pork ceased to have any particular value until killed and dressed.

The settlers also soon stocked up with sheep, and made their own clothing.

John Knox came up with Captain Hawes in 1826, but did not remain here. Hawes sent the latter back to look after affairs at home, with two yokes of oxen and a wagon to bring up household goods.

James W. and Stephen D. Willis and their families came in the spring of 1827, and broke ground on the "Parsons" place, where they put up a cabin, and each raised a crop of corn.

John Knox returned in the spring of 1827, and put up a cabin where Magnolia stands, and then with Captain Hawes and Stephen Willis returned for their families. James Willis remained here to attend the farms and stock during their absence. They returned early in the fall, when Knox took possession of his new home, and Mrs. Hawes and Mrs. Willis respectively found their future residences. Lewis Knox came here with his father this fall, and made a beginning on what has since been known as the Price farm, but afterward sold it to a Mr. Hammett, and left for Rock River, and then went to California.

In the fall of 1827, the Willises sold their claim to Smiley Shepherd, and went further north—James W. to where Florid is located, and Stephen D. to the north-western limits of Union Grove, and were followed by Shepherd, who sold to Cornelius Hunt, and established himself on his well known farm east of Hennepin.

In 1827, George H. Shaw visited Magnolia and made a claim on Clear Creek; he spent the winter of 1827-8, at Washington, Tazewell County, but returned in the spring, and with his brother-in-law, C. S. Edwards, settled in what afterward became Marshall County. E. B. Wilson also came in 1827 or '28, and made a claim.

In 1827 there was trouble expected with the Winnebagoes, but it blew over. The country was full of Indians, and there was a feeling of feverish unrest until General Cass came West and met them in council at the mouth of Crow Creek, when a lasting treaty of peace was concluded.

A few settlers came in during the year 1828, but none permanently except Hartwell Haley, who made a claim near the west end of Ox Bow Prairie. Louis Knox made a claim on Clear Creek, but afterward sold it and went to California.

In 1829 came George Hildebrant, Isaac Hildebrant, Asahel Hannum, David Boyle, William Graves, Major Elias Thompson, George Hollenbeck, and Aaron Payne, an eccentric preacher, who located at Payne's Point, and after the Indian war went to Oregon. Dr. Fyffe located on Ox Bow, near Boyles; Christopher Wagner, near Magnolia; Hiram Allen, east of Loyds', on the creek; Wm. Kincaid, on Ox Bow, west of Haley's; Cornelius Hunt, south-east of Magnolia, toward Sandy Creek; Isaac Springer also made some improvements near the village this year.

In 1830 Lyman Horrom settled near Caledonia; Joseph Ash, near Payne's Point; Reuben Ash in the same locality; John Wilson, Aaron Whittaker, John Whittaker and Jonathan Wilson settled in the same neighborhood; Joseph Funk, north of Caledonia; Aaron Bascomb, north of Ox Bow, on the south bluff of the creek.

In the same year came also John E. and George Dent and made claims on Ox Bow; likewise Ephraim Smith and Lewis J. Beck, who settled near the Quaker meeting house. Mr. Smith is the sole survivor of those named, and still resides upon the place he entered.

In 1831 James S. Hunt came to Ox Bow and remained until December, 1832, when he moved with his family to Sandy Creek, near the Cumberland Church.

In 1832, few settlers came to the country, and many who were here, alarmed at the prospect, abandoned their claims and never returned. After the war was over, a few came in, among them Enoch Dent, and settled on Ox Bow Prairie, two miles south-east of Magnolia; also Isaac D. Glenn, Henry Hartenbower, L. T. and Henry Studyvin and John German.

In 1833 James Shields settled on Ox Bow and began his improvements, buying the claim of Elias Thompson, who moved to Henry. Isaac Ash came also, and George Griffith, Robert Dugan, Isaac Parsons and William and Joseph Hoyle. The latter moved into a cabin built by a Mr. Gunn, who afterward moved to La Salle. It was quite primitive in character, and having been built during the Indian war excitement, had port holes in the sides for defense. It was sixteen feet square, had a "shake" roof and the old fashioned chimney, with dried clay hearth. Mrs. Hoyle was a Quakeress, and, like her "friends" noted for extreme neatness and tidy surroundings; so about the first thing she undertook was to polish up with soap and water that clay hearth, not doubting but she could make it clean and white, until it assumed the consistency of a sort of mortar bed, when she perceived her error and abandoned the job with disgust.

In 1834 came John Goddard, D. P. Fyffe and Thomas Patterson, the latter buying the Knox claim and laying out the village of Magnolia.

In 1835 came John Lewis, somewhat noted for his energetic devotion to the cause of the negro, and settled north of Captain Hawes' farm. John Hall settled in Magnolia the same year, and built here one of the first houses in the village. Alexander Bowman also came this same season.

In 1835 Dr. J. B. Ashley, George W. Ditman, Amos Harvey and James and William Ramage came to Magnolia. William Lewis, the noted Abolitionist, removed from his farm near Hennepin and settled near his brother, John Lewis. Sarah Baker settled this year on Ox Bow Prairie.

In 1837 William and Sarah Wireman, and the family of Benjamin Lundy, followed by himself three years afterwards, were added to the "Quaker settlement," now gaining rapidly in numbers and influence.

In 1838 came Joel Hawes, who lived a while on the farm of his brother, Captain Hawes, and subsequently bought a claim from Elisha Swan, north of and near Magnolia, where he has ever since resided. William Dixon settled on what is known as the Thomas Filson place, which was sold to the latter in 1848.

In 1840 came William Swaney, and settled north of Clear Creek, on his present farm, and Joseph Mills located on the prairie to the eastward, in the center of the "Quaker settlement."

[NOTE.—We have given the above names and dates as nearly as could be ascertained, though it is not claimed they are correct. Most of the parties named have either moved elsewhere or paid the debt of nature, and dates of their arrival and settlement can only be approximated.—ED.]

THE VILLAGE OF MAGNOLIA.

Magnolia is situated in the extreme south-east corner of the County, thirteen miles from Hennepin. It is the oldest settled town in Putnam. In the fall of 1826, claims were made within a mile north of the site, by Capt. Wm. Hawes, James W. Willis and Stephen D. Willis, who are believed to have been the first to penetrate that part of the wilderness with the intention of settling. The next year John Knox arrived, and located upon the site of Magnolia.

The first public school house was put up in a field used as a brick yard, and was a small log structure, erected in 1836, and Andrew Burns, brother of Judge Burns, was the first teacher. Thomas Patterson, the founder of the town, which he hoped to see grow into a populous city, built this humble edifice, and dedicated it to science. Though it never became the initiative of a Yale or Dartmouth College, it grew to be a large public school, graded and improved as the times progressed, and now affords the rising generation all the advantages of a general education.

The first public house was kept by John Knox, though every house

those days entertained travelers, for the rules of hospitality forbade to turn a stranger from the door. "Knox's Tavern" (a double log house) was afterward the stopping place for Frink & Walker's stages, and became famous along the line for its comforts and conveniences.

John McKisson and Thomas Patterson were the first merchants, and the yard-stick owned by the latter is still in the possession of Captain Hawes, who preserves it as a memento of old times. Elisha Swan also was a trader here for a time.

For some years after Magnolia was settled the post office was at Robert's Point, and Geo. Ditman had to go thither for his mail as late as 1836.

The first preacher was old Jesse Walker, who visited the future village in 1828. He had a trading post at Ottawa, and obtained goods at St. Louis, which he brought up in a keel boat. He preached occasionally here and at Hollenback's, as well as other places in this section. He was a curious, bluff old man, and rather shrewd in business. His favorite by-word or heavy anathema was "I snum!"

At one time the town gave promise of large future growth, but the building up of other centres of business attracted people elsewhere, and much of its glory has departed.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

The pioneers of the "Society of Friends," or Quakers, who settled in Putnam County, were the brothers Joseph and William Hoyle, Englishmen by birth, who made claims and built their humble cabins near the head of Clear Creek, in the spring of 1833. They were accompanied by George Griffith, an old neighbor in Eastern Ohio. These three families made their homes near together, and formed the nucleus of the "Quaker settlement," now an important portion of the community of the Township. Jehu Lewis and his family moved to the neighborhood in 1836, from Tazewell County.

In 1837 Sarah—or "Grandmother"—Wireman and her two daughters, with her son William and his family, came from Eastern Pennsylvania. William Lewis and his family, and Elijah Kirk and family had previously arrived and made themselves homes.

In 1839 Joseph Mills visited this locality on a prospecting tour, and was so well pleased with the surroundings that he bought a small tract of

land, determined to make it his future home. His report was so favorable that his son Henry was induced to emigrate in the fall of that year. In the spring of 1840, Joseph Mills and his family, including Joshua his son, now a resident of the settlement, returned to their new home, accompanied by Eli Raley and his daughter Elizabeth.

The first "open meeting" was held at the cabin of Grandmother Wireman, soon after it was built, in the fall of 1837, where the settlers met to worship. This meeting was followed by others at long intervals, until their increasing numbers made the narrow limits of the cabin too small and in 1840 they changed to a small log school house standing on the north branch of Clear Creek. This was built in 1838, though first used in 1840.

In 1840 William Swaney came, with the intention of making this his future home.

The first death among the members was that of Edith, wife of Wm. Hoyle, in 1840.

The first marriage in the Friends' settlement was that of Isaac Griffith and Eliza Lundy, daughter of Benjamin Lundy, in March, 1841. The wedding ceremony was performed at the house of Mr. Joseph Hoyle. Marriages among the members of the Society of "Friends" are conducted in a peculiar manner. The groom in the presence of the congregation promises to "love, cherish, and protect," and the bride to "love, honor, and obey." The parties then sign a paper attesting the fact, to which those present attach their signatures as witnesses, which is deposited among the archives, and the ceremony is finished. No parade or display is allowed, and wedding presents are not encouraged. It is a plain, solemn performance and when finished, the couple go about their business.

The new Society was not recognized by the general organization of the "Friends" until November 4, 1841, when A. Knight and others came from Indiana as a committee, and called a formal meeting for worship and preparation, and commenced their monthly meetings. Wm. Lewis was chosen the first clerk of the Society.

They had in the meantime begun the erection of a brick church, or meeting house, but it was not finished and occupied until the spring of 1842.

The old log school house, where the Society met and worshipped previous to this, has long since passed away, but our illustration represents it very correctly.

During those years the country was rapidly filling up, the members were prosperous, and numerous additions were made to the Society.

Up to this date they had no regular leader. Miss Rebecca Fell had a certificate as minister according to the rules of the sect, but she lived some distance away and could not attend. Joseph Mills was felt to be entirely competent to fill the place, but had never been "recommended," as it is termed.

In 1843, in "the first month," as they term it (January), Wm. M. Price was married to Miss Sarah Wireman, according to the customs of the Society, but the ceremony was so much at variance with the customs of other religious denominations that some proposed to prosecute the couple for living together in unlawful wedlock. So prone are some people to mind business not their own! These over-zealous law-abiding citizens consulted lawyers and read the statutes in vain, for the laws duly scanned declared that a public notice to the world in a public meeting, five weeks prior to the day of the intended marriage, constituted a sufficient notification to make the marriage binding.

In the year 1845, Joseph Edwards and Ann, his wife, came to the settlement, she being the second "recorded minister" for this Society; *i. e.*: One whose qualifications have been duly approved by the Society, and therefore allowed to act in the capacity of a minister. She was very eloquent and justly appreciated, but her failing health compelled her to desist after a short season of labor, and not long after she died.

The organization, though still not numerous in members, continued to grow and prosper, while laboring under many disadvantages, being peculiarly organized. It was constituted a branch of the Blue River, (Ind.) quarterly meeting, to which it was required to report every three months. This parent body met alternately at Terre Haute and at New Albany, in Indiana, 300 miles away. The distance was so great that these reports could not be sent oftener than once or twice a year.

In the course of time other meetings sprung up within a radius of from sixty to one hundred and ten miles, and the Society here applied for permission to have their quarterly extended to yearly meetings, to be held at the brick church on Clear Creek, which was granted, and much advantage was derived from the change.

In the course of time the "Friends" in the West were so strengthened in numbers as to enable them to have two general quarterly meetings—two in Indiana and two in Illinois. This continued until 1874, when the

Putnam Society embraced all the "Friends" in both States, with Clear Creek Church as the central point. A body of Friends in Iowa also united with this Society, giving it an extensive scope of territory, forming as united, "The Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends," a general gathering of which was held here in the "ninth month" (September) 1875, and worked under the auspices of the Baltimore and Indiana yearly meetings, the Illinois section and the Indiana and Iowa Friends all constituting a branch of the Baltimore yearly meetings. The assemblage above referred to was largely attended, and at its yearly convocations are seen representatives from all the societies in the West.

In 1869 they built a large and convenient meeting house on the prairie northeast of Magnolia, for the yearly assemblies, costing \$5,500. The total membership of the yearly meetings, composed of a few Friends in Indiana and those of Illinois and Iowa, numbers thirteen hundred people.

In 1878 they adopted a new discipline for the government of the Church, which has become vastly popular among the members everywhere. "It looks upon Christ as the rock and foundation stone, upon which all who worship the Father in Spirit and truth may stand. To Him all can come and partake of the waters of life freely, 'without money and without price.'"

The local Society in 1880 numbered 187 persons, and is in a prosperous condition. The Friends comprise the best citizens of the County, and are noted for their industry, good order, honesty and hospitality. Cleanliness is recognized as next to Godliness, and in their persons and habits and about their dwellings this excellent virtue is a notable, unvarying and unexceptional rule. They are clean in person and pure in language. As a community, they are law-abiding, honest and peaceful, and cherish sentiments of love and charity toward every animate object.

THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.

The oldest school house in the Township, if not in the County, was built in the fall and winter of 1830, and stood on Clear Creek, about one mile above the Camp Ground.

It was of hewn logs, sixteen feet square, with a hole for a window, made by sawing out a log. Its roof was covered with sticks, and C. S. Edwards, the pioneer pedagogue, opened school therein January 6th,

1831, and taught till February, 1832. When he began his labors the school house was unfinished, and there was neither a floor nor a permanent door. The school, during Mr. Edwards' connection and for many years after, was supported on the "pay" or subscription plan. The patrons of this first school, or perhaps during the year between the dates given, were: Aaron Whittaker, Thornton Wilson, — Studdyvin, Aaron Payne, David Boyle, Hartwell Haley, George Hiltabrant, Wm. Graves and Ashael Hannum. The average attendance at this very primitive school was about fifteen to twenty in winter, and from ten to twelve in summer.

JEREMIAH STRAWN'S FORT.

During the war Jeremiah Strawn protected his cabins by a strong stockade, in which dwelt his own family, Mrs. E. Armstrong's family, Aaron Payne and Andrew Whittaker and their families. It made quite a little community, and all the available space in the cabin was occupied at night, the floors being covered with sleeping humanity, large and small. During the day the men worked outside, with guns ready for use.

One Saturday afternoon some malicious person rode past the fort and screamed, "Indians! Indians!" The women were nearly frantic by the time the men returned, and Mr. Strawn and Mr. Payne rode back to Magnolia and thence to Hennepin, finding no Indians.

The news of impending war was brought to the settlement by Elisha Swan, who advised the settlers to volunteer for public defense or they would be drafted. Some did neither, but left for the southward—some to return after the war, and others to remain permanently away. But the majority at once shouldered their guns and reported ready for duty.

They armed themselves, and each man had a uniform peculiar to his own notions of war. Some wore coon-skin caps, others wore straw hats of home manufacture, while a few boasted no rim at all. Guns were of various sizes and different lengths, generally however, much longer than the modern style. These home guards were on duty about six weeks, and but few, if any of them, saw an Indian during the entire campaign, though each received a land warrant from the Government for his services.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

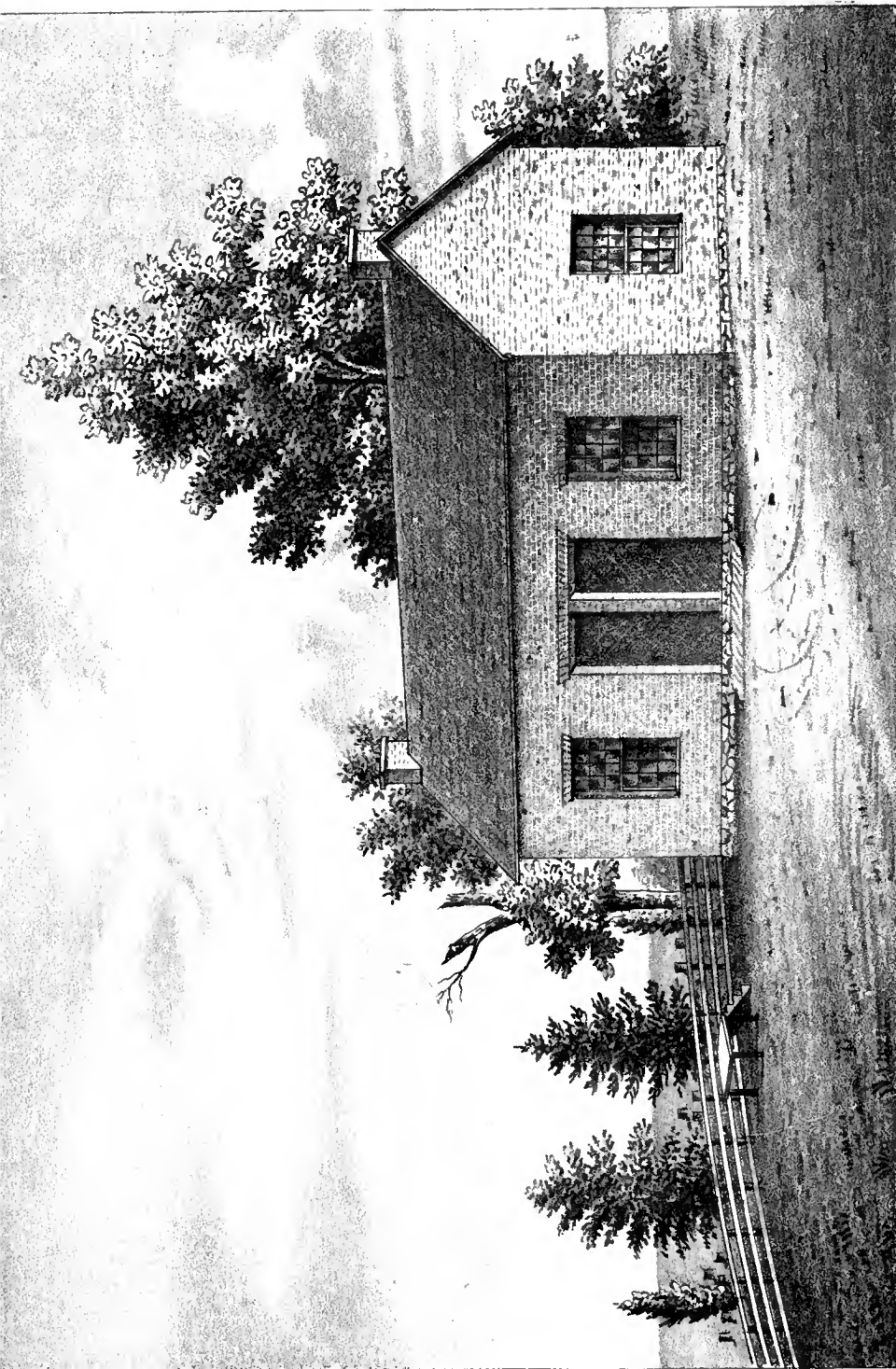


COUNTRY'S HISTORY is made up mainly of individual incidents in the lives of its citizens, and if our "Records" largely abound in such, it is that the picture may be true to nature. But few remain of those who saw this fair land as it came from the hand of the Maker, and if we devote unusual space to them the reason is apparent.

There was very little money, and business was conducted on the exchange or barter system. The farmer raised what food was required, also wool for winter and flax for summer clothing. The latter was dressed by the men and boys in winter and spun and wove, dyed and made into clothing by the females of the household. It made dresses for the ladies and shirts and pants for the men. In the winter the former wore linsey woolsey, and the latter substantial suits made of Kentucky jeans, hand woven in the family loom, and colored with "store dyes," or oftener in the "blue dye tub," without which no well regulated household was complete.

For Sunday afternoons, meetings and christenings, a neat calico was worn, and their granddaughters of to-day, arrayed in costly silks and flounces, never look so pretty as did their rosy-cheeked mothers and grandmothers in those days. Their wants were few and their "store bills" light. If extravagance was visible in any one thing, it was in the intemperate use of coffee.

Salt was a necessity, likewise tobacco, "ague medicine" and whisky. The children went barefoot in summer, and often the men also, but in the fall the thrifty farmer procured a couple sides of leather, and the ever welcome cobbler came with his kit of tools and regularly shod the whole family. It was good and substantial work, too, and lasted a whole year. The women, like the men, wore good, honest cowhide, and bade defiance to the snows and rains of winter, and neuralgia and the thousand and one ailments that women are now subject to were unknown.



OLD (FRIENDS) BRICK MEETING HOUSE
BUILT 1841 & 42 MAGNOLIA T_P.

For lights, a supply of resinous pine knots, gathered along the bluffs of the river, furnished a good substitute, and next to this was a dish of grease, into which a lighted rag for a wick was placed, called a "slut." Then came tallow candles, and it was the duty of the housewife to prepare in the fall the yearly supply. She also laid in ample stores of dried pumpkins, blackberries and corn, and gathered medicinal herbs for sickness. Every mother was a doctor. Medicine was less relied on than nursing, and the simple remedies prescribed were found as successful in practice as the more elaborate and costly medicaments of later days.

The midwife in those days was an important personage, with whom it was well to be on good terms. Her will was law, her advice was regarded, and her name commemorated in the families of her customers. One of the most noted of these was Mrs. John Strawn, who, it is claimed, attended to over four hundred cases without an accident. Many gray-haired men and women of to-day obtained their first "start" in the world at her hands.

As before stated, when sickness came, reliance was mainly upon nursing, and every neighborhood had its good motherly woman ready to go without money and without price, whenever called upon, and many an old settler can attest the tender soothing care with which they smoothed the ailing brow, or administered the cooling draught.

Those dear old hands are folded in death, those loving, benevolent faces, so full of tender, solicitude, have gone from our gaze forever, the eyes of love have lost their brightness, and their voices are hushed forever.

True and faithful were those tender watchers at fevered bedsides, and may we not hope "they too have their reward."

The latch-string always "hung outside," which meant that visitors were welcome, and strangers were not turned away. Hospitality was universal, and he who did not practice it would have been shunned. In those halcyon days, neighbors were neighbors, and distance was never taken into account. Farmers stocked their own plows—a clumsy, heavy, awkward implement with a wooden mould-board. They tilled corn with a sort of shovel plow, which covered corn as well as weeds, and left ready for a fresh start as many weeds as it killed.

Each cabin had a rough pine table, and if the occupant was "well to do," three or four splint-bottom chairs; but these were regarded as luxuries, and most settlers were content with good stout puncheon slabs

mounted on legs and christened a stool. The bedsteads were made by setting up posts and extending transverse poles into the wall, which supported a "tick" filled with prairie grass, and on this, if the occupant came from the east, was often laid a good feather bed—the sole bridal dower of the woman of the house. A few plates and dishes of what was termed "delf ware" or in their absence, plain tin or pewter plates, an iron spoon or two, half a dozen knives and forks, an iron pot for boiling, a tea-kettle, an iron baking kettle and cover, on which live coals were placed, and the swinging crane or "trammel" on which to suspend the kettles for boiling constituted about all the cabins afforded. Outside was a capacious stone oven, where once a week the family bread was baked, and when it could be afforded, a "tin baker" added much to the housekeeper's comfort; but this was a piece of luxury that did not come until after years.

The family cradle—which must not be forgotten—was made from the section of a hollow tree split in halves, and rockers added.

The average farm laborer received from ten to fifteen dollars per month and his board. The price allowed for making rails was fifty cents per hundred. Female help cost one dollar a week.

It may be remarked that the cost of living has not materially changed between then and now. Though wages have increased, grain can be raised as cheaply now as then, owing to our improved machinery, consequently the farmer ought to accumulate wealth as rapidly.

The plows of those days were clumsy contrivances, merely pushing the dirt to one side. They never "scoured," and various were the plans adopted to make them. A dweller upon the Illinois River used to stretch over the mould board the smooth skin of the gar, a fish allied to the shark family, which answered the purpose while it lasted.

Notwithstanding these disadvantages, they raised corn averaging forty to fifty bushels per acre, for which they got about twenty to twenty-five cents a bushel. They also raised excellent crops of wheat, which were hardly ever known to fail, and yielded twenty to thirty bushels per acre, bringing about fifty cents a bushel. They threshed it out with horses.

In those days labor was plenty and tramps unknown. Book agents or canvassers, lightning rod men and insurance agents had not made their appearance, and a person who attempted to swindle his neighbor, or speculate upon one's misfortune, would have been driven from the settlement.

The prices for cows was \$10.00 to \$15.00 per head. A lot of fat steers, which a venturesome settler drove to St. Louis, *netted* him *six dol-*

lars per head. He became disgusted with it as a market, and never visited that city again! Hogs were easily raised, as they got their feed in the timber, and pork sold for \$3.00 per hundred pounds; but in 1833, owing to a sudden rush of immigration, it went up to \$10.00 per cwt.

The farmers raised sheep enough to make their own clothes, and their wives and daughters spun and wove the wool by hand, until they found it was more profitable to exchange it for cloth and woolen yarn, which was knitted at home. They hauled their wool fifty miles to get it carded, and many went as far as the Sangamon Mills near Springfield.

A dinner in those days cost a "bit" and supper, lodging and breakfast three bits. The food was abundant and wholesome.

From 1826 to 1832, Indians were numerous and peaceable, bringing the settlers little delicacies which they did not possess such as honey, maple sugar, game and fish.

JEREMIAH STRAWN'S PRAIRIE.

This fertile region north of Magnolia, in Putnam County, was settled by white people over fifty years ago. The first comer was Jeremiah Strawn, who traveled on horseback from the Wabash River to Springfield, and thence north to his future home, arriving there in September, 1828; and in the spring of 1829, assisted by George Hollenback, Jr., he put up a log house on his claim. The logs were too large for two men to handle, so they were split in two. Strawn's nearest neighbor was a Mr. Payne, on Clear Creek, about two and a half miles away. While himself and hired man were building the house they lived on "pork and pone," the latter made of corn pounded on a stump, and saturated with hogs fat and baked on hot stones laid in ashes.

Mr. Strawn returned for his family as soon as his cabin was completed, and started on his return trip August 19, 1839. He had two teams, one a large Ohio wagon, drawn by four horses and the other by three. They found no settlers between the Wabash River and Springfield, save one, in a log house, near the head of Sangamo River, as it was then called.

The first birth on this prairie was that of Zelpha, daughter of Jeremiah Strawn, in 1832, and the first death was December, 1831, a son of Mr. Basone, one of Mr. Strawn's tenants.

The first wedding was that of Mr. Abner Boyle and Miss Wilson, in 1831, and the next, a few weeks later, in December, 1831, was the marriage of James Harper to Miss Ash.

Rev. Mr. Royal was a circuit preacher then. His circuit was of immense extent. It reached from Mackinaw, Ills., to Galena; thence to Chicago, and down the river to Joliet, Morris, Ottawa and Strawn's, and it required four weeks for him to "get around!" He traveled it for a couple of years, beginning in 1831.

The first school house was a log building, put up by Strawn and Whittaker in 1833. It was superseded by a frame house in 1836, a few weeks after Strawn had finished his own new house, the first frame structure in the settlement. He built a fine church and donated it to the Methodists in 1856.

ROBBERY OF JEREMIAH STRAWN.

From 1840 to 1846 the Mississippi Valley was infested by a gang of robbers known as the "Bauditti of the Prairies." They were a regularly organized band of villians, ready to steal a purse, rob a house, or cut a throat to further their ends. They had rendezvous at different places all over the country—hiding places for themselves and plunder. Generally the keepers of these resorts were quiet, well appearing men, who were reasonably free from suspicion in the community in which they lived. Whenever it could be done they contrived to get members of their gang appointed or elected to office, and especially the, to them, important positions of sheriff, jailor and constables, and even now and then a justice of the peace. They conducted their business secretly and systematically. A horse stolen in one neighborhood was promptly sent to some remote settlement for sale or trade. Up to 1845 they had confined their operations principally to stealing horses, but this year they concluded to advance into the more hazardous and, when successful, more remunerative department of house breaking and robbery.

On the first week of June, 1844, a man made his appearance at the residence of Jeremiah Strawn, in Putnam County, pretending to be a peddler of oil-cloths. He exhibited them to the women, and remained awhile as if to rest, but really to take a survey of the premises. On seeing Mr. Strawn approach he hastily left, and Strawn did not see his face. This was Birch, captain of the robbers.

On Sunday soon after, a very sanctimonious young man appeared and "wanted accommodations—ah, during the holy Sabbath—ah, for himself and beast—ah, as he never traveled on the Lord's day—ah!" They kept this pious individual, who spent most of his time in reading the Bible, and showed very little inclination to carry on conversation. This was Long, the business man of the gang. The horse he rode he had stolen a few nights before from Mr. Lewis.

Long had with him a pair of old saddle-bags, which Strawn judged to be empty, but from the fellow's appearance, supposed him to be some poor preacher, and thought no more of it. The fellow said his name was Allen, and he wanted to buy a small farm. On leaving he pulled out a five dollar gold piece to pay for his keeping. Strawn was not disposed to charge anything, since he was likely to be a prospective neighbor, but the Rev. Allen was very anxious to get the money changed, the object being to find where Strawn kept his valuables.

In a few days there came another confederate,—a little old man arrayed in a suit of clothing a tramp would scarce be seen in. His coat would have fitted a giant, but on his diminutive form the waist came little above the knees, the skirts were cut down to suit his form, the sleeves also being served in like manner. He was barefoot and lame, and had straggling gray hair and whiskers. This was Fox, rigged out for the occasion, and Fox, as his name indicates, was one of the cunningest men in the band. Mrs. Strawn gave him some food and fifty cents in silver.

On the day succeeding Fox's visit came a slick-looking young man, who sold types and ink for marking linen. He was extremely voluble, and seemed to be quite a wide-awake and, withal, agreeable youth. This was Luther,—no relation to the celebrated Christian of that name, but a bold villain. All except Long had evaded Strawn, for the reason that they did not wish him to recognize them afterward.

On the night of June 17, 1845, toward twelve o'clock, four robbers came to Strawn's house, and Long entered by a window, the occupants, having no reason to expect such visitors, seldom fastening either windows or doors.

Long was armed with an ax, to be used in an emergency, but especially to break open the chest supposed to contain valuables. He at once unbolted the door and let in his confederates, provided with candles, and while some helped themselves to eatables, others made their way to Strawn's room, who was awakened by a man standing over him with a

cocked pistol in hand, and ordered to lie still and cover up his head, which was done.

What money Strawn possessed was in a chest under the bed where the children slept, in another room. He told the robbers where the money would be found, but begged them not to scare the girls. They did not frighten the young ladies more than they had already, as by this time they were nearly scared to death. The chest was made to yield up its contents, and the robbers returned in high passion. They had expected to find \$8,000 or \$10,000, and instead had discovered only about one hundred and twenty dollars. They were greatly disgusted, and threatened to burn down the house unless more was forthcoming, swearing it did not pay for the cost and trouble incurred. Next they asked who slept up stairs, and were told it was a preacher, which seemed to please them, and they visited his room. The poor minister, a Mr. Burr, trembled with fear while they were taking his watch and nine dollars in cash, all he had. They debated about killing him, one fellow heartlessly remarking there would be little or no harm, as he was a preacher and bound to go to heaven anyhow. Once he attempted to look out, whereupon a man brandished an ax and told him to lie still or he would split his head open.

They pretended to have a gang of twenty men outside, all armed to the teeth, and threatened to kill Strawn if he dared follow or give any alarm.

They tried to find more money, and asked for the keys of a bureau, which was locked. Mrs. Strawn told them where the keys were. They got them, and on failing to unlock it they were about to slash it to pieces when Mrs. S. told them the particular key to use. They searched all the drawers in vain, and at length departed, failing to extort a promise from Strawn not to follow them.

They obtained one hundred and twenty dollars in silver and a watch, and from Rev. Mr. Burr, nine dollars and a watch. There was an old black bag which hung in plain sight, which they did not think of opening. It contained fifteen dollars.

As soon as they had left Strawn got up and lighted candles. After some exertion he managed to get the preacher out of bed, still nearly petrified with fear. He wanted to have all go back to bed and remain there until toward noon, by which time he thought the gentlemen of the road would be too far away to molest them!

Strawn engaged detectives and officers in various directions, and at length found two of the robbers at Rock Island, in jail for the murder of Col. Davenport, a tragedy which greatly excited people all over the country, and resulted in arresting the ringleaders and bringing some of them to the scaffold.

After killing Davenport they went down to St. Louis, and thence up the Missouri River, where they remained in hiding a few days with Reeves, an old acquaintance, banished the preceding season from Marshall County. Fearing to remain here, they descended the river and went to Ohio, tracked with the fidelity of a bloodhound by an able detective named Bonney, who effected their arrest at Sandusky.

Birch told Strawn that Fox shot Colonel Davenport by accident, as he only meant to frighten him and get his money, but the pistol went off unexpectedly.

Two Long brothers and Young were hung at Rock Island. Fox managed to escape from an officer in Indiana in some mysterious and unexplained way, and was never heard of after.

Birch was in prison some time at Knoxville, on a change of venue, and finally through the help of two confederates broke jail, and a story afterward got abroad that his accomplices, fearing he would turn State's evidence and reveal the names of the gang, got him out of jail, and it is supposed drowned him in the Mississippi River.

BIRCH'S CONFESSION.

The following confession was taken down from Birch's own lips by the Sheriff of Knox County, and afterward read to and signed by Birch:

"On or about the 17th of June last (1845), Wm. Fox, John Long and Wm. Luther [he leaves out himself, though he admitted being present], robbed Jeremiah Strawn of about \$100 cash, \$100 in scrip, two watches, and one horse pistol, which said pistol they flung away in the yard. They also got one bogus dollar. One watch was silver case, thick square stem, compass, square and some Masonic fixings inside. John Long kept it until it was flung into Lake Michigan by Birch, on the way to Rock Island. The other watch John Long left with his father, Owen Long, who lived near Galena. Fox had the \$100 scrip, and gave it to Baxter toward his share of the money taken in the robbery of Messrs. Knox & Dewey's office in June last, and Baxter afterward sold it to Negus, of

Rock Island. The \$100 cash was divided between the boys about the first of June. I saw all the above men, and they then informed me that they intended to make the above robbery, to-wit: Intended to rob Strawn; and I saw them all again in Nauvoo, Ill., between the 10th and 20th of June, and they informed me that they had committed the robbery as above stated.

“Fox is twenty-eight years old, low, heavy set, weighs 180 pounds, light complexion, large blue eyes, light hair, slow spoken, and talks through his nose a little.

“Lewis, of Peru, who formerly kept tavern there—I think his name is Jonathan—and kept the National, got up the show, and was to have a share in the plunder. About the last week in May I saw Lewis in Peru. John Long was present. Lewis told us that Fox had been waiting for us, and became alarmed about a horse that he had stolen and sold in Chicago; and then he had advised Fox to leave and go to Nauvoo, and there wait for Birch and Long, and then make arrangements to come up and burst Strawn. We then went directly to Nauvoo, and found Fox and Luther there. The arrangements were all made, and Long, Fox and Luther went up to the neighborhood of Strawn’s; and Long went and staid one night with him to ascertain the situation of his house, and in a few nights afterward they robbed him as before stated, and Luther immediately left for Nauvoo, and Fox and Long headed toward Rock Island, but all met at Nauvoo.

“Shortly afterward Lewis stated that Strawn had a large pile of money; said that a man who bought hogs of Strawn told him that he paid him \$200, and that Strawn had more money than he had ever seen out of a bank, and also that he (Lewis) knew that he had a large amount.

“(Signed)

R. H. BIRCH.

“Rock Island, November 15, 1845.”

AARON PAYNE.

As stated elsewhere, the family of Aaron Payne, during the Black Hawk troubles, found protection in the stockade of Jeremiah Strawn. Although a minister and a man of peace, he felt it his duty to avenge his murdered brother’s death, and when volunteers were called for he became a soldier until they were disbanded, and then followed the army in pursuit

of Black Hawk. While pursuing the retreating Indians, he passed a squaw and a small Indian boy crouched behind a fallen tree, but thinking the party harmless, passed on without molesting them. After the rangers had passed the boy raised his gun and shot Payne from his horse, and in return they were riddled with bullets. Two balls entered Payne's shoulder, lodging near the spine, and he was thought to be mortally wounded, but was carried to the hospital at Fort Crawford, where the wounds healed, but he could not walk upright thereafter.

About three months after this event, Payne, pale and emaciated, rode up to his cabin door, and was hailed by his family and friends as one risen from the dead.

The following sketch relating to this event is taken from General Scott's autobiography, a book published many years ago:

"While inspecting the hospital at Fort Crawford, I was struck with the remarkably fine head of a tall volunteer lying on his side and seeking relief in a book. To my question, 'What have you here, my friend?' the wounded man pointed to the title page of 'Young's Night Thoughts.' I sat down on the edge of the bunk, already interested in the reader, to learn more of his history.

"The wounded volunteer said his brother, Rev. Adam Payne, fell an early victim to Black Hawk's band, and he (not in the spirit of revenge, but to protect the frontier settlements) volunteered as a private soldier. While riding into the battle-field of Bad Axe he passed a small Indian boy, whom he might have killed, but thought him a harmless child. 'After passing, the boy fired, lodging two balls near my spine, when I fell from my horse.' The noble volunteer, although suffering great pain from his wound, said he preferred his condition to the remorse he should have felt if he had killed the boy, believing him to be harmless."

Payne lived many years at his home on Clear Creek, greatly respected by all. He was an earnest preacher of the Gospel, and equally noted as a bee hunter.

Afterward he emigrated to Oregon, where he still lives, a hale and hearty old man. He has filled several public offices, and served one term in the State Legislature.

PIONEER PLOWS.

From the crooked stick of the Egyptians to the old-fashioned bull

plow of our forefathers, with its rough handle and wooden mould-board, was a long stride of progress. Then came a two-handled "calamity," with cast point and land side, which answered tolerably well in certain soils, but on our rich, "mucky" prairies only stirred it to some extent, without turning it over. It required a strong propelling power, and must be cleaned every few rods to work at all. These were the plows of the early settlers for many a year, and with them the soil of this country was first broken.

In 1836 George W. Ditman brought to Magnolia two wrought iron self-scouring plows, from Philadelphia, but they were not adapted to our soil, and failed to do the work required.

In 1841 or 2, James Ramage, of Magnolia, worked out an idea which had found life in his brain—that a plow could be made that would scour. After one or two experiments he produced the celebrated "Diamond Plow," forerunner of all self-cleaning implements of the plow kind. It worked well, turning the soil smoothly and neatly, covering up the weeds and leaving the soil in the best possible condition. Farmers pronounced it a success, and for several years he carried on the business until others with better facilities for manufacturing took away his trade.

Besides the plow manufacture, another enterprise was carried on here for many years, and one of vast consequence to the people. This was making reaping machines. Mr. Wm. E. Parret came to Putnam County in March, 1841, and settled in Magnolia. He claims to have invented the scallop-sickle in 1847, and built reaping machines, commencing in 1849, putting up the first reaper probably ever built in the State of Illinois. They were not the perfect machine of the present day, but the man who first invented the sickle-bar, and the place where first made, deserves recognition. It was the basis of success of all the machines of to-day, and if Mr. Parret can substantiate his claims, he deserves to rank among the public benefactors of the age.

MRS. HILTABRAND.

Of those who helped redeem the prairie from a state of nature, few remain lingering on the confines of that bourne from whence no traveler ever returned. Among these is Mrs. George Hiltabrand, who with her husband came to Ox Bow in March, 1829. He was gathered to his fath-

ers ten years ago, while she lives in the possession of all her faculties, and at seventy-six her memory is distinct, her eye bright, and her face involuntarily lightens at the recollection and mention of those old time scenes, in which she was an actor. To her we are indebted for many sketches connected with ye olden time on Ox Bow Prairie.

The Indian war excitement caused the settlers to band themselves for protection, and they hastily constructed a log stockade where Caledonia now stands. The room inside the fort for exercise was reasonably large, but the eating and sleeping quarters were sadly crowded. The families that here sought safety were those of Messrs. Hiltabrand, Hannum, Hunt, Hart, Graves, Gunn, Allen, Loyd and Lotripp. They remained here about six weeks, which seemed an age to the inmates, and when the day came for their release there was a grand jubilee.

The first school in the vicinity was at Caledonia, taught in 1832 by Hosea Smith. It was broken up or suspended during the war troubles.

The first child born on Ox Bow Prairie was a son to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Knox, in August, 1829. Austin Hannum was the second, and the third born was Mary J., a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiltabrand, whose birth was October 28, 1829.

Mrs. Hiltabrand is the only person of the original old settlers who brought a family to Ox Bow Prairie.

Another estimable lady still living is Mrs. Anne Shields, who, along with her husband, came to Ox Bow from Tennessee, in 1833. He died May 16, 1871.

Mrs. Sarah Glenn is another venerable lady, relict of Isaac D. Glenn, who with her husband came here in 1832. Mr. Glenn died in 1850. She is remarkably well and active, and is eighty-three years old.

The first preacher on the circuit remembered by Mrs. Hiltabrand was the Rev. Mr. Young, a Campbellite, who held religious services at the cabin of Isaac D. Glenn, in the winter of 1832-3. In that winter a school was taught on the farm of Mr. Carter, by a Mr. Hatfield.

The first settled physician was Dr. Fetter, who came in 1834.

Among the early marriages remembered by her was Obadiah Graves and Mary Fletcher, in October, 1830; Abner Boyle and Matilda Wilson, by the Rev. McDonald, November, 1831.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

BENJAMIN LUNDY.



HIS distinguished philanthropist and Abolitionist ended his days near the borders of Putnam County, and was buried within its limits, on Clear Creek, his remains being entombed by his family and friends of the Quaker fraternity of Magnolia. He achieved a glorious reputation as the "father of the party of freedom," and it is fit that some account of his life and labors should be given in this work.

In an autobiography, prepared by himself and published shortly after his death, he states that he was born on the fourth day of the first month (January), 1789, at Handwich, Essex County, N. J. His mother died when he was only five years old, and he was her only child. He had but very limited means and opportunities of schooling, but managed to learn to read and write when eight years of age, and began the study of arithmetic at eighteen. His physical frame being delicate, he was sent to travel for his health a year later, and after a time arrived at Wheeling, West Virginia, where he served four years at the trade of a saddler.

It was while here that he was made acquainted with the enormities of the trade in human flesh; it was here he saw the barbarities of slavery. "It was here," he wrote, "that I saw the traffickers in human souls and bodies pass by with their iron-chained chattels. My heart was deeply grieved at the gross abomination; I heard the wail of the captive; I felt the pangs of their distress, and the iron entered my soul." It was here he became a firm, determined and thorough Abolitionist, and resolved to devote his life to the cause of freeing the negro.

On leaving Wheeling he went to Mount Pleasant, Ohio, where he became acquainted with William Lewis and his sisters, one of whom eventually became Benjamin Lundy's wife.

He started business for himself at St. Clairsville, Virginia, and in four years had earned three thousand dollars worth of property. Here, while industriously pursuing his usual business, he was not idle in the great

cause which lay so close to his heart, and in 1815, through his active efforts, Union Humane Societies were formed.

About that time Charles Osborne started a newspaper at Mount Pleasant, called the *Philanthropist*, and soon after Lundy took a position upon it as assistant editor. He was invited to become joint owner of that paper with Osborn, but having a stock of goods on hand to dispose of, and the best market being in the far West, he packed up his wares, put them in a boat, and floated down the Ohio, the three apprentices he had with him working at their trade, while he steered the boat. Arriving in the Mississippi River, they rowed up that stream to St. Louis. While in that city, in 1819, the famous Missouri Compromise question was before the people—that of admitting Missouri as a slave State. On this question he took an active part, in the negative, of course, writing articles for such of the few newspapers as would publish them. Congress having decided against his views, he left, not discouraged, but determined to watch, labor and wait. In the meantime he had lost several thousand dollars, his speculation proving to be a bad one, and he returned on foot to his old home at St. Clairsville, a distance of seven hundred miles!

During his absence Osborne had sold the newspaper on which he had previously been employed, and the new publishers had decidedly lowered its standard, so Lundy determined to start a paper of his own. A newspaper in which he had been promised an interest, at Mount Pleasant, had been removed to Jonesboro, Tennessee, leaving the field at Mount Pleasant open to him. Accordingly he removed there, and in January, 1821, he commenced the publication of *The Genius of Universal Emancipation*. Not then having a press of his own, he was compelled to hire his press-work done at Steubenville, Ohio, a distance of twenty miles, to which place he went to and fro on foot, carrying his printed papers on his back.

After having issued eight monthly numbers of the *Genius*, the owner of the former paper which had been removed from Mount Pleasant to Jonesboro, Tennessee, died at the latter place, and his paper ceased to be published. His friends and the friends of the cause urged him to go to that place and, if possible, obtain possession of the press and fixtures of the printing office. To this he assented, and at once started to Tennessee, a distance of eight hundred miles, about one-half of which distance he accomplished on foot, and the remainder by boat.

He rented the printing office at Jonesboro, and at once went to work

to learn the practical or mechanical part of the business of running a newspaper, and in a brief time issued his paper from his new location in a monthly and weekly form, retaining for it the old but expressive name. While thus engaged, in the very heart of the slave-holding region, he was threatened with all sorts of violence. In the first place his coming there was considered an insult to the slaveocracy, and in the next, his merciless denunciation of their peculiar institution of slavery was unbearable. On one occasion two ruffians came a distance of thirty miles to demand the retraction of an article which had been published in the *Genius*. They invited Lundy into a private room, shut and locked the door, and flourishing their knives and pistols, undertook to enforce their insolent demand. But they were mistaken in the grit and firmness of their man. High words resulted, which attracted the attention of the owner of the house, who came to the assistance of the spunky editor.

Finding his business prosperous, he sent for his family, who joined him there, and there he lived for three years, doing yeoman service, constantly provoking the wrath of his enemies, repeatedly subjected to personal abuse of the vilest character, both in his office and upon the streets, and sometimes personal attacks; yet bravely fighting for his principles, his rights of speech and the freedom of the press, continually pouring red hot shot into the foe.

He was the first delegate who ever attended an abolition convention from any portion of the country as far south as Tennessee. He made a trip on horseback, at his own expense, a distance of six hundred miles, to attend a meeting of the enemies of slavery at Philadelphia, in 1832.

The *Genius of Universal Emancipation* had by this time obtained an extensive circulation and a wide fame all over the country, and as it was the only anti-slavery newspaper in the United States at that time, he concluded to transfer the publication of it to one of the Atlantic cities, hoping thereby to greatly increase its circulation and widen its influence.

In pursuance of this plan he shouldered his knapsack and set out on foot for Baltimore, in the summer of 1824, on his way delivering his first public lecture on the subject of Slavery, at Deep Creek, North Carolina. So well were the people pleased with this, the first lecture they had ever heard on this topic (many of the community happening to be Quakers), that they appointed a second meeting, where he again spoke, crowning his efforts there by the formation of an anti-slavery society.

At another place he went to a house raising and lectured to the per-

sons there assembled, and at another place managed to get an audience at a militia muster, the captain of the day being very liberal in his views on the subject of slavery, and some of his hearers belonging to the Society of Friends. Here too an anti-slavery society was formed, the militia captain being chosen its first president.

During this trip through North Carolina he organized no fewer than twelve or fourteen anti-slavery societies.

Leaving North Carolina, he passed through Virginia, in which State he formed several anti-slavery societies also.

Mr. Lundy reached Baltimore in due time, and promptly began preparations for issuing his paper there, and in October, 1824, the first number of the *Genius* was issued in that city. He brought his family on from Tennessee very soon after.

During his journey to Baltimore he converted a slave-holder, who gave up to Lundy eleven slaves, on condition that he would take them to where they could enjoy equal rights, and he had them sent to Hayti.

In 1825 he went to that island to look after his proteges, and while there he received the sad intelligence of the death of his wife. On his return to the United States he resumed his work of pushing forward the circulation of his paper, meeting with considerable success.

In 1828 he journeyed through the Middle and Eastern States to extend the circulation of his newspaper, lecture, and make acquaintances. It was during this expedition he met Arthur Tappan, of New York, and William Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, neither of whom had at that time acquired any of the fame which afterward became so world-wide, nor in fact had they even then become publicly known at their own homes as abolitionists. After many endeavors he succeeded in getting up a meeting in Boston, where the first anti-slavery society was formed.

He also lectured on the anti-slavery question at Hartford, New Haven, Newport, Providence, Nantucket, Portland, and many other towns, with varying success.

In November, 1828, he visited New England a second time, and requested William Lloyd Garrison to assist him on the *Genius*; but that gentleman was then conducting an anti-slavery paper of his own, in Vermont.

Mr. Lundy's mode of conducting the *Genius* provoked the deadly ire of a man named Austin Woolfolk, a Baltimore slave trader, who in 1829 assaulted and nearly killed him. The judge before whom the case was

tried, the assailant having been arrested, said from the bench that "Lundy got no more than he deserved," and sent a copy of his paper before the grand jury, pointing out to them several passages which he said were libelous; but that body failed to find a bill against him.

In 1829 he went to Hayti a second time, with twelve slaves given to him this time by a slave-holder in Maryland, under circumstances similar to those herein before related.

After his return he was joined by Wm. Lloyd Garrison in the editorship of the *Genius*, and Mr. Lundy made another tour, during which Mr. Garrison, less guarded than his chief, or failing to enjoy that warm personal friendship which it was the peculiar good fortune of Lundy to secure everywhere he went, was arrested and thrown into jail because of his outspoken denunciations of slavery, but was finally released on payment of a fine, when he left the city. The paper then fell to Lundy's exclusive management, and not being able to secure a competent and suitable assistant, it was changed from a weekly to a monthly publication. The hatred which had achieved a victory over Garrison was started in pursuit of Lundy, and half a dozen indictments were procured against him in the courts, and he too was imprisoned. On being released, he abandoned Baltimore and removed to Washington City.

In 1830 he traveled extensively in Canada, and awakened the anti-slavery sentiment there with a view to secure an asylum in that country for fugitive slaves from the United States. He also went to Texas to see what could be done toward establishing a grand free labor project there, and afterward to Mexico for the same purpose, and until 1836 he spent nearly his whole time in making many arduous journeys and fruitless efforts to transfer his colony of free negroes in Hayti to Texas or Mexico.

During the absence of Lundy in the South-west and in the land of the Montezumas, the *Genius* was conducted by different persons. Under the management of Evan Lewis, in January, 1834, its place of publication was removed to Philadelphia, at which place Mr. Lewis died in the same year. It was then taken charge of by Rev. Dr. Atlee, and under his management it was suspended for want of adequate support. At that time Mr. Lundy had been absent about three years, occasionally writing letters and communications for it, but otherwise unable to furnish that fire, vim and spirit which had for so many years characterized that staunch champion of human rights. It died more for the lack of the brains and energy of its founder than anything else.

In November, 1835, Mr. Lundy returned from Mexico, and issued one number of the *Genius*, brim full of its old time fire and fury against slavery, and in August of the following year began the issue of another weekly anti-slavery newspaper at Philadelphia, called *The National Enquirer*, and in the same month re-commenced the publication of the *Genius*.

January 31, 1837, a large and enthusiastic convention of the people was held at Harrisburg, Pa., which formed a State society. Among other proceedings it adopted a resolution complimenting the veteran agitator, as follows:

WHEREAS, By the self-denying zeal and untiring efforts of Benjamin Lundy, he sustained the "*Genius of Universal Emancipation*" for eight years of general apathy on the subject of slavery, when no pecuniary embarrassment, no privations of society, no cold neglect or indifference to his warning voice could dissuade him from his fixed principles of duty, he finally drew and fixed the attention of many who were abused by it throughout the land; therefore,

Resolved, That Benjamin Lundy receive the thanks of this Convention.

On the 9th of May, 1838, Lundy retired from the charge of the *Enquirer*, and was succeeded by the Quaker poet, John G. Whittier.

The Abolitionists of Philadelphia had built and dedicated to the cause of freedom a splendid public hall, which cost \$30,000. On the night of the 17th of May, 1838, a mob broke into and fired the building, which was burnt down. In it were all Lundy's private papers, together with all his personal effects, which had been stored in a room of the hall, awaiting his journey to the West. He wrote concerning the event: "My papers, books, clothes—everything of value, except my journal in Mexico, are all—*all* gone,—a total sacrifice on the altar of Universal Emancipation. They have not yet got my *conscience*,—they have not taken my heart, and until they rob me of these they cannot prevent me from pleading the cause of the suffering slave.

"The tyrant (may even) hold the body bound,
But knows not what a range the spirit takes.

"I am not disheartened, though everything of earthly value (in the shape of property) is lost. Let us persevere in the cause. *We shall assuredly triumph yet.*"

In July, 1838, Lundy left Philadelphia for Putnam County, Ill., to which place his children removed. On his way he formed the acquaintance of a young woman of Pennsylvania, a member of the Society of

Friends, with whom he contracted a matrimonial engagement. While on this journey, he wrote to his friends that his health was excellent, and that he felt happy in being clear of the crowded city. Reaching his destination, which was the Quaker settlement near Magnolia, on September 19, he wrote: "I am here at last among my children. This is emphatically one of the best and most beautiful countries that I have ever seen." He afterward on the same day attended an anti-slavery convention at Hennepin, composed of intelligent men and women. It passed a unanimous resolution to encourage the circulation of the *Genius*, and a large number of subscriptions were immediately obtained.

Having been disappointed in several attempts to purchase a press and outfit at Hennepin, where he desired to settle, he received a proposition from some of the inhabitants of Lowell, LaSalle County, to establish his paper there, and accepting their proposition, he went there in the winter of 1838-9, accompanied by his son Charles, his other children following in the spring.

In a letter dated February 3, 1839, he says: "I have purchased a printing office, and established it at a new town called Lowell; but we have no post office yet, and the G. U. E. will be published a while at Hennepin. I have found great difficulty in getting my printing done, but am now prepared to go on regularly as soon as I receive paper, for which I have sent to St. Louis." Lundy built a house and printing office at Lowell, and in the spring purchased a tract of land about four miles distant. His paper was irregularly printed for want of funds and help, he having, for a portion of the time, no other assistants than his two sons, one of whom attended to the farm. Early in August he was attacked by a fever of a kind then prevalent in that region, but rallied, and tried to work a few days, when he was compelled to seek his bed again, though not thought to be dangerously affected. On the morning of the 21st he was again in his office, and wrote a note to one of his children, stating that he had been quite unwell, but was now better. In the afternoon of the same day he was seized with severe pains, and retired to the house of his friend, Wm. Seeley. The next day he continued to grow worse, and suffered much pain until ten o'clock in the evening, when he grew easier and more comfortable. Being told by a physician that his end was probably approaching, he replied that he "felt much better — he felt as if he were in paradise." At 11 o'clock on the evening of the 21st of February, 1839, Benjamin Lundy passed peacefully away, without a groan or a struggle.

His remains, attended by a large concourse of relatives and friends, were removed to the house of his son-in-law, Isaac Griffith, near Magnolia, whence, on the following day they were removed, and interred in the Friends burying ground on Clear Creek.

Thus terminated the earthly career of one of the most self-sacrificing and indefatigable reformers this country has ever produced. Having resolved, twenty-three years before his decease, to devote his life and energies to the relief of the suffering slave and the freedom of the colored people from bondage, he nobly and heroically kept that pledge, and so far as was in his power, redeemed this promise, persevering to the end, undiscouraged by difficulties, not dismayed by obstacles nor appalled at the magnitude of the herculean task before him.

In stature he was rather under the average size, of slender form and slightly built. His complexion was of the nervous-sanguine order, with a cheerful disposition; always polite and agreeable in conversation; never gloomy or despondent. He was afflicted with a difficulty of hearing from an early age, a circumstance which was of great inconvenience and disadvantage to him. He was positive but courteous in defending his opinions, and never neglected any opportunity to assert and maintain his views.

OLD TIME "SHIVAREES."

The boys of the present day who think they discount their ancestors in the charivari business are mistaken. When those old fellows undertook a thing of the kind it was carried through regardless of time or consequences. We knew an incident of the kind in early times which was kept up continuously every night for three weeks, because the groom would not come down with the whisky. It finally became such a nuisance to the occupants of a hotel near by that Wm. S. Hamilton, a Colonel in the Black Hawk war, and the man who surveyed Peoria, treated the crowd, and then presented his bill for the same to the groom. He refused to pay and was sued, in which the Colonel got beaten.

Two noted charivaris are mentioned as having occurred at Magnolia, which were conducted by the "boys," and as several of those who participated are yet living, sedate and gray-haired old men, the mention of them here is relevant.

There was a wedding in the neighborhood, and after the festivities

usual on such occasions, the lights in the house where the newly married couple were, were extinguished and all was quietness and repose. But this was not to be of long continuance. John Dent, Joseph Hall and Thomas Patterson, as leaders, with a number of other young fellows, all bent on having lots of fun, who had concluded to give the young couple a charivari and had laid their plans accordingly, having kept their movements from the knowledge of all who were not to be concerned with them, assembled at the quiet hour of midnight and started for a grocery kept by a man known as "old Patterson." The keeper of this establishment was aware of what was going on, and when the crowd came to his place they were supplied with a stimulus which inflamed and incited them to excesses which it is probable they otherwise would not have been guilty of. Being thus prepared the party started for the house where the happy and unsuspecting couple reposed, and as they approached they broke forth with a hullabaloo and racket that was simply infernal. Beating on tin pans, blowing horns, ringing bells, the barking and howling of dogs, lowing and bleating of cattle, and snorting and clattering of horses were all exceeded by the shouting, hurraing, screeching, screaming and every other possible noise which could be made by half-crazy human beings.

This pandemonium was kept up around the house unceasingly. No persuasion on the part of the groom or the gentleman at whose house he was availed anything. They were impelled by a spirit of malicious mischief to commit an outrage upon decency, and they gave full vent to it. From time to time detachments from the party would return to old Patterson's, fill up anew with whisky, and return to continue their disagreeable proceedings, and it was not until after daylight the next morning that they became exhausted and retired to their homes.

The noises and uproar they made caused a stampede among such cattle, horses and swine as could get out of their enclosures. About ten horses and the same number of cattle belonging to Captain Hawes ran off toward the timber, and it was three or four days afterward before their owner found them. They had strayed more than fifteen miles from home. An individual known as old Billy R——, who had proposed taking a hand in the fun, became so intoxicated at Patterson's groggery that he was unable to go with the "boys," and brought himself to anchor upon a stump a fourth of a mile from the scene of action, and contributed his quota of music by continually howling and ringing a cow

bell. The maliciousness of some of the participants led them to shave the hair from the tail of the groom's horse, and to take a wheel from his buggy and hide it some distance away among the bushes. The wheel was not forthcoming until a week afterward, and then it required the payment of a fee of five dollars to secure it. During the melee John Dent opened the window of the room occupied by the newly married couple, and in true and faultless Indian style gave a prolonged war-whoop.

The ringleaders of this disgraceful affair were arrested on a charge of disturbing the peace, and taken before a magistrate for trial. The offenders employed to defend them a young lawyer who, for the sum of twenty dollars cash to him in hand paid, promised to secure their discharge. This young man was T. L. Dickey, now one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois.

The ill-feeling caused by the affair slowly subsided, and in a few months' time all the parties were on friendly terms again.

It was not long before John Dent discovered his affinity, and the subject of his approaching marriage was the talk of the whole neighborhood. Captain Hawes, who had felt personally offended at the previous affair, determined that Dent, who was the foremost spirit and instigator of it, and who had given that blood-curdling war-whoop, should himself enjoy the pleasure of a charivari on his wedding night. He organized a party of about fifty boys and men, saw that they were properly equipped with a suitable assortment of musical instruments, and at midnight began an entertainment and concert the variety and vehemence of which threw the previous affair entirely in the shade. When daylight came the serenaders retired, but to return again the next night, and again the next, and John Dent was the unwilling recipient of the three times repeated compliments of Captain Hawes and his band of musicians. During the excitement Dent thought to appease the mob by opening the door and trying to argue with them upon the impropriety and ridiculousness of their conduct, but when he did so in a moment the house was filled with people, and it was not until he prepared to burn gunpowder that they left his apartments.

Dent, while not fancying the entertainment prepared for him by his neighbors, would not have seriously objected to their performances if they had been brought to a final close the first night; but he well knew that the continuance of them through three consecutive nights was the work of Hawes, and done in spiteful retaliation for what he had himself

done, and he became so vexed with his old and oft-tried friend that he would not speak to him for several months. But finally these asperities became softened, and on a certain occasion, meeting with mutual friends, they shook hands and became as good friends and as warmly attached as ever.

STEALING A SQUAW.

In 1832 a Frenchman stole a squaw from some friendly Indians near Hennepin. Some time after a couple of Indians of the band to which she belonged came past the Frenchman's cabin, and recognizing the squaw, seized her and forcibly conveyed her home. The Frenchman on returning followed the party until discovering Indian signs, he procured the aid of a number of white men, and went in pursuit. He was dangerously valiant, and begged as a personal favor that the crowd would let him "chaw up the Indians" who stole his wife as soon as caught.

On their way the party met an Indian on a pony at a creek. The Indian was apparently peaceably inclined, so they rode over in "Indian file," the last man to cross being the Frenchman. The Indian waited until he was about to enter the creek, and then seized him, exclaiming, "Bad white man! steal Indian's squaw — eh? and come back to steal she again — not much — eh!" And he pitched into the Frenchman and gave him a good "licking." The valorous gentleman from Paris covered his face with his hands and shouted, "Sacaree! Ouch! Ze blodee Ingeon! By gar, he too mooch gouge moine eye-ouchee! Mur-r-r-dar!" But never a blow did he strike, while his white companions looked on from across the creek in a high state of merriment.

When the Indian had satisfied himself, he rode away, leaving the terrified and well-pounded woman-stealer in a sad state. As soon as the Indian had gone the Frenchman waxed blood-thirsty again.

At Hartzell's trading house they met a large number of Indians, in anything but a friendly mood. Among the white men was a young man named Cummins, a model of physical strength and courage. He, by common consent, acted as spokesman for the party. The Indians accused him of having come after the squaw, while Cummins denied it. The Indian who seemed to lead the party was ugly, and only wanted a pretext to begin a row. He challenged Cummins to wrestle, which, however, meant to fight. Cummins had two pistols, which he kept concealed, and where his antagonist could not reach them. Mr. Reed, one of the white men,

stood over the two as they scuffled, determined to see fair play. The match was nearly even. The Indian was the superior in strength, but Cummins excelled in agility, and was something of a scientific wrestler. It was thought if the Indian had got Cummins under, he would have knifed him; but Cummins repeatedly threw his adversary, so finally the Indian feeling convinced of Cummings' superiority, was glad to call it a tie. The boys got the Indians mellow on whisky, and gladly stole away.

INDIAN NEIGHBORS.

The Indians were numerous when the prairie was first settled by the whites. They lived on the bottoms near the Illinois River, in two camps about equi-distant from Strawn's settlement. The lower camps were occupied by two or three hundred Kickapoos, while the other, three miles above, consisted of a fragment of Shaubena's Pottawatomie Indians. Both tribes were on the most friendly terms with the settlers, and each race found a positive advantage in trading with the other. The Indians brought the white people meat and honey in exchange for corn, flour and tobacco. They would beg for corn out of the crib in winter, and standing in the snow, eat it raw, like squirrels. They never entered a house where there was a fire, except for a few moments, and when near the heat made signs as if suffocated by it.

Shaubena's camp of Indians was small—from twenty-five to one hundred people. They were a roving set, hunting at Bureau, Ottawa, or elsewhere, and never many at a time in camp, while Shick-shack's tribe were more inclined to remain at home. Shaubena's Indians were given to drinking whiskey, while the others rarely touched it.

The Indian braves scorned to do manual labor. They would catch fish and leave them in their canoes to rot in the sun if the squaws were not near to carry them to the wigwams and dress them. They would kill deer and hang them up in the woods, come to the camp, and send the squaws and ponies long distances to find them and bring home the meat, half putrid sometimes before it was skinned and ready for use! They could, if absolutely necessary, very expeditiously skin a deer, but they looked upon all labor as degrading, and made the squaws do the drudgery.

Shick-Shack, the Indian, and his band lived at the mouth of Clear Creek. He was a large, active and intelligent old man, respected by the whites and venerated by his tribe. He was honest and punctual in

all his dealings, and withal possessed considerable ability. He inclined readily toward the ways of civilized life, and probably was the first Indian in this region to avail himself of the Yankee breaking plow to open up the soil for cultivation. He raised good crops of corn, and had a sensible idea of the relative value of the different articles of barter. He cared little for trinkets and gew-gaws, and frequently reproved his men for buying bits of colored glass or brass ornaments.

He was for peace, when Black Hawk plunged the country into war. Foreseeing that the natural and lasting animosities which it had kindled between the two races would prevent them from dwelling together, he deemed it better they should separate; therefore, bowing to the inevitable and unalterable decree of fate, went westward with his tribe in 1833, after which no Indians, or at least but a few stragglers were ever seen on this side of the Mississippi.

AN INDIAN SIGN OF PEACE.

When Captain Hawes moved to Magnolia, he brought with him from Sangamon County a few hogs, as up to that date (1826) there were none in the country. He permitted his pigs to run at large, and the woods being filled with "mast," the swine fattened and increased, and he seemed to have lost all right of property in them. The Indians lived upon them, and new settlers shot them whenever they wanted pork. They became wild, but never dangerous.

One fall, in about 1832, Captain Hawes concluded to assert ownership over these wandering porkers, and obtaining an Indian guide, started on a hunt. After traveling all day they became pretty hungry, and shot a wild turkey, which was dressed, roasted and eaten. They slept upon the ground under a tree. The Indian before lying down drew forth his butcher knife and plunged it into the soil up to the hilt, the Indian sign of peace. The Captain took the other side, taking care to leave a respectable space between its sharp edge and his ribs!

WANTING TO MARRY.

A desire to wed is a pardonable ambition in Eve's daughters the world over, and Jeremiah Strawn states a well remembered incident that befel him.

Once when on his way from Ohio, he stopped over night at a log

house on the Sangamon River, and was waited upon at table by a 200-pound girl with rosy cheeks and bright eyes, who questioned him about the people of the settlement, and when told that wives were in demand, begged him to take her along, saying with a sigh that she "had lived six months on the Sangamo Bottom without seeing a young man," and added that "she could never get married at that rate." Mr. Strawn told her to hope on, but she insisted, with tears in her eyes, that there was no hope while she staid there, and begged to be taken along, which S., in view of her weight and the fact that his pony was small, the distance great, and a wife and children already to look out for, declined to do.



CHAPTER XXIX.

OX BOW PRAIRIE.



BETWEEN Little Sandy and Clear Creek, a couple of streams which enter the Illinois River, flowing from the east, in Putnam County, near Henry, there is a beautiful, irregularly shaped farming region, about five miles in length from east to west, and varying from one to two and a half miles in width, from north to south. This is known as Ox Bow Prairie. The name comes from a real or fancied resemblance of the lines of timber around this prairie to an ox bow which the settlers used upon their patient animals for draft purposes. The likeness, however, is greatly exaggerated, as that region now appears, though perhaps before the present growth of younger timber had appeared and the original marginal lines of the environing woods, as yet unmarred by the axe of the settler, were clear and distinct, the resemblance to an ox bow might have justly warranted the title.

With the exception of a narrow neck at the eastern extremity, where the projecting ends of the fancied bow do not join, the prairie is surrounded by timber, gradually widening the lines of its boundary till near the western limits, where they gracefully form into a circle, and meeting, form the outlines of the tolerably perfect base of the mammoth bow.

The timber growing near the two streams named comprises all the more valuable kinds and varieties of trees found in this State. In these woods there is an abundance of excellent water. There are numerous springs, which add their generous contributions to the creeks, ravines and gullies, and are reached under the surface of the prairie by wells varying from twenty to thirty-five feet in depth. In this way unfailling quantities of pure water are obtained and at trifling expense.

This prairie in olden times was one of the best known localities in Northern Illinois, and in priority of date of its settlement by white people, takes rank with the first made between Peoria and the Wisconsin line.

In early days Ox Bow Prairie was as well known as Galena, Chicago,

Peoria or any point in the State. This section, by reason of its geographical position, the wonderful fertility of its soil, its fine drainage, its superior supply of water, and especially because it was surrounded by heavy timber, seemed a very Garden of Eden to the immigrant from the wooded countries of the East.

In consequence of its peculiar location its settlement was rapid, and long ago it was so completely improved that not a foot of its soil was left unoccupied.

OX BOW SETTLERS.

Lyman Horram was one of the earliest settlers on Ox Bow Prairie, having located there in October, 1830, selecting a place near where Caledonia was originally laid out. Soon other settlers came in, and he found himself surrounded by such neighbors as Capt. William Hawes, John Dent, George H. Shaw, Ephraim Smith, Maj. Elias Thompson, Samuel Glenn, Isaac Glenn, Hiram Allen, John Lloyd, Mr. McCaleb, William Kincaid, Hartwell Haley, Asahel Hannum, George Hildebrand, Isaac Hildebrand, Townley Fyffe and John Boyle and family. Besides these there were no other permanent settlers there until about 1832.

He made his first visit to the West in 1827, and during his meanderings stood upon Starved Rock, in La Salle County, in the summer of that year. This was three years before any white persons had made a settlement anywhere in that region of country. Dr. Walker, an esteemed and well known missionary among the Indians, had established a school for instructing Indian children near where Ottawa now stands. There were no settlers anywhere along the Illinois River between Dr. Walker's mission school and Peoria.

These Ox Bow Prairie settlers built a fort for defensive purposes on a corner of Lyman Horram's farm. It was a well built stockade, enclosing about one-fourth of an acre of land, and had bastions at the diagonal corners, from which those on the inside could protect the fortification from attack by raking fires along the outer walls. The settlers, from fear of danger, occupied their fort at night for about six weeks, leaving it in the daytime, to attend to their respective duties. Mr. Horram, however, made use of its sheltering walls for but one night only, preferring to take his chances while attending more assiduously to the care of his growing crops and his stock. One of his fields extended

on two sides of the fort, in which he had a splendid crop of growing oats. When they were being harvested signs were discovered which indicated that they had afforded shelter to prowling Indians, who had come within easy range of the fort for reconnoitering purposes. If they had ever really intended to attack the settlers their plans were abandoned when they learned of the to them disastrous termination of the war which had been carried on by Black Hawk.

Among the few remaining dwellers on Ox Bow Prairie is Abner Boyle, son of David Boyle, who came to the country in 1829, and with his sons built a cabin and raised twenty acres of corn, yielding fifty and sixty bushels to the acre. This they got ground at the mills on the Mackinaw River, fifty miles away, and with a plentiful supply of venison, made a comfortable "live" of it through the winter. Times were hard, but their wants were few, and the average of enjoyment compared favorably with to-day.

My. Boyle's cabin was a model of simplicity, being simply a pen of loosely laid up logs covered with shakes. The spaces between the logs never having been "chinked," windows were not required, and as cooking was done out of doors, neither fire-place nor chimney were needed. In 1830 he was commissioned post master by Gen. Jackson, and the office named Ox Bow; but people had little time to write letters in those times, and it cost twenty-five cents to get a letter from the East, so that commissions were not sufficient to pay for the labor of opening and examining the mails, and he resigned.

TIGHT TIMES.

During the terribly severe winter of 1830-31 the Ox Bow settlers were in danger of suffering from want of sufficient food. By adhering to a rigid economy, and taking the greatest care of their stocks of provisions, they were enabled to pull through, the more needy and destitute having their wants supplied by those who were better off.

In 1831 a hand grist mill was put in operation by Mr. Z. Shugart, by which the people were enabled to have their corn converted into meal and hominy.

Dr. David Ritchie acted as physician to nearly all the settlers on Ox Bow, having begun the practice of medicine there in 1831.

Rev. William Royal, a Presbyterian minister, looked after their

spiritual wants, performed the marriage service for lovers, christened the children and buried the dead. Church festivals and donation parties were not in vogue in those primitive days.

The first school house that was built was located near Caledonia, and Dr. Ashley was the first teacher who undertook to instruct the young people therein.

INDIAN ALARMS.

During the Black Hawk war, Ox Bow Prairie was the scene of frequent alarms. The red marauders had been seen skulking on the edge of the timber, and in the dense brush along the creeks. They had killed cattle belonging to Horram and Mr. Glenn, near their owners' houses, besides committing other depredations, and the people were justly in a state of constant fear for their personal safety.

Shick-Shack brought word that the Indians talked of coming in force to drive the whites away, and their daily appearance was feared. While the stockade was being built a number of families stayed at Enoch Dent's through the day and hid in the bushes at night. Mr. James T. Hunt, of Wenona, remembers being sent aloft to watch while his mother prepared the dinner below. The savory odor of victuals coming up the chimney was more than the boy could stand, so he deserted his post and came down, and was bolting a piece of pork when the door opened, and all unbidden in stalked a tall Indian. "Not the least obeisance made he," but he said in the best pigeon English he could command that he wanted something to eat. The boy's hair "straight uprose," while Mrs. Dent jumped beneath the bed. He was given the best in the house, and departed.

On another occasion a number of women had met at the house of Enoch Dent, when a squad of Indians came past on their ponies. Some children, Mrs. Jas. S. Dent among the number, saw them coming, and gave the alarm. Mrs. Hawes ran up stairs, and the others scattered off into the bushes. Mrs. Dent ran into the yard and hid under the scant foliage of some wild gooseberry bushes, which only covered her back and shoulders, leaving her head and feet exposed to the view of the Indians, who, pointing to her as they passed, laughed immoderately.

WILD GAME.

In 1826, and until the deep snow of 1830-31, Ox Bow Prairie and the timber around abounded with deer, wolves, prairie chickens, quails,

blackbirds, crows, wild pigeons, snipe, etc. In the fall and spring numerous water fowl, such as ducks, geese and brant, covered the lakes and ponds, and sandhill cranes, for years a stranger to this section, were plentiful. There were many squirrels, a few rabbits, grey foxes, wild-cats, coons, pole-cats, woodchucks, but no pheasants, and but few opossums. A few swans were seen at times. That year was very fatal, and they were never so plentiful afterward.

Captain Hawes says the wild hogs found here sprang from tame animals brought in by the settlers, and allowed to run wild. Hogs that were allowed to run out a single season got very "scary," and a few years would give them all the characteristics of the wild hogs of Europe.

David Stateler states that prairie chickens were never so numerous before as that winter and the next season. They scratched holes in the snow to the ground, and roosted in those holes safe from all foes. In walking through the fields, these places could be seen by hundreds, and the chickens would not fly out until you almost looked down upon them. But the quail and wild turkeys perished, and nearly all the deer, and for several years after that fatal winter but few of either were to be seen.

Besides the wild-cat, or lynx, which the settlers frequently met with, they were outrageously annoyed by wolves, which abounded in great numbers. They prowled around in close proximity to the settlement in such numbers as to defy the dogs usually found as appendages to every well regulated pioneer's family. Pigs, sheep and poultry were particularly enticing to them, and upon which they levied heavy tribute. A pack of twenty or thirty hungry wolves were too formidable for a few dogs to attack, and when they attempted it they usually came off second best. When they became too annoying, neighborhood hunts were organized, at which many were killed. The Hon. John O. Dent, of Wenona, describes one that came off in an early day, the centre of which was about a mile south-east of Mount Pleasant, which corralled 250 deer and seventy or eighty wolves. Thirty wolves and fifty-one deer were killed.

THE DEVIL TURNED INFORMER.

One evening in 1829 Captain Hawes and his family attended meeting at the Hollenback cabin, and listened to a discourse by the Rev. Father Walker. At the conclusion of the services, Adam Payne was called on to pray, and having a good opinion of his oratorical powers, "laid himself

out," as the phrase is, for an unusual effort. He prayed for everybody, from Adam down, and seemingly for every thing, at last winding up, after exhausting the patience of all his hearers, including the minister. Father Walker spent the night with Captain Hawes, and on their way home said to the latter, "Brother Hawes, while Brother Payne was making that long prayer the devil whispered in my ear that your house was on fire, but as he is such an unconscionable old liar, I did not think he told the truth!" Captain Hawes was surprised at the strange apparent intimacy between the devil and a good old Christian minister, but made no reply. They jogged along without increasing their speed, until coming in sight, the house was discovered ablaze around the chimney, and enveloped in smoke! They arrived just in time to save the establishment, which, being built of hard wood, had burned very slowly.

The Captain has ever since been puzzled with the question: "What could have been the object of his brimstonic majesty in notifying Father Walker of the impending catastrophe? Was it because he was wincing under the telling blows the devout Payne was raining upon him, and therefore desired to close the meeting?" To this day it is an unsolved riddle with the Captain, and he can't understand the intimacy between the parson and his satanic majesty.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE IN A WOLF.

George Hannum, when a lad of sixteen, shot a half-grown wolf which approached too near where he was feeding his cattle, and impaling the animal on a pitchfork, strung the young cub across his shoulder and started for home. But the animal was neither dead nor asleep, as his captor too confidently supposed, and tiring of this mode of conveyance, reached down and caught the boy by the seat of his pants, including a goodly portion of the young man's person. The astonished, not to say terrified youth, uttering a Comanche-like yell of surprise and pain, jumped about six feet, and dropping his lively burden, sped for home, one hand grasping the wounded "seat of honor," and the other frantically clutching at space in general, and yelling for help! The boys came to his relief, and the wolf was again made captive, but any reference to the adventure, or casual mention of a "fire in the rear," was ever afterward sure to provoke his ire. To this day it is said the mention of a wolf will involuntarily cause him to grasp the seat of his pantaloons.

CHAPTER XXX.

OLD MILLS OF MAGNOLIA AND VICINITY.



THE first mill in the neighborhood of Magnolia for grinding corn was put up by Mr. Hollenback in 1830, on Little Sandy Creek, near the village. The burrs were a species of blue granite found along the Creek, dressed by himself. The work of shaping and finishing was long and tedious, but when finished they were very creditable specimens of Mr. Hollenback's skill and patience. They were used for many years. The mill at first was run by hand power, the customer contributing his personal strength to the work while his grist was being ground.

Captain Hawes, one of the Lewis brothers and Mr. Knox once ground three bushels of corn upon it, devoting to the job nearly half a day's hard labor! The bolting was done at home, each patron taking his grist there when ground, and the women and boys removed the bran by means of a seive.

John Dent had a small hand mill on his place in 1833, on Little Sandy.

In 1842 Amos Harney built a woolen mill in Magnolia, or else added carding machinery to a flouring mill already built. About 1843 Basore & Simonton removed the machinery from Kestor's mill on Sandy and set it up here.

In 1835 Geo. Griffith had a saw mill on Clear Creek, and in 1837 converted it into a flouring mill.

In 1839 Aaron Bascom built a saw mill on Clear Creek, half a mile from the river road.

In 1850 Mr. Gaylord set up a steam mill in Magnolia, which subsequently fell into the hands of Mr. Bowers.

Dwellers in this land of plenty can hardly realize the inconveniences to which the early settlers were subjected in the matter of food. In 1831-31 the stock of flour and corn-meal ran so low that an expedition was fitted out to go to "the Wabash" for flour. It consisted of five teams,



GEO. S. PARK.

MAGNOLIA, ILL.



the leader being Captain Hawes. They were absent four weeks, and returned loaded with provisions, to the great joy of their families.

THE FIRST ORCHARD.

The first orchard on the prairie was planted by Captain Hawes, in 1827, from seeds obtained in the American bottom. Although more than fifty years old, some of them are still standing and bear fruit. Many procured fruit trees from Peoria, and others brought them from the older States.

THE GREAT SNOW.

Innumerable are the incidents connected with the deep snow of 1830-31. Travel was suspended except in cases of necessity. Along the roads paths were beaten down, which could be traveled, but a horse or ox that got outside was apt to get fast.

One day a man came to Knox's mill, with an old crowbate horse, for a sack of meal. The beast was poor and weak, and staggering beneath its load, fell into the snow and could not be extricated. The man took the load on his back and started home for help. While gone the wolves attacked the horse and ate large pieces out of its hams; yet the animal was alive the next morning, and gave a grateful neigh of recognition.

Mr. David Stateler relates an event which to some will seem humorous, but to him had no fun to speak of. His family occupied a double cabin. In twenty-four hours a vacant room would be full of drifted snow up to the roof. All hands would "tackle" and shovel it out, but the next morning it would be full again. This had to be repeated day after day while the storm lasted.

Another memorable event was the great freeze or sudden change of December 20, 1836, when the weather is said to have changed eighty degrees in a few hours. Captain Hawes distinctly recollects the singular appearance of the sky, and says before the change his cattle, which were kept about the house, stampeded without any known cause to the timber, and could not be stopped. The following incident is related by him:

On that day three men rode up to a house at Walnut Grove and stopped. They did not dismount, nor seem to have any business, or show any reason for thus halting. The inmates came to the door, and discovering that they were nearly covered with ice, rightly divined the cause of

their silence, and managed to get the unfortunate men removed from their horses. Their legs were covered with ice, and so frozen to the girths and stirrups, and their clothing to the saddles that it was necessary to cut the girths and bring men, saddles and all into the house! The horses, too, were about to freeze, but were taken to a hay-covered stable and cared for. After several hours' work the men were "thawed out" and their lives saved, but with badly frozen feet, ears and noses.

Mr. Studyvin vouches for the fact that rats were seen that day actually frozen fast in the mud while crossing the streets. Dead rats and pigs were found in the streets and alleys, and especially the former, which seem to have perished in large numbers everywhere.

Jeremiah Strawn is authority for saying that in five minutes mud froze sufficiently hard to bear a horse.

Enoch Dent and his son John had a like memorable experience. With a young and mettlesome span of horses they were going some distance on an errand, when the young man was thrown from the wagon and got thoroughly wet in the mud and slush. The temperature began soon after to rapidly change. A piercing wind came from the north and west, laden with fine stinging hail-stones, which blinded the horses and men. John soon realized he was in a fair way of being frozen, and becoming alarmed, his father covered him with blankets, and "let the mares out." For the next half mile the team bounded like deer over the prairies. What had a few moments before threatened young Dent's death—the water in his clothing—now froze into solid ice and proved his safety, forming a shield through which the Arctic blasts could not reach; but the father began to feel the premonitory symptoms of freezing. Fortunately they soon reached their destination, but were hardly able to enter the shop without help, they were so stiff and cold. They had not been inside three minutes when a man went out to put the horses under shelter, and found the wheels frozen in the tracks, and on attempting to unhitch the horses, the buckles were found to be frozen fast. Toward evening, finding they dare not drive home, they went three-fourths of a mile to Mrs. Swan's house, and in that short distance came near perishing.

A ROW OF EBONY CROWS, ETC.

Captain Hawes' place was near the Lewis house, long known as the underground railroad station of the Quaker settlement. To see wagon

loads of runaway negroes going past his dwelling toward Lewis' and the happy land of freedom beyond, was a common occurrence, one of weekly and sometimes of daily happening. The Captain in his quaint way says: "It got to be a regular thing. I used to look over toward Lewis' place mornings and see niggers roosting on the fence like a row of crows!"

Sometimes pursuit was made after the escaping chattles, but there is no record of any ever having been caught in this locality. Their friends around Magnolia, Clear Creek and Ox Bow were numerous and determined, and it would have gone hard with the slave catcher or officer who dared to venture here to reclaim one of these fugitives. The friends of the slave entered heart and hand and with their very souls, into the work of helping the fugitive onward.

Stephen and James Willis brought through Magnolia the first escaping slaves, in 1827 or 1828.

SOME HUNTING STORIES.

Mr. John W. Laughlin was once followed by a large timber wolf a distance of two miles, the wolf coming at times within 200 yards of the somewhat nervous pedestrian, who did not run, but admitted that he "wanted to!" The hungry lupine came up to the house, when the family dog was started after him, and both being afraid of each other, the dog would chase the wolf out upon the prairie, when the latter would turn the tables upon the dog and run him back to the house,—a race that was two or three times repeated. The gun being out of order, the boys armed themselves with axes and pitchforks and came to the rescue of their faithful "Towser," when the wolf disappeared.

Some Mt. Palatine hunters remember with feelings of disgust the following incident: They once drove a deer across the prairie toward Magnolia, where a man who lived near the timber helped them to capture and kill the animal. They carried the deer to the fellow's house by his invitation, and while dressing it dinner was announced, and they were pressed to come in and partake of the meal. A four hours' chase over the prairies had given the boys good appetites, and they eagerly accepted the welcome offer. When through and about to leave, the host inquired of them "if they had not forgotten something?" They asked, "What?" He replied, "To settle for your dinner." "Wall," drawled he, "I guess the deer will make it all right." He took the coveted venison upon his shoulder and packed it into the house, coolly adding, "Good day!" They left in-

as completely a disgusted state of mind as could possibly be imagined.

In 1842 a noted circular hunt came off in the vicinity of Mt. Palatine, the "winding up" point being a clump of willows two miles south-east of town. Fifteen wolves and several deer were the result. While the party were dividing the game at its conclusion, a deer dashed past the hunters, and a Mr. Headly killed it with a cooper's adze.

HOME-MADE CLOTH.

Illustrative of the inventive genius of the early settlers of this State, Mrs. John Laughlin, then Miss Jane Reed, living in Schuyler County, Ill., remembers an experiment made by her mother, which suggests altogether a novel idea in the manufacture of cloth. She took the tall stalks of wild nettles, which grew in abundance among the timber everywhere, and were three or four feet high, and putting them through the same process as was employed in the treatment of flax or hemp, made cloth of the lint or fibre! It was coarse, strong and durable, and made a sort of towel, which combined the rubbing qualities of the washboard with the drying but not soothing effect of a modern fine crash napkin!

The men and boys in those days (1830 to 1840) wore buckskin pants. After a day's wear in the snow or rain, and dried at night, they would stand them up by the beds ready for next morning's wear. As a little girl, Mrs. Laughlin remembers these pants standing stiff and ghost-like about the room!

MOUNT PALATINE.

To the eastward of the line of timber bordering the Illinois River, and running outward along its tributaries between Magnolia and Granville, there lies a stretch of prairie extending to the Vermilion River, in La Salle County. This, for beauty, richness of soil and perfection of farm improvements has no superior in the State. At the dividing line between La Salle and Putnam Counties, about six miles from Tonica, is situated the little village of Mt. Palatine. It was laid out June 23, 1849, by Christopher Winters, and is at the north-east corner of Magnolia Township.

Winters had bought a large body of land here in 1830, and re-sold it mostly to settlers from Massachusetts, designing to start on his land "a live Yankee town." He also designed the establishment of an educa-

tional institution, which when first built was called a seminary, but afterward its ambitious projector and patron succeeded in having it elevated, in name at least, to the dignity of "Judson College."

In 1842 the first house in the town was built by "Deacon" Woodbury, and afterward occupied by Elder Thomas Powell. Otis Fisher, of Granville, became the first preacher in the settlement, in 1841. He had a small frame dwelling erected just outside the limits of the town, and lived in it for a year.

Dr. Larned Davis first visited Mt. Palatine in July, 1841, and began making improvements, and therefore may be considered the first settler, though he did not make that place his permanent abode until 1843. Mr. Winters' residence was built in 1839, and stands a few rods north of the village. He preferred not to reside within the limits of his projected town, but in a suburb thereof. There were two or three other houses built on the prairie near and around the town in 1842. One was put up near the meridian line, close to the town, by Mr. Winters, for Orrin Whitcomb, of Magnolia, who, however, failed to occupy it. Another, which was built in the spring and had been blown down, was re-raised in July, 1841, in which labor the few settlers of the country for several miles around took part, mustering not over a dozen men and boys. The only house within twenty-five miles in a south-easterly direction from Mt. Palatine was that of William Johnson, which was a mile away. Since then the country has completely filled up with thriving and industrious farmers.

The town being an "inland" place, made some growth, but its nearest connection with the world being Tonica, on the Illinois Central Railroad, six miles away, its prospects for future growth are not very flattering.

The probability of Mt. Palatine becoming a place of any considerable importance consisted of a scheme to make it a seat of learning. An academy was therefore erected, which was paid for by subscriptions from the settlers in the neighborhood. The building, which was begun in the fall of 1841, was plain and substantial, built of brick. Rev. Otis Fisher, who had done much toward the building up of the academy at Granville, was induced to come to this new field of labor as superintendent, which he entered in the winter of 1842. For fifteen years the Academy flourished and the village grew in proportion, but the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad caused the building up of the rival town of Tonica, six miles distant, when the local trade and business, which had been the life

of Mt. Palatine, ceased, and its further growth was not only stopped, but its rapid decline began. The Academy, too, ceased to be attractive, and it gradually subsided from its previous flourishing condition, and becoming unprofitable, was sold in 1860 to the Catholic people of the vicinity. A condition of the sale made between the two parties was to the effect that the buyers should maintain a permanent school in the building, which they have thus far done. A provision made in the transfer papers was to the effect that in the event of a failure to maintain such school, the title of the property should revert to the original owners. The building is used by the Catholics not only for school purposes, but as a church.

Among the pupils who attended this Academy at different times were the Hon. Thomas Shaw and his sisters, now of Lacon, and Mr. Whittaker, who has since been a distinguished missionary to Burmah.

This educational institution began at first under a charter as an Academy, but during the days of Mt. Palatine's brightest prosperity, looking forward to a higher position as an establishment of learning, the trustees obtained from the Legislature a charter as a College. Their building originally cost about \$3,000.

During the career of this institution there were several distinguished persons connected with it, among whom at one time was the poet Coates Kenney, author of "Rain on the Roof," who officiated there as a teacher.

In 1879 there were in Mt. Palatine three churches, a good district school, two general stores, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, post-office, one physician, about twenty-five dwellings scattered over sixty acres of ground, and a population of about one hundred people. Among its public institutions are a good village Literary Club and a Red Ribbon Society. The first hotel (built in 1852) was owned and run by Samuel Puffer, a good brick house, which is now occupied as a residence by John W. Laughlin.

The first store opened in Mt. Palatine was that of Boardman Fulsom, where was sold drugs, groceries and dry goods. He began business here soon after the town was laid out, and retired from business in 1850.

MT. PALATINE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The people of this religious faith living at Mt. Palatine and vicinity

were formally organized into a Society in 1845, and Elder Thomas Powell was the first pastor.

The original members were: Thomas Powell, Elizabeth Powell, Barbara Powell, Otis Fisher, Harriet N. D. Fisher, Nathan Kingsbury, Syrena Kingsbury, James Curtis, Mary J. Curtis, Isaac Woodbury, Eunice O. Woodbury, Jerusha Woodbury, Mary W. Boutwell, Eunice Graves, Nathaniel Graves, Daniel Reniff, Rhoda Reniff, Nancy Reniff, August Reniff, Ruth Stephens, Mary Reese, Wm. Johnson, Hepsibeth Johnson, Peter Howe, Arvilla Howe, Larned Davis, Mary Davis, Hiram Larned, Abbey Larned, Orrin Whitecomb, Artemas O. Woodbury and Lydia S. Woodbury.

The meetings of this sect were held at first at the school house, until the Academy building was erected, when they occupied that edifice until the dissolution of the Society, which was in 1865, about the time the building named was sold to the Catholics.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

January 3, 1869, a business meeting of those favoring the formation of a Congregational Society was called, which met, and a committee consisting of John W. Laughlin, Robert Gallaher, A. L. Harrington, John Larned and John Morrison was appointed to obtain the names of such as were willing to enter into the proposed movement. The committee reported at an adjourned meeting held January 10, and again at a meeting held January 17. It was then decided to invite the Baptist and Methodist Societies of Tonica and the Cumberland Church Society to join with them for general conference, with a view to the organization of a "broad gauge" church. The invitation was accepted, and the Council assembled February 6, George Gurnea being chosen as Moderator. After transacting the general business before the Council, the Congregationalists proceeded to effect their church organization, which they did by the election of A. L. Harrington, John Morrison and George Gurnea as Ruling Elders, John W. Laughlin, John Morrison and Andrew Powell as Trustees, James G. Laughlin Secretary, and John W. Laughlin, Treasurer.

The next day, February 7, the Council again met at the school house at Mt. Palatine, the following delegates being present from other church organizations: Thomas Ware and Rev. H. V. Warren, from Granville Congregational Church; J. C. Hayward and Rev. J. W. West, from the Congregational Church at Tonica; Rev. N. W. Curtis, of the Methodist

Episcopal Church at Tonica; Rev. J. H. Burris, A. P. Dysart, N. B. Fulsom and R. W. Moore, of the Presbyterian Church at Granville; and Rev. J. E. Roy, D. D., agent of the Home Missionary Society.

This organization was composed of the following named members: John W. Laughlin and wife, James G. Laughlin, K. J. Davis, Margaret McNab, Caroline Lawrence, John Morrison and wife, A. L. Harrington and wife, George Gurnea and wife and Stephen W. Gallaher.

During the six years preceding 1879, Dr. E. R. Robinson officiated as pastor for this Congregational Society, but resigned his holy calling, resumed the practice of medicine, and is now a leading physician in Mt. Palatine.

The Congregational Church edifice, a substantial building capable of seating 300 persons, and costing with its organ \$3,500, is an ornament to that section of the country.

PROSPECT HOUSE.

For years an exceedingly pretentious building stood upon the prairie, near the county line, which was known as the Prospect House. It was erected in 1836 by Thomas Patterson, as a hotel or half way house on the Ottawa road, and was properly named, being located upon a high knoll or rise in the prairie. From the balconies of this house a most magnificent view of the country for many miles in every direction could be obtained. The central point of the grand wolf hunt of November 11, 1842, elsewhere described, was at a small willow grove near Prospect House.

THE PREDESTINARIAN BAPTIST CHURCH.

This Society, one of the earliest religious denominations in the County of Putnam, was organized at Caledonia, September 3, 1836. The first pastor was Elder James B. Chenowith, who began his ministrations October 1, 1836. The charter members were Wm. E. Larkins, Rachel Larkins, John Brumsey, Joseph Ash, Elizabeth Ash, Joel Corbell, Miriam Graves, I. D. Glenn and Sarah Glenn. Their present house of worship was built in 1855.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS.

In 1850, John McWilliams, a respectable citizen of Caledonia, hung himself. He arose from his bed at the usual hour on the fatal morning,

built a fire and went out. His wife prepared breakfast, but her husband not returning in proper time, she supposed he might be busy in the stable. She went there to summon him to breakfast, when she was horrified to discover him hanging by the neck. His life had taken its everlasting flight. No cause was ever assigned for the rash act.

In 1853, David Trone, a blacksmith, was killed by a remarkable accident. He had constructed a contrivance propelled by horse power, by which to grind and polish plows. He had started it up on the day in question, and was making satisfactory progress, when the grindstone burst and a piece of it struck him in the breast, killing him almost instantly.

In 1855 a man named Parsons, who had not been long married, living near the head of the prairie, went to the timber for a load of wood. He told his wife he would return about noon. That hour came and passed, as did several others, and at about four o'clock she became very uneasy, and tried to induce some of the neighbors to go in search of him; but entertaining none of the anxious young wife's fears for his safety, no one went. When night came and her husband failed to make his appearance, the poor woman persuaded a few of her neighbors to accompany her. In this search, which was continued several hours into the night, they were unsuccessful, and the unhappy and disconsolate woman went weeping to her couch.

The next morning the almost crazed woman set out alone in search of her husband, and as soon as she reached the timber she was struck dumb with the sight that greeted her eyes. She found the object of her long and painful search lying by the side of his sled, stiff and cold in death. He had been crushed by a large log which, in attempting to load upon his sled, had slipped and fallen upon him. There he had lain alive for several hours, as the snow within reach of his feet and hands showed the unmistakable evidence of his vain struggles to free himself. The horses had remained all night by the side of their dead master. After Mrs. Parsons found the corpse, being unable to extricate it, she returned and told the dreadful story, and soon willing hands and sympathizing friends hurried to the scene, returning with their mangled and ghastly burden. It was a sad case, and excited deep sympathy for the poor young wife.

MRS. GILLA COWAN.

This estimable lady was a daughter of Mr. John E. Dent, and an aunt

of Hon. John O. Dent, now a resident of Wenona. Her husband, Mr. William Cowan, visited Illinois in 1829, with a view to selecting a location for a settlement. He returned to his home in the East, but early in 1831 came back, bringing his wife and family, and for many years resided about a mile from Magnolia, at which place he died in 1864.

Mrs. Cowan once had an amusing experience with a party of Indians, which she took pleasure in relating. On one occasion a half dozen warriors came to her house and asked for food, explaining that they were hungry. She immediately prepared a meal for them, placing it upon a table with the usual accompaniment of dishes, knives and forks, and placed her copper-colored guests in position to enjoy the bountiful repast which she had prepared. They imagined the plates were placed before them to catch the juices that dripped from their mouths as they tore their food; but they examined the knives and forks curiously, and after debating the matter, the bright idea struck one of them to dip his hand in the dish, seize pieces of meat, stick them on the points of the knife and fork before him and hold them there, taking the meat from them with his fingers for conveyance to his mouth. The idea seemed a feasible one, and was immediately followed by each of the others.

PIGEON ROOST.

In 1857-8 this country literally swarmed with wild pigeons. Never before in the memory of the oldest inhabitant were these birds so plentiful, and never since has there been any such visitation. They filled the woods everywhere between Union Grove and Crow Creek, but, as is the habit with this peculiar variety of the feathered tribe, they flocked together and formed an immense "roost" in the woods near Jeremiah Strawn's house. Here they gathered in large numbers, coming in such clouds as at times to darken the sky. They would make a noise when disturbed in daytime like the rushing of a mighty wind storm. Their roost covered a space of about three-fourths of a mile in one direction and nearly double that in the other. They lodged upon trees until they broke off large limbs, and bent the tops of the saplings and undergrowth to the ground. At nights they were at the mercy of hunters, who, provided with flaming torches which blinded the birds, could shoot and slaughter at leisure. Persons came from considerable distances to obtain them as

an article of food, and they generally returned loaded down with game. One evening Joshua Bush and his son Isaac killed 750 birds, and on another occasion Isaac brought down eighty-eight of them by discharging both barrels of his shot gun, firing promiscuously at a tree full of them.



SENACHWINE TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXXI.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.



THE Township and village of Senachwine derive their names from a noted Indian chieftain formerly living in the vicinity, and whose remains were interred half a mile north-east of the village. The Township consists of one whole and one fractional township, and contains in all about forty-four sections of land. It lies upon the west side of the Illinois River, and is made up of alluvial bottom and table land of unparalleled fertility. Portions are subject to overflow, but year by year the river is receding or the annual deposits raise the land so that a larger surface is brought under cultivation.

The principal stream is Senachwine Creek, known in former times as the Little Elbow in contradistinction to a larger stream of the same name in the vicinity.

Senachwine Lake is a pleasant body of water east of the village, about two and a half miles long and from eighty to one hundred rods wide, noted for its fine fish and for being a pleasant resort for hunting and bathing parties in summer.

In 1835 a town was laid out here by B. M. Hayes, but appears to have died in the shell, as nothing of its history can be learned.

Subsequently the village of Senachwine was laid out by Peter Barnhart and Cortland Condit, owners of the land.

In the year 1855 the Bureau Valley Railroad was built, and the same year James McCurdy opened a store, the first in the place. He was also the first postmaster. In that year, too, George H. Ward began the grocer's trade, and Aaron Haines built a hotel. At present the town contains about one hundred buildings of all kinds, and 400 inhabitants. It has two churches, a fine public school house, elevator, passenger building, flouring mill, several good stores, etc.

The bluffs abound with coal, which, though easily mined, has never been developed.

Early attention was given to schools, and a building for school purposes was erected in 1838, on an island in the lake, at which most of the young men of that day obtained the rudiments of their education. The first teacher was Mary Emerson, and her patrons were Messrs. Reed, Bacon, Morgan, Talliaferro, Barnhart and Condit. For many years this building served its purpose, but long since gave way to a better structure and went to decay.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first white settler at Senachwine was James R. Talliaferro, who in March, 1835, made a claim on the site of the deserted Indian village. The only white settlers then in this valley besides himself were: Tyrrell Reeves, Jesse Perkins, Wm. Lathrop and Russell Mallory and their families. For many miles above and below, on the east side of the river, there were no other settlers.

At Henry there were Major Thompson, Mr. Stacey and Charles Nock. With the exceptions of Mr. and Mrs. Talliaferro, there are now none living of those first settlers of this Township.

George Reeves, famous as "the outlaw," lived in a small shanty north of Talliaferro's dwelling, which is now known as the James Winship place. Reeves' brother Tyrrell at one time lived near the top of the same hill, but he subsequently removed to the lower end of Crow Meadow Prairie. There was a third brother named William, who lived with them a short time, but returned to Indiana. There was still another brother named John, who improved the place from which George was afterward expelled. Tyrrell and William improved the place which was afterward known as the Barnhart place.

When Talliaferro moved to Senachwine he was accompanied by a young man named Asa Mounts, and a young woman, Charlotte Pfieffer. These persons were subsequently, in the fall of 1835, united in marriage and settled north of Mr. Talliaferro's place, on the Perkins farm.

The next settler was Wm. L. Gilbert, who occupied a part of the Barnhart farm, and near him Dr. Culbertson, a physician who did not practice his profession, also settled and improved the Wm. Wheeler place.

In the fall of 1837, Samuel C. Bacon and Thomas Morgan settled upon the Culbertson claim.

The wife of James R. Talliaferro came with her parents to LaSalle County in 1828, when she was thirteen years of age; was married in 1833, and came to live at her new home at Senachwine in 1836. The first death that occurred here was their son Norris, on August 21, 1836, an infant less than a year old.

Thomas Morgan came to Hennepin in 1835, and was married to Clara Cook, sister of W. E. Cook, deceased, of Lacon, an account of whose wedding is given elsewhere.

Peter Barnhart afterward bought Gilbert's claim and settled thereon in 1836. On this place he was prosperous, and there he ended his days.

C. R. Condit came in 1836, and settled south of the Indian mounds, where he laid out the town of Senachwine, at first calling it Condit. Philip Reed arrived during the same season and made a claim on what was afterward the Drake farm.

Lewis Thompson and Wm. Kidney arrived in 1837, and began improvements on their afterward well known homestead. James Buchanan came in 1838, made a claim and sold it to Matthew Hoyt, who occupied it the following year.

William Williams started from his home in Philadelphia in 1837, went to Hartford, Indiana, where he remained till the spring of 1838, when he made a trip as supercargo of a flatboat down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and up Red River, returning to Hartford the next year. Later in the year he traveled across the country on horseback to Warford Bonham's, above Sparland. He afterward opened a claim in the Snyder settlement, where he became acquainted with John B. White, for whom the town of Whitefield was named. In 1843 he married Miss A. Lyon, having previously moved to Senachwine. He was Judge of Putnam County for six years, and held many different local offices, among them Justice of the Peace, the duties of which office he performed for twenty-five years.

Samuel C. Bacon moved to Senachwine in the fall in 1837, and was the first Justice of the Peace of the precinct, and afterward of the town, an office which he held for over twenty-five years.

John Williams came West in 1837, and settled at Hennepin, but afterward moved to Senachwine, and settled on his present farm.

Loton Frisbee settled near the bluff, in Senachwine, in June, 1835,

near the line of Henry Township. At that time Russell Mallory lived on the prairie, but sold his claim the same year to Colonel Snyder, who previously lived on Guy Pool's place.

LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD.

The first minister who ever preached in this locality was Elder James B. Chenowith, of the Baptist Church. He commenced his labors in 1838, and lived on a place about half way between Senachwine and Tiskilwa.

In 1839 Rev. Mr. Kenyon, a Methodist, came into the neighborhood, and commenced a ministration in holy things. He was the first man to introduce a McCormick reaper in this section of country.

In 1857 the Methodists, having increased in numbers so that no private house could accommodate them, built a neat and substantial church. Their first "class meeting" was organized in 1838.

SENACHWINE'S INDIAN VILLAGE.

Surrounded by an amphitheater of hills, near the mouth of Little Senachwine Creek is a beautiful and romantic spot, whereon for ages stood a famous Indian village bearing the name Senachwine. This was the name of a prominent Indian chief who for nearly a hundred years had dwelt in this region. Between this historic place and the Illinois River there is a beautiful lake, celebrated for the abundance and excellence of its fish. The Indian chief gave his name not only to his village and this lake, but also to the creek which enters the valley here; and the town of the white people, the voting precinct and the township have all been honored with the same title. This was also the name of the postoffice until some ambitious person with an unpoetic soul desired a change in the name of the office to make it conform with that of the railroad station near the old town, and had it called Putnam.

In unknown ages past, this county was the bed of a great inland lake, and the bluffs northwest of the village, an island, which, as the waters subsided, became the wooded range of hills we now see. These mark the southeastern boundary of the small valley which afforded a site for the Indian village of Senachwine. These hills are separate and distinct from the Illinois River bluffs, and stand out upon the plain to the East, a marked feature in the landscape.

In the vicinity are numerous mounds and remains of an ancient civil-

ization, and on the top of a ridge east of Mr. Talliaferro's residence is a series of mounds in which some trace a resemblance to certain animals, and claim they were originally constructed for worship.

The dwelling and a portion of the farm of James R. Talliaferro are in this beautiful valley, wherein stood Senachwine's village. Even as recently as 1835 the country around was strewn with the relics of Indian wigwams, and there were visible evidences of the existence of at least 300 of their rude houses. Early French traders mention the existence of an Indian village there which numbered 500 lodges.

The large number of mounds found upon the hills around this little valley can be accounted for on no other hypothesis than that this was once densely populated by the aborigines, and probably had been for many years an Indian burial ground.

When Mr. Talliaferro first visited this locality, now more than fifty years ago, the grave of the old Indian chieftain, Senachwine (then not long dead), was shown him. The stakes which had been placed at each end of the grave were there still, and a high pole which had been placed near the spot to indicate its locality, still had fluttering at its top a small flag, which the old chief's followers had placed there. Mr. Talliaferro's residence stands on the site of a once large and thriving town, inhabited by a race of people whose characteristics were entirely different from ours. Where wigwams stood, the plowman regularly drives his team afield to cultivate the soil. The burial places of the red man of the forest are also utilized for similar purposes, and the mounds which were made to indicate their resting places are being converted by the plowshare of modern civilization into corn and wheat fields.

THE INDIANS AT SENACHWINE'S GRAVE.

Senachwine, the famous Indian chief, of whom we have frequently made mention, died in 1830 at the Indian village which bore his name, and his body was buried with the pomp and ceremony which became his station. For many years his grave was an object of interest, not only to the white people, but to the Indians also, who came from long distances to visit it.

In 1835 a large number of Pottawattomie Indians came to pay their tribute of respect to the memory of this dead chief. When they assembled around the mound they were greatly and justly indignant at finding the



Nutcrison Croft.

(DECEASED)

WENONA. ILL.



remains had been molested. Some worthless hunters, searching for valuables, had rifled the dead chief's grave and scattered his remains. Deep was their grief and lasting their resentment. It was an insult and outrage difficult to endure. They opened the grave and proceeded with much ceremony to re-inter his bones. This done, they made a new mound over the spot, placed substantial posts in the ground at either end, and about a rod away toward the south-west erected a pole, with a small flag at the top. When this was accomplished they bitterly turned their faces to the setting sun and departed, never to look upon his grave again.

HOW A WOMAN SHOT A DEER.

The following incident, related by Mrs. John Williams, shows what the sex were capable of in the olden time, and that though woman may faint at the sight of a dangerous mouse and go into "convulsions" at the explosion of a Fourth of July squib, she can, under other circumstances, exercise courage, judgment and self-possession of the highest order.

One morning in 1846, during the absence of the "men folks," she saw from her cabin window a fine looking deer pass by, and taking her husband's loaded gun from its rest, endeavored to bring him in range, but without effect. She had two dogs that came at her call and attacked the deer, but after a short run and fierce fight they were disabled. Finally she shot the animal in the head, without, however, dispatching him, and while she returned for a knife to cut its throat, a disreputable character named Cy Bowles, who had quietly watched the performance, hastily dispatched the game, and being a large, powerful man, shouldered and carried it off before her return.

A RUNAWAY.

Occasionally a fugitive slave would find the road to liberty through Senachwine, sent upon this out-of-the-way trail to avoid pursuit.

Once a negro, hotly pressed by his enemies, was disguised by his friends as a woman, and passed through Senachwine in a lumber wagon, in charge of George Cone, who lived between this village and Henry.

On another occasion a fellow came to the house of Asa Cunningham, near the village, and begged his assistance. He was an escaped slave, from Missouri, and while resting by the roadside discovered in the distance an approaching horseman, whom he at once knew to be his master.

The negro said: "I was so skeert dat I shet my eyes, afeerd he'd see 'em, and did n't dar to draw my bref, afeerd he'd smell 'um, for I'd a ben eatin' wild ingens (onions)." The master was at the hotel, and the slave dare not move, for it was in the middle of the day. Mr. Cunningham was the village undertaker, and rightly believing no one would hunt a runaway in a hearse, hitched up his blind horse and loading the "darkey" into a coffin, drove through Senachwine at a melancholy amble, the business gait of the ancient nag. The master saw the cavalcade as it passed, and was amused at the oddity of the turnout, while the driver headed his course for Hennepin and safely delivered his lively "corpse" into the hands of trusty friends, who kept him concealed until the pursuers left the country.

THE MURDER OF M'KEE.

A number of years ago a man named Anderson McKee was the keeper of an inn at Henry. He had as a guest one Williams, a drunken, worthless fellow, who never found it convenient to pay his board bills. This delinquency was the cause of frequent disputes between the parties, and Williams, becoming angered at McKee's continued demands, determined to do him bodily harm. He told McKee if he would procure a horse and buggy and go with him to Boyd's Grove, where he said money was due him, he would liquidate the debt. McKee consented to the arrangement, and they started off, not, however, directly toward the place they proposed to visit, for they were seen riding about the bluffs beyond Senachwine, on the road leading to Princeton. It was while in a thick piece of woods on these bluffs that Williams, with a knife with which he had that day provided himself, while McKee's attention was diverted, deliberately cut the throat of his companion. There was a profuse flow of blood from the wound, and the injured man immediately lost consciousness. Williams, supposing he had fully succeeded in his murderous work, dragged the body from the buggy and placed it behind a large log lying some distance from the road. Finding water near by, he removed the blood stains from the buggy and his person as well as he could, and instead of continuing forward on the Princeton road, turned in the direction of Henry. When about half way between that place and Senachwine he was met by a man who had seen him and McKee together in the buggy before they left Henry, who asked where McKee was. Williams gave an evasive answer, and the man continued his journey. Approach-

ing a farm house a short distance beyond, he found the people there in great commotion. It seems that McKee, after having been thrown behind the log and left for dead by Williams, revived sufficiently to drag himself to the farm house, not many rods away, and with his remaining strength tell his pitiable tale. A physician was summoned, but when he arrived it was too late. The vital spark had fled.

The man who had met Williams, on learning these facts and seeing the bloody body of McKee, took a circuitous route, hurried to Henry, and procured the issue of a warrant for the arrest of the murderer. An officer immediately went in pursuit, readily found the man he was in search of, and lodged him in jail. In due time a trial of the case was had, the culprit was convicted of manslaughter, and served out a term in the penitentiary therefor.

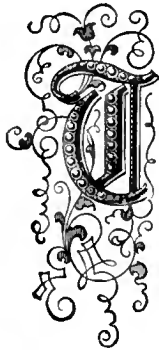
SICKNESS.

The early settlers had many hardships and privations to contend with, but their worst foes were ague and malarial fevers. Bad as these complaints are now, they were infinitely worse then, while the remedies now most used were then unknown. Physicians were few, and reliance was mainly upon roots, herbs, and good nursing. The year 1838 was particularly unhealthful, and numerous deaths occurred among the children. In two neighboring families in Senachwine, twelve persons were prostrated at once, and only one person to wait upon them. Dr. Montfort, of Henry, was the only physician available, and his labors were incessant. Mercury in its various forms was largely used, often entailing great and untold suffering, as in the case of a Miss Reed, one side of whose face was eaten away by the poison, leaving the bare and fleshless jaw exposed; her teeth fell out, and her jaws became set so that it was with difficulty food could be forced into her mouth. Her sufferings were intense, yet she recovered, and modern science restored her fearfully mutilated face into at least a semblance of humanity, after which she enjoyed good health for many years. This was done by removing the skin from a portion of the arm, binding the arm to her face, and then retaining it with bands until it grew there, when the piece so attached was cut off and rounded into form. The operation was painful, but the woman's will and endurance made it a success.

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXXII.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



THE Township of Granville was so named by Ralph Ware, after the town from which he came in Massachusetts. It is situated in the north-east corner of Putnam County, and is bounded on the north by the Illinois River, on the east by La Salle County, on the south by Magnolia and on the west by Hennepin Township. It contains forty-four sections or square miles of surface. Along its northern boundary are the bluffs of the Illinois River, while wooded points extend into the prairies along either side of such streams as flow toward the river. With the exception of the wooded lands referred to, and the "bottom" lands adjoining the water-courses, the surface of the country is rich and level prairie, covered with fertile, well cultivated farms.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The first settlers in Granville Township were the brothers James and George B. Willis, who came in 1827; Stephen D. Willis, who afterward (in 1853) went to Oregon; and John Robinson, a celebrated hunter, in 1828; George Ish and his son Bazdale, a youth of fourteen years, James D. Ross, Roswell Blanchard, Hugh Warnock, — Creswell and Leonard Ross in 1829. In 1830 came — Burr, Daniel Jones, — Thomas, — Williams, — Daniels. — Hendricks and John D. Blake came in 1831. Henry Schooler and James Vintiner arrived in the settlement in 1832. In 1833 the population was increased by the arrival of Thomas Ware, James Mills, — Shepard, Robert, John and Alexander Moore, Mrs. Mary Mills, Mrs. Ellen Lundy, Mrs. James Harper, Albert Harper and Samuel Brown. In 1834, Daniel and J. F. Shepard, Anthony Smith, A. D. Hayslip and William Sherman came and settled. In 1835, J. W.

Hopkins, George B. Hopkins, Luther D. Gunn, Alanson Whitaker and August Brenneman came; and in 1836, Isaac Sprague, Amos Dewey and — Benschauer.

Some of the old settlers of the Township whose names are not given above, who either died or moved away, are James G. Lawton, Joseph, James and Simeon Warnock, who came in 1829 or 30, and subsequently went to Iowa; John Burrows in 1829, dead; Isaac Archer in 1830, dead; Thomas Wafer in 1830, went to Texas and is dead

The first interment made in the cemetery at Granville was the body of Levi Shepard, in January, 1837.

In 1838, Luther D. Gunn settled two and a half miles from Granville; Hugh Warnock lived at Union Grove in 1833, and James Warnock in the vicinity.

THE VILLAGE OF GRANVILLE.

The village was surveyed and laid off April 7, 1836. Its first settler was a man named Creswell, who built a cabin there in 1832-3. The second house, a frame structure, was erected by Thomas Ware, in 1834. In April, 1836, an addition was made to the village by Thos. Ware, James Parr, William Smith, Clarissa Ware, Archer and Margaret Hay-slip. It occupies a commanding site upon the prairie, affording a fine view of the surrounding country, approached in all directions by good roads. Few localities present scenes of such varied sylvan beauty. The farms are highly cultivated, the houses are elegant, the roads are bordered with hedges, and a profusion of shade and fruit trees beautify the landscape and add to its attractiveness. The fathers of the settlement "built for all time," and laid its foundations broad and deep in the eternal principles of truth and rectitude. Early attention was given to schools, and the morals of the country were not overlooked. It is to the credit of the citizens that no saloon has ever been licensed in the town, and whatever drunkenness there may have been was imported, and not "to the manor born."

In early times Granville was a bustling, go-ahead place, with a promising future. Its merchants were enterprising, and carried large stocks of goods. Its public school was known and noted all over Central Illinois, and young men came from long distances to avail themselves of its ad-

vantages. Its ministers of the Gospel were eloquent; society was refined and courteous; newspapers and books circulated freely, and on all questions of public interest the people were well-informed and voted intelligently.

Among the earliest merchants were the Laughlin Brothers, who were better farmers than merchants, and allowed their sympathies to get away with their judgment. They sold goods on time, and soon had to abandon the business. They commenced, too, at an ill chosen time, amidst the general crash of 1837.

Of late years the town has measurably declined. Peru on one side and Hennepin on the other have drawn upon its resources, and as they grew and increased Granville seemed to decay.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

In the vicinity of Granville and Union Grove the blessings of Christianity were taught by missionaries at an early day. Every three weeks in the fall of 1829, Rev. William Royal, a Methodist preacher, gathered his little flock at the house of George Ish, and also about the same time, or perhaps a few months later, performed the same pious duty for the settlers about Union Grove and the neighborhood where Florid was afterward mapped as a town site. Among the pioneer ministers in the same faith were Rev. Mr. Parker and Rev. Edward Haile, the latter being described as an incorrigible "old bach" of sixty-two years, and almost a woman hater, so marked was his aversion to or terror of the sex.

GRANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Elder Thomas Powell was the first Baptist minister who ever preached in Granville. He came there in 1836, and preached to a few people gathered at the house of Mr. Shepard. A few weeks afterward he returned and preached again, his audience including all who could get into the building—a small unfurnished frame store erected by James Laughlin. The congregation was composed of Presbyterians, "Seceders," Congregationalists and Baptists.

The people generally were so anxious to have regular religious exer-

cises that they invited Elder Powell to divide his time between them and his other appointments. He had been sent as a Missionary of the Baptist Home Mission Society, to Putnam County. His first stopping place was at John Robinson's, between Granville and Hennepin. The Elder, when he visited Granville on the occasions referred to, was a resident of Vermilionville, and his duties there prevented him from accepting the proposal of the people of the former place. His appointments were at Hennepin, Clear Creek, Payne's Point, Magnolia, five miles east of Sandy Creek, and on the Vermilion River, where Streator now stands. There were then thirteen Baptists in Hennepin and Granville, whom he organized into the Baptist Church Society of Granville, which organization still exists and has a place of worship. It has furnished four young men to the ministry, one of whom, Samuel Whitaker, finished his course in the Asiatic department of Foreign Missions in Burmah, and died there; another, E. O. Whitaker, died while a Chaplain in the late war; the third, Charles Button, is now pastor of a church in Wisconsin, and the fourth,—— Robinson, established a church at the mouth of Columbia River, Oregon, which was said to be the first Protestant church on the Pacific coast.

“The Baptist Church of Hennepin and Granville” was organized April 15, 1837, by Thomas Powell, Daniel Shepard, Alanson Whitaker, Joseph M. Fairfield, Nancy Winters, Elizabeth Winters, Lydia Ann Winters, Cynthia Ann Winters, Ruth Ann Gould, Lucy Ann Simpson, Delia Perkins and Ruth Whitaker, who met at Hennepin for that purpose. Daniel Shepard was chosen Moderator, and J. M. Fairfield, Clerk.

At a meeting held by the members of this church in July, 1843, the slavery question having become an exciting topic all over the Union, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That slavery is a sin against God and an outrage on human rights, and that we as a Baptist Church cannot conscientiously admit a slaveholder to our pulpit or communion table.

At a meeting held December 3, 1843, it was resolved to build a church at Granville, and W. A. Pennell, J. W. Eames and Harrison Rice were appointed a committee to take the matter in charge, measures also being taken to incorporate the Society according to law.

A frame structure, thirty-six by forty-six feet, was promptly built, and a bell weighing 1260 pounds was soon after procured and placed in the belfry of the church. This is said to be the first church bell put up

anywhere in Putnam County. The church building cost about \$2,000, and is a very respectable and handsome structure.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church of Granville was organized April 27, 1839. On that day George W. Elliott, of Lowell, James H. Diekey, of Union Grove, and Mr. Spaulding, of Peoria, who had previously been appointed by the Peoria Presbytery for the purpose, met at a house in Granville. With them were associated James Mears, Polly Mears, Ralph Mears, Lucinda A. Ware, John Pool, Thomas Ware, Nancy L. Ware, James G. Laughlin, Ruth Laughlin, Asenath Nash, Hannah Ware, Thomas Wafer, Elizabeth Wafer, Harriet N. Wafer, James H. Wafer, John Short, Eleanor Short, Cyrus H. Short, Prior M. Short, William H. Short, James Hale, Marena Hale, J. W. Laughlin, Alexander M. Laughlin, Philena Kidder, George Perry and David L. Child. These latter named persons were admitted to take part in the organization by reason of their being members in good standing in the Church, each of them producing letters of dismissal, or other satisfactory evidence to that effect. After the usual preliminary exercises were had the meeting organized. James Mears and Ralph Ware were chosen as Ruling Elders, whose terms of office were to continue until September 3, next ensuing, and John Pool and Thomas Ware were chosen to the same office, their terms to begin on the expiration of the time for which their predecessors were chosen.

The Church then extended an invitation to Mr. H. G. Poudleton, a licentiate from Lane Theological Seminary, to become their preacher, which invitation was accepted, and he at once entered upon the discharge of his duties. The first sacramental communion of the members of the new Church was held on the last Sabbath of May, 1839, and on the first day of August following, the Church and community were called upon to mourn the death of James Mears, one of the first chosen Ruling Elders of the infant Church.

Almost from its inception this Church seems to have been torn by dissensions, and as a matter of course it could not become prosperous, either in a temporal or spiritual view. In August, 1842, Horace Morse, with quite a number of other members who sided with him in one of these unhappy quarrels, preferred a request to the session for letters of dismissal

to a church at Hennepin. A motion was made to lay the petition on the table,—otherwise to refuse the request. This brought on a most stormy and acrimonious debate, and after long discussion and the exhibition of much hard feeling, the request was granted and the letters issued.

It seems that the slavery question, pro and con, which was agitating the country from Maine to Texas in 1844, crept into the Granville Church and proved a fire-brand there. Some of the members were strong Abolitionists, while others were either indifferent to the question or openly took part on the other side. It was probably on that account that Rev. Mr. Pendleton, feeling that his day of usefulness had ceased there, was prompted to sever his connection with the Church. About the time that he did so those who were opposed to him procured a declaration to be entered on the Church minutes severely reflecting upon him for entertaining pro-slavery views. In August, 1844, at a church meeting, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Brother H. C. Pendleton having served four years as stated supply, and at the end of the fourth year it was decided by a large majority that he was not satisfactory to the Church on account of his pro-slavery sentiments, a portion of the Church deeply sympathize with him, as he had proved himself a laborious and faithful minister.

Mr. Pendleton having severed his connection with the Church, on September 7, 1844, Rev. J. A. Hallock was called to its pastorate as a "supply," who was followed April 10, 1845, by Rev. R. C. Clark, also as a supply.

In 1845 the congregation built a neat and substantial church edifice, which has been in constant use for religious purposes ever since.

Dating back for several years this Society was in a bad way. Rent by internal dissensions, much bitterness existed among the members. Some had gone off and connected themselves with other churches, others abandoned attendance upon any church services whatever, and those who remained were not happy.

In November, 1847, one of the persons who had withdrawn from the Church in 1842 applied for re-admission. This created a storm from the effects of which the Church never recovered, and the work of disintegration was complete. A Congregational Church having in the meantime been established at Granville, a proposition was made to unite the two organizations, and in October, 1850, that arrangement was perfected.

REV. H. G. PENDLETON.

The labors of the Rev. Mr. Pendleton deserve special notice. His

name is closely identified with those of the Presbyterian Churches of Granville, Lacon, Henry, and Providence, Bureau County; with the Henry Female Seminary, and with the cause of Christianity, education and human progress generally in this section of Illinois.

In April, 1839, the New School Presbyterian Church at Granville was organized, and Mr. Pendleton, who was then a licentiate from Lane Theological Seminary, was invited to come and preach for them, which invitation he accepted. In January, 1840, having completed his course of studies at the Seminary and passed a rigid and most satisfactory examination, he was ordained a minister by Peoria Presbytery, and for four years after that time was the beloved pastor of the Granville Church. At the beginning of his labors there the membership was twenty-seven, and when he retired from its pastorate there were the names of sixty-seven active members on the rolls. That church organization now constitutes substantially the present Congregational Church of Granville.

In August, 1844, Mr. Pendleton was invited by the Presbyterian Church of Lacon to become their pastor, which position he accepted, and remained there for one year, during which time twenty persons were added to the church. There are many persons in Lacon at the present time who have very pleasant recollections of the days when this gentleman ministered to their spiritual needs.

In March, 1845, the New School Presbyterian Church at Henry, with twelve members, was organized under the auspices of Mr. Pendleton, which organization is the basis of the present Congregational Church there. While he was acting as pastor of the Henry church, he had pastoral charge of the Presbyterian Church at Providence, Bureau County, over which charges he presided for four years. But his labors were not confined alone to these. He had eight appointments in as many different parts of the country, which he regularly filled, and it was while making these itinerent journeys he became impressed with the great lack and increasing need of qualified school teachers. This state of things led Mr. Pendleton to consider the possibility and probability of founding an institution to be devoted to education and preparation of suitable persons as teachers. In his travels he saw that because of the previous absence of almost everything that looked like schools, the masses of the people were very deficient in even the most essential educational accomplishments, and that the children who were growing up were equally unfortunate. It is true that in most of the villages and neighborhoods some attempts were

made at school teaching, but these were but spasmodic efforts made by incompetent or untrained persons without system or correct ideas as to what studies should be pursued, usually started or carried on by those who had nothing else to do or could find no other employment whereby they might make their living, and in log huts which were uncomfortable, unhealthy, and not at all adapted to the purposes for which they were used.

The more he saw of the want of better arrangements for educating the rising generation, the more impressed he became with the necessity of putting forth his strongest efforts to carry out the idea which had possessed him, and the Henry Female Seminary was the result. After much scheming, planning and consultations with friends, he succeeded in raising money sufficient to erect a building forty-four feet square and three stories high, with an ell sixteen by forty feet, two stories in height. The Seminary building was well adapted to the purposes for which it was built, and was a monument to the good man who had labored so long and patiently for its erection.

On November 12, 1839, the doors of the Seminary were thrown open for the admission of pupils, and from that time until the winter of 1855 the school was well sustained by eager young people, anxious to prepare themselves for the profession of teachers; the fall and winter sessions filling the building to its utmost capacity. February 15, 1855, the building was unfortunately destroyed by fire. The following summer the ell of a new building, twenty-four by thirty-two feet, three stories high, was put up on the old site, and during the spring and summer of 1856 the main building, forty by eighty feet, was also erected; all at a cost of \$15,000.

November 25, 1856, the doors of the new Seminary were opened, and the prosperity attending the old blessed the new. The Legislature granted this Seminary a charter at its session of 1856-57.

The teachers employed in the Seminary were drawn mainly from that most excellent seat of learning, the Holyoke (Mass.) Female Seminary, from whence has been supplied to all parts of the Union large numbers of most thoroughly competent and able instructors. The school was well sustained until the financial crash of 1857 prostrated business throughout the whole country. Another influence that operated against the prosperity of the institution was the new system of public graded and high schools, which were just then coming into operation in the State, and took away much of its patronage.

About the beginning of the late war Mr. Pendleton contracted a sale of the Seminary building to the Methodist Central Conference, and surrendered the premises to their control, with the exception of the rooms occupied by his family. The Methodists held the building for about three years, when, through the inefficiency of their agent, they failed to fulfill their contract, and the property reverted to its former owner. After this, having gone through many changes and vicissitudes during which the prosperity of the enterprise was becoming continually lessened, in the autumn of 1869 it was sold to the German Reformed Church, which closed the connection of Mr. Pendleton with the institution.

GRANVILLE ACADEMY.

To Rev. Naham Gould, the First Presbyterian minister who settled in Granville Township, the village of Granville and the Academy which was one of its chief ornaments are indebted for their birth and existence. His idea was to establish an academy, commencing on a very moderate scale, commensurate with the necessities of the community and its financial ability. From such modest beginning he hoped that his pet enterprise would rapidly assume more pretentious proportions, which would become so enlarged as to convert his academy into a college, with an organized faculty and the usual collegiate paraphernalia.

Having secured the promise of needed assistance from his neighbors, he, in 1835, set about the erection of a suitable building for his school, and soon he had a strong, well built and convenient house, 24x36 feet square, two stories high, finished and ready for occupancy. The neighbors had turned out with skillful hands and willing hearts, gone to the forest and hewed out the necessary parts, the quality of which was so good and the workmanship so perfect that the frame of that old academy is standing to-day, after having withstood the storms and blasts of many winters, and the racking and jostling of having been moved, as perfect, sound and useful as though it had just been delivered from the workman's hand.

The association that had the matter of the erection of the building and the establishment of the Academy in charge, procured a charter from the Legislature in 1837. This having been obtained, they turned the establishment over to the Township Trustees for the purpose of opening a public school, and the doors were thrown open for that purpose in December following.

This institution, from a very small beginning, gradually acquired considerable fame, not only in its own locality, but all over the West. The men who took a leading part in the enterprise were the old settlers of the Township, and with no endowment save their own energy and public spirit, had the satisfaction of seeing their school grow into notice and become a seat of learning from which afterward many prominent and scholarly men and women were to graduate.

The first teacher who had charge of the new school was Otis Fisher, several years afterward ordained as a Baptist minister. After him was Miss Lovejoy, a sister of Owen Lovejoy, a man whose name lives in the history of his county; and later, Miss Jane Hawks.

Among those whose names have attained prominence in the State who were educated at the Granville Academy, are Harvey Jones, Mr. Jackson, Henry Hunter, of Chicago; Judge John Burns, of the Circuit Court of Illinois, of Lacon; Benjamin F. Lundy and his twin sister; Rev. Charles Bolton, of Fond du Lac; Rev. Daniel Whitaker and Rev. Thomas Allen, missionaries to Burmah; Hon. P. A. Armstrong, of Morris; Ex-Governor of Illinois John L. Beveridge and his brother, and many others.

A new building, much larger, more commodious, and possessing many modern improvements, has taken the place of the old one. Its dimensions are 40 by 75 feet; built at a cost of \$8,000.

The Rev. Mr. Gale, founder of the prosperous city of Galesburg, then unborn and unknown, came to Granville on a prospecting tour, seeking a place which would be desirable as a site for a town and college, which he was designing to establish. He soon discovered in the prairies, timber, soil, climate and surroundings of Granville all the requisites which nature could furnish for the purpose, and concluded to invest his capital and apply his energy and business capacity here, in the development of his scheme. He broached the subject to Mr. Gould, who at once claimed a prior determination to the same end and purpose. Mr. Gale very courteously said: "There is room in Illinois for two such places and colleges as we design to create; let us separate. I will seek a location elsewhere." He did so, and Galesburg was the result.

OLD SCHOOL HOUSES.

The first school taught in Granville Township was in the fall of

1834, Miss Burr being the teacher. It was in a small log cabin, about twelve feet square, which Mr. Wafer had put up for a smoke-house, near his residence on the edge of the timber, about one mile north-west of the village of Granville. The school was conducted on the pay system, and was patronized by George Ish, Thomas Ware, Mrs. Laughlin and Mr. Mears.

In the fall of 1835, James Laughlin and one or two others built a log school house in the timber, and afterward attempted to move it to the center of the district, but did not succeed in doing so. Miss Burr taught in this building in the fall and winter of 1835. The same winter a public school was opened by Miss Abbie Hawks in the Academy building, before it was entirely finished. Since then the Township has so greatly increased in population that eleven schools are now taught within its limits, in as many different school districts.

AN OBLIGING TRAMP.

Of James Willis this story is told: In the spring of 1830 he returned to his former home to settle up some business, and on his way stopped at a wayside house of entertainment, where he made the acquaintance of a traveler, looking up, as he said, a location. As usual in those days the men made known their respective business, and Mr. Willis stated that he had been quite successful in closing up his affairs, and was conveying home the results. He had some ready money, and proposed to improve his farm, and was on the lookout for a suitable man to engage. The stranger listened with interest, and replied that he thought of visiting the Illinois country, and if Mr. Willis would give him a job he would change his route and accompany him home. A bargain was easily made, and the next morning the two started out, Willis riding his horse and the stranger on foot. In this way they passed the settlements, and entered on an extensive prairie, Willis occasionally giving his companion a ride and walking himself. As they journeyed along a deer sprung up, and the stranger asked to shoot it. His request was granted, but though the chance was good, the fellow didn't fire, saying he "couldn't get the hang of the tarnal thing." Not long after they again changed, Mr. Willis having resumed his gun. The money was carried, be it known, in a pair of saddlebags behind the saddle. After mounting the stranger rode off leisurely

but in a gradually increasing gait until a sufficient distance was obtained, when he raised his hat, bade Willis good bye, and rode off at a gallop. Willis brought his fusee to his face and ordered him to stop, but the powder had in the meantime been removed from the pan, and it would not go off. He turned off the regular road and was soon lost to view. Willis meanwhile pushed on hard as he could. A dozen miles or so ahead was a settlement where he was known, and a few hours sufficed to gather a dozen trusty men on fleet horses, and after a sharp chase of thirty miles the thief was overhauled, and money and horse recovered. The proper way would have been to have strung the fellow up, but Judge Lynch was not presiding then, and he was turned over to the Sheriff of the county where the capture was effected, and Willis proceeded homeward.

There was no jail in the county and the Sheriff took his prisoner home, placed shackles on his limbs, and kept him in his own house. The fellow took the arrest quite coolly, and appeared to be not at all dissatisfied with the arrangement. It was the beginning of a hard winter, and the prospect of comfortable quarters was not at all displeasing. He read and sang, played the fiddle, and made himself both useful and agreeable. Finding his landlord's household wanted shoeing, he made it known that he understood the whole art and mystery of cobbling, and said if his entertainer would furnish the leather he would do the work. It was done, and the good natured tramp made shoes for the whole family, while chained by one leg to his work-bench. One stormy day when the Sheriff was absent and none about the premises but women, the cattle broke into a field where corn was standing in shocks, and the accommodating prisoner unlocked his shackles with an awl, drove them out, and then replaced the irons on his legs as usual. Toward spring he grew uneasy, and as court was about to convene he told his entertainers his health was failing, and was afraid they'd have to part, so removing his shackles in their absence, he left.

THE HOPKINS TRAGEDY.

Among the mysterious tragedies occasionally enacted where human life is taken without apparent cause, and no clue left by which to apprehend and punish the perpetrators, the killing of Thomas Hopkins and his young and beautiful wife, in the town of Granville, on July 6, 1867, stands out as a marked and remarkable occurrence.

Thomas Hopkins, aged twenty-five, and his wife, aged about fifteen or sixteen years, were the victims of as terrible a fate as fiends in human form could devise. To obtain any certain clue by which to track the murderers baffled the skill of the sharpest detectives, and to this day the perpetrators have never been brought to justice.

Hopkins was the son of a farmer living near LaSalle, but had abandoned the honorable occupation in which he had been reared, preferring an idle life among vagabonds rather than the companionship of reputable companions. He obtained a flatboat, fitted it up as a dwelling, and floated along the river, up and down between Hennepin and Peru or LaSalle, loading his craft with driftwood, and supplying himself with other conveniently reached property, with little regard, it is said, to any rights of ownership save that of possession. In one of his trips he became acquainted with a girl named Sophia Baker, a rather pretty young lady, inclined to idleness, whose parents lived not far from the river in the town of Granville. She was attending school at the time, and quit it one day to marry Hopkins. They had been married but a few weeks, and little was known of their conjugal life. At the time of the murder their floating home was moored in the river a few miles below Peru, near the Granville side, and within the jurisdiction of Putnam County.

A man named Sherman, the last person known to have seen this ill-fated couple alive, stated that he visited them in the evening of the night of the murder to deliver a load of wood and a sack of flour, which latter Mrs. Hopkins took from his hands. He left them apparently cheerful and happy, with everything about the boat seemingly in good order, and the table spread for supper. Returning next morning, he found Hopkins' body in the water at the side of the boat, in a standing position, the head beneath the surface. Near by a sand-bag club was found, but no marks of violence were discernible upon the corpse. The table was spread as he had seen it the evening before; there was no evidence of confusion, scuffling, or acts of violence such as the forcible removal of one or two persons from so small a room would have caused. There was no torn clothing, no blood stains, no marks of violence, nor the slightest indication of any other persons than the victims having been present. Nothing had been disturbed; their personal effects, and such articles of merchandise as Hopkins had supplied himself with in his trading expeditions were all there, and one hundred and fifty dollars were found in the dead man's pockets. Mrs. Hopkins was strangely absent. Upon their accustomed hook were

found her bonnet and shawl, and it was evident she had either made a singularly hurried flight or been very cunningly abducted.

The news of the murder soon attracted the people of the neighborhood, and prompt efforts were made to sift the mystery. Some one had heard the voice of a woman screaming during the night, the sound apparently coming from a short distance down the river, but as boats often passed with drunken men and abandoned women on board, no heed was paid to the circumstance. A watchman at the mills at Hennepin, "when he came to think of it," was certain he heard a woman's voice about daylight of the fatal morning, calling piteously for help, and simultaneously a boat was seen by him floating down stream near the opposite bank. The country turned out and searched everywhere, and at length, three days afterward, the body of the poor woman was found on a bar below Hennepin, about nine miles from where her husband's boat was moored. Beside a few slight scratches on her neck, which might have been caused by accident, no marks of violence nor evidence of ill-usage were discovered upon her person.

THE RAMSAY TRAGEDY.

Sometimes by a persistent and long-continued defiance of public opinion a bold villain exasperates a community past endurance, until scorning forms of law, and the law's delay, they sweep all aside, and taking the culprit in hand exact justice, deep, terrible and lasting. The instinct of self-preservation may justify such a resort, but nothing else, though there are seemingly times when the enormity of the crime, the danger of escape, or the degraded character of the criminal, make the invokers of Judge Lynch at least pardonable.

One of the early settlers of Granville Township was John C. Ramsay, who lived on the bottoms of the Illinois River north of the village. He is remembered as a good neighbor, but not one with whom a person cared to be too intimate, and outwardly sustained a character for morality, sobriety and industry. He was circumspect in language and deportment, was a member of the Church, an attendant upon its meetings and a Superintendent of the Sabbath School. His prayers were long; he dwelt much on youthful follies and had little charity for those who went astray. To some he seemed a regular pillar of light and a shining example for sinners

to pattern after, yet there were those who believed all this was a mask to cover deep purposes, and beneath a saintly exterior he concealed the wickedness of a devil incarnate.

Reports had gone abroad of strange goings on about his secluded home. Property mysteriously missing had been tracked towards his saintly domicile, and rumors were afloat that his family relations were not strictly angelic. After a time his wife died suddenly, and no one could tell how it occurred save that she was found dead in the smoke-house. Her deeply afflicted spouse related to the jury, with tears in his eyes, that she went there, locked herself in, and was found dead. As the smoke-house could only be locked on the outside, the jury could not see how a dying person could affect it; but any attempt to get him to explain away this absurdity caused the poor man to relapse into paroxysms of grief that were simply dreadful. As the jury found no signs of poison, or blows, or violence, the twelve wise men looked grave and in effect pronounced the cause of her death unknown.

Affairs went on as before at his exceedingly pious dwelling, and the people continued to lose property and wonder why it was thus. Stories again got afloat of a terrible nature, some perhaps "o'er true" and others highly imaginative. It was said he had debauched his own daughters, murdered their unnatural offspring, robbed his neighbors, and though his children were all cognizant of the facts, such was their fear of him, none dare make it known.

Affairs finally reached a crisis. There was a rebellion at home, and the ghastly secrets could no longer be concealed.

On the 16th of April, 1870, Esq. Childs, living at Granville, was notified by A. J. Carroll, Constable, that Ramsay had been caught stealing goods, and an excited mob had gone to wreak summary vengeance upon the perpetrator. Mr. Childs went down to Ramsay's dwelling, where he found a crowd of men rehearsing his crimes. The old man had gone to Peru, and his family had determined on his return to effect his arrest. The Justice questioned the inmates, and Mrs. Patterson with many tears told the story of her degradation. From a child she had been compelled by threats and punishments to submit to his lusts, nor did they cease after marriage with her husband. Her health had been wrecked, her life embittered, her home, which she dare not leave made a hell of. Then the younger daughter told her pitiful tale. If possible it was more

harrowing than her sisters. She too had been compelled through fear of her life to submit to his desires, and when she rebelled had been whipped nearly to death, with dreadful threats that it would be worse if she dared reveal the awful secret.

As the law required that two justices should attend the preliminary examination, Thomas Ware was notified and requested to give his immediate attention, so that the matter might be disposed of before the fast gathering crowd took it out of their hands. They were soon ready, and when Ramsay returned the warrant was read, court convened, and the witnesses for the State were asked to come forward and be sworn. Up to this time Ramsay had shown an air of bravado, but when his daughters appeared his courage failed, for he saw the game was up. His crimes had run their course and reached the inevitable end when concealment was no longer possible. His victims were his equals now, and his brutality was no longer feared, his presence no longer inspired terror. He saw the odds were against him, and, changing tactics, said he would waive an examination and enter into bonds for his appearance.

His intentions probably were to compel the witnesses to deny in court all previous assertions, and secondly, if this failed, to forfeit his bail, take vengeance on those who had thwarted his plans, and leave the country. The Judges, after consultation, fixed the bail at \$5,000.

To this Ramsay strongly protested, for he foresaw he must go to jail, and his chances for vengeance and escape would be greatly lessened. In the meantime events outside were transpiring which excited the fast gathering crowd to frenzy.

The story of his crimes was repeated from mouth to mouth, and as the stricken, helpless wretches, the victims of his lust and brutality, were pointed out, deep oaths were registered that found dread fulfillment.

One of the sons told how his father had been stealing the grain, cattle and hogs of his neighbors, compelling his family to assist when necessary. For years they had lived in deadly fear, and he added, "if father goes to the penitentiary for this, one of us will die when he gets out, for he will kill me or I must him."

It was charged too that Ramsay had purposely burned his own barn to secure the insurance, and worse than all, he had murdered their mother, compelling her children, who were unwilling witnesses of the act, to remain silent.

A warrant for his committal to jail was made out and handed to the officer. Ramsay, at first so unwilling to go, was now anxious, for a look at the dark faces about, convinced him his safety was inside of strong walls where he could not be reached, and signifying his readiness to go begged Mr. Childs to accompany him. The latter at first refused, but yielded to the request, and along with the Constable, the prisoner and Mr. D. Ham got into a buggy and started. It was now about seven o'clock p. m. The crowd had pretty much all left, a cheerful circumstance to the prisoner as he viewed it, but one not without serious apprehension to the officers.

The party drove about a mile at a brisk trot, on the road to Hennepin, when suddenly about fifty masked men appeared, and with weapons drawn demanded a halt. Ramsay was taken out, his hands tied, and he was told if he had any prayers to make now was the time, for his stay on earth was short.

Evidently he was too dazed to comprehend the situation, and believed their intention was to extort a confession and compel him to leave the country. A rope was placed around his neck, and at the words "hang him" a violent jerk was given that lifted him from his feet, when it either broke or was cut and let him down. For the first time he felt that things were serious, but no signs of repentance came. He still thought to deceive by an assumption of the piety that had befriended him so long, and raising his hands and eyes in a sanctimonious manner he prayed with the Savior, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

This blasphemous appeal was all that was needed to nerve his executioners to duty. The rope was quickly re-tied, and one end being thrown over the limb of a tree, fifty strong arms raised the trembling wretch and left him hanging by the neck until dead.

After the body had remained a sufficient time some of the actors cut it down, and carried it home, tumbling it out in the yard, very much as one might a dead hog. It was duly interred, but a few nights later some enterprising students resurrected the remains, and they now ornament the rear room of a doctor's office.

The hanging of Ramsay created intense excitement and the Governor offered a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest of the perpetrators, but no one so far as known, attempted to earn it. The majority of the people, while

disapproving the method, felt that justice had been done the criminal and refused to assist in their punishment.

Thus terminated the career of as sanctimonious a scoundrel "as ever stole the livery of heaven to serve the devil in," as sleek and unctous a villain as ever disgraced the human form.

The tree whereon he was hung was, so long as it remained standing known as the Ramsay tree, and for years bore this inscription :

"Here the carcass of Ramsay lies,
Nobody laughs and nobody cries.
Where he's gone to none can tell,
But all suppose he's gone to —."

In 1879 it was mysteriously cut down and even the roots dug out, leaving not a vestige remaining. By whom it was done is not known. Some of his children live in the vicinity and others have gone west. The girls were well spoken of and led reputable lives.

LYNCHING OF "JOE. SMITH."

Prior to 1858 the bottoms of the Illinois River near the County line, in Granville Township, had been infested by the presence of "Old Joe. Smith," as he was called, though not the famous Mormon Prophet of that name. This particular member of the multitudinous family of Smith, was a man of exceedingly vague notions as to the right of property, possession with him not only being the nine points of the law, but conclusive evidence of absolute ownership! In his peculiar view the manner of getting possession was of little consequence; to possess was to own, with all the term implies.

He was charged with having long been a thief on general principles, and specifically a thief of everything of a portable nature. He had a special propensity for cattle and hogs, and what was particularly aggravating in his conduct was, that, though a butcher who supplied the people with fresh meat, he never was known to buy any cattle. He stole his beeves from the farmers, and sold to them again at full prices. He also stole their hams, shoulders and poultry. The hams and shoulders from neighboring smoke houses found a tolerably secure place of concealment in his barn, where, among so many samples from all over the country,

individual property could not easily be selected. His depredations, too, were extended to neighboring Counties and across the river. He would capture, also, newly washed shirts, male and female garments, sheets, pillow cases, and stockings long and short, masculine and feminine! Farmers missed their plows and harrows, and though tracked to Smith's all absorbing ranche, no sign of them could be discovered there!

At length people became so incensed that they determined to interview Smith and force from him some sort of explanation of the singular spiriting away of their goods and chattels. Accordingly a large number of farmers, who had been victims of the aforesaid Smith, met at the domicile of the culprit and demanded certain goods, among them two plows and a harrow, and other articles, and no satisfactory response being made, proceeded to administer to the reticent witness three separate and distinct horse-whippings, well laid on! But he would not confess, and, despairing of such gentle means of obtaining information, a clothes-line was brought into play, and he was hung up three times, the last well nigh choking him "for good," when he yielded and told them where some of the missing property could be found. From one plow he had taken the stock and had it re-wooded at Peru. Some of the plow irons he had burned so as to prevent discovery when hot pressed for a safe hiding place; others had been buried and the ground plowed over them. Some again had been secreted in a similar manner in the neighboring woods and fields, and what was remarkable was, all the goods that Smith had hidden were so securely and cunningly concealed that it is doubtful if any of them could ever have been found by any one except himself or "pals," unless by the merest accident.

He had burned up clothing, hams, smoked and dried meat to prevent their discovery. On his confession and pointing out where the articles were hidden, a considerable quantity of goods were recovered. He was given a day or two to get out of the county, a trip which he made with commendable speed. Several suspected accomplices, taking the hint, left at the same time, and since then the stealing business has had a long, and, to the people, most satisfactory rest.

THE MURDER OF DOWHOWER.

November 22, 1867, Aaron Sherman killed Samuel Dowhower, both residents of Granville, under the following circumstances:

The two named and a Mr. Wedgewood had been to Peru, and on their way home fell into a quarrel, which ended in Sherman being ejected from the wagon. The latter swore revenge, and going to the home of a Mr. Walker, borrowed a gun, with which he hurried to the dwelling of Dowhower. It was night and the family had retired. He rapped at his victim's door, and Mrs. Dowhower arose, lighted a lamp, and opened it. Dowhower had previously told her of his quarrel with Sherman, and as the knock was heard, exclaimed, "There he is now!" Dowhower went to to the door and was instantly shot dead.

Sherman was tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary for twenty-five years. He served about five years and was pardoned out by the Governor. It afterward transpired that the principal getter up of these petitions was hired to obtain them and paid liberally for the service; and it is also charged that influential names on the petition were placed there by others than themselves. Sherman went out West, and is said to be now living in Texas.

LOST ON THE PRAIRIE.

The following incident, which happened in 1829, will bring to the recollection of old settlers many similar experiences, doubtless, of which they were personally cognizant:

In November of that year Jeremiah Strawn and three others, afterwards residents of Magnolia Township, traveled from the "Wabash country" westward, heading for Putnam County. They had no map of the route, and there was practically neither roads nor trail, so that when they lost sight of the settlements they were as much at sea as if sailing in the broad Atlantic. Strawn had traveled over a portion of the route, understood the topography of the country in general, and believed that by travelling due West they would strike the Illinois River. They were provided with a pocket compass and a small supply of provisions.

For twenty miles or more traveling was passable, but here they struck one of those vast sloughs for which the country is noted, and came to a halt. Far as the eye could see the country was one vast sheet of water, whose depth none of them knew. Hoping to "head it off" they traveled northward some miles without success, and then retraced their

steps south, until despairing of finding a passage, they returned to their resting place of the night before.

In the morning they took a new direction toward the south-west, following an old buffalo trail all day, and at night coming upon a party of Kickapoo Indians destitute of supplies.

The travelers were without provisions, their horses jaded and worn down, and the grass all dead. The Indians could speak but little English, but they pointed to a certain star in the north-west and indicated that a white man lived there, and with this vague direction the wanderers resumed their journey. One man was to watch the star and see that their direction did not vary. After some hours of travel it grew cloudy, and fearing the direction might be lost, they concluded to encamp. The night was bitterly cold, and to keep from freezing they beat down the tall grass and ran foot races. In the morning they took their bearings with the compass and found they had become completely turned about. They now resumed their journey, plodding wearily along all day with nothing to eat. Late in the afternoon they were delighted with the sight of a settler's cabin. The inmates had corn and pork, and the wayfarers had to pound the former and wait for its cooking before their hunger was satisfied, but all agreed in pronouncing it the best meal they ever ate. After a while the owner came in with a fat deer, and insisted upon their eating again, to which they readily assented. They remained all night, and the next morning were directed on their route, reaching their destination without further adventure.

ANECDOTES, INCIDENTS, AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Granville was a popular stopping place on the underground railroad for colored men and women who were seeking to free themselves from the galling chains of bondage. The people generally sympathized with them, and if there were any who were not active in aiding the fugitives forward, they remained neutral. On one occasion as many as sixteen negroes were seen in the village at one time, having come in on the "night accommodation train." They had made their way from St. Louis without money or molestation.

In 1835 two negro women, who were pursued by their owners and

were likely to be captured, were hidden in the cellar of James T. Laughlin's house (where S. Harrison now lives), and there remained a night and a day. The weather was exceedingly stormy and cold, and the pursuers were kept in a continual dance from one place to another on false scents and rumors, until they were nearly dead from fatigue and exposure. The citizens, while pretending to help the confiding slave-catchers, were deluding them all the time, and the fellows finally gave up their job and returned home. Of course the poor fugitives were sent in the opposite direction as fast as possible, until they were safe among the friendly Canadians.

Harvey B. Leeper was a very active conductor on this underground road, and a well known citizen of Granville, who devoted much of his time and means to the cause of freedom.

The massacre of the Hall and Pettigrew families has been referred to before. They had lived in Bureau County, not far from Hennepin, and when they were on their way in 1830 to their proposed new home at Fox River, passing through Granville, they stopped several weeks at the residence of George Ish, and enjoyed his hospitality. It was during this visit that William Pettigrew courted and won the hand and affections of Mrs. Campbell, a young and handsome widow living in the neighborhood. A wedding day having been appointed, invitations were sent in to the neighbors to come and assist at the festivities. They came, and a good, jolly, old-fashioned time they had, and many were the wishes made for the future welfare and happiness of the newly married pair.

The bride accompanied her husband to their new home, where we may imagine their lives passed like those of most other settlers in a new country. But this happiness was not to be of long continuance. About two years after they had reached their new home the Indian war broke out, and they were barbarously murdered as related in the story of the Hall family.

The saloons of Peru have been hotbeds of vice, prolific of crimes whose consequences were severely felt in Granville Township. It is safe to assert that scarcely an outrage mentioned as occurring here but had its inception in some quarrel instigated by poor whisky, or the perpetrators were habitual drinkers whose supplies came from over the river. There be-

ing no saloons in the Township, they must necessarily come from elsewhere, and in Peru they were mainly obtained. In addition to the long series of crimes already scored to this cause must be added the Gallaher homicide and the killing of De Long. This latter occurrence took place about 1844 or later. De Long and a brother-in-law named Osborne were returning from a turkey-affle at Peru, where both had imbibed freely, and was into a quarrel in which De Long got badly cut, and died a few days after. Osborne was arrested and placed in jail, but managed to escape and was never seen in the country again.

In June, 1866, Mt. Pleasant was the scene of a most dastardly outrage. A sprightly young German girl, whose name it is not necessary to give, had been for some time employed in the family of a man named Droll, also a German. She was an unusually bright young woman, and, besides being a neat housekeeper, had a general business turn, which made her useful to her employer as an accountant. He was not much of an English scholar, but had considerable business with his Yankee neighbors, and her services were indispensable as an interpreter. Mr. Droll had two daughters, one older and one younger than the subject of this sketch, but they took no particular interest in their father's business, and neither had the will or ability to learn it, and left it all to the servant, who managed everything in her own way. She was the good genius of the household, and the family felt for her all the regard they could for a sister. Although quite pretty, she was not infatuated with the young men who sought her company, and seemingly found more pleasure in attending to business affairs than in their conversation. On the occasion referred to, at the hour of midnight the Droll family were awakened by an alarm at their door, which the old man answered. He found there a man whom he did not recognize, and who told him there was something wrong at the barn with the horses, and to come and see. Droll went with him. No sooner had he reached the barn than a handkerchief was forced into his mouth and he was tied to the manger. The girl, hearing an unusual noise, came out in her night clothes to see what was the matter, when she was seized, gagged and put into a wagon, which was driven off to the prairie. There were seven or eight persons engaged in this infamous proceeding, but being unable to speak, and in great fear of her life and of a fate more to be dreaded by a pure woman than death, she could but weep

in silence. About two miles from the village, in a south-westerly direction, the wagon was stopped; the crowd of ruffians gathered around the terrified girl, cut off her hair, removed her from the wagon, stripped her of her scanty garments and deliberately covered her body with tar and feathers.

This infamous performance having been completed, though shocking in itself, was a relief to the mind of the poor girl, since it assured her that only this indignity was in store for her. When these cowardly scoundrels had finished their valorous performance they got into their wagon and drove off. Covered with feathers and without clothing, at a dead hour of the night, two miles from any house, the villains left her, gagged and insensible. How long she lay thus is not known, but the bitter cold restored her senses, and after several hours' wandering about she reached the house of a kind neighbor, who cared for her distresses.

The terrified old man after some delay was able to attract the attention of his family, and was released. The abduction of the girl was not known until they went to her room to tell about the strange event. The astonishment of the household knew no bounds when her absence was discovered.

In the morning a messenger came for the girl's clothes, and when the story of her wrongs became known the people were justly indignant and excited. As soon as she was sufficiently recovered from the shock she went before Esquire Laughlin to tell all she knew which might throw light upon the matter and lead to the arrest of the wretches. But her evidence was insufficient. They had not spoken a word, and of course she could not identify them by their voices. There was nothing by which they could be distinguished, or that gave her the slightest clue to the cause of the fearful indignity. Mr. Droll and his wife and daughters came and bore witness to the uniform good conduct of the girl. They had known her from childhood, and for years she had been an inmate of their family, and during all that time she never had in the slightest degree departed from the strictest rules of propriety, nor in any way deviated from the most exacting laws of correct deportment or maidenly modesty. She was a model of frankness, diligence, good sense and excellent temper. Her conduct toward young men had been extremely reserved; in fact, she had avoided rather than encouraged their society. In this latter fact there seemed the only possible clue to the mystery. Was it possible that certain young

men whose advances she had met with indifference or coldness, and whose addresses she had refused, could have committed this dastardly outrage in revenge? Inquiry around the neighborhood satisfied Mr. Laughlin that none of the American or Irish boys of the settlement were absent from their homes on the night in question, but there were a few young Germans who could not or would not explain their absence from their beds at about the time when the wrong was being perpetrated. These fellows were promptly arrested, and several long and tedious trials resulted, but there not being sufficient evidence against them to convict, they were all acquitted.

The young woman continued to live in the family of Mr. Droll and manage their affairs as usual for some time after this, until she married a respectable young man living in a neighboring county, where she yet lives, respected by all who know her. The affair is only remembered as one of those outrages which innocent people sometimes suffer, and for the perpetration of which the guilty escape richly merited punishment.

One of the denizens of the settlement about Granville was a Mrs. Cresswell, a virago of Amazonian strength and warlike propensities. She was the governor of her household, her husband meekly accepting the second position in family affairs. She "wore the pants," not only figuratively, but literally, being frequently seen dressed in her meeker half's unmentionables, astride an old horse, going to market. She made her thoroughly subdued husband cook, wash, iron and do the housework, while she bossed the outside of the ranche to suit herself. Besides other eccentricities, she was a sort of "yarb doctor," and pretended to know many hidden virtues in various barks, weeds, roots and flowers, and is accredited with having first introduced "gympson weed" into the country. Her nag usually wore a bell, and its familiar tinkle, indicating her approach to the village, repressed all unnecessary gaiety and subdued any approach to merriment, for the masculine members shared with her timid spouse a well guarded respect for her muscular arms and number ten boots.

On one occasion Mr. Wafer and James Laughlin desired to cross her field, it being the shortest route to their destination, and asked permission as gently as possible, but the female, with arms akimbo, gave a fierce refusal. They held a council of war, and concluded, as the case was urgent,

to force their way, while she brandished a formidable bunch of "fives" and dared them to come on. The battle began, one of the men attacking in front while the other by a flank movement reached the rear, and grasping her arms, held them as in a vice while his companion let down the bars, and driving the team through, replaced them and signalled his comrade, who then turned and ran. Our informant avers the magnitude of her curses has ever since prevented anything but the detested gypson weed from growing on the spot.

One of the early settlers was John Robinson, an old Indian hunter, who is known to have lived here in 1828. He was a keen sportsman, and very successful. During the Indian troubles he refused to go into a fort, and so remained in his cabin, sleeping at night with arms by his side. No Indian came to claim his scalp. He was an original genius, and when asked how long he had lived in the State, said it was so long he couldn't tell, but when he came the Illinois was only a small brook.

Another well known citizen was George Ish, who originally settled in Peoria County. He was an old Indian fighter in the war of 1812, when he served under General Harrison.

The ability of the aborigines to withstand cold is shown in an incident related by Mr. Ish. During the severe winter of 1830 there came to his father's cabin a squaw, nearly perishing with cold. She was taken in, and such restoratives as were handy applied until her half frozen members were thawed out and the circulation restored. Although solicited to remain all night she refused, and, soon as able, re-mounted her pony and proceeded, although the atmosphere was such that a white man could not travel without risking his life.

Mrs. Gunn tells that when they came to the country, ten men, women and children wintered in a cabin twelve feet square, and did n't feel particularly crowded!

Here Mr. Gunn came in search of a wife, and pleasantly recalls their courting "under difficulties." But where there's a will, woman's wit will find a way, and a private parlor was improvised by hanging a quilt across one corner.

Mr. Willis finding himself "out of meat" once, undertook to go after

supplies. His trip was made in a dugout, and he had to go somewhere in the vicinity of Beardstown. It took a month to make the trip, and when he returned the family had been on short rations for a week.

In 1836-7, when paper towns were springing up all over the State, certain individuals laid out the town of Barcelona, along the eastern limits of Granville. A hotel was contracted for, and a steam mill was to be built, but nothing ever came of the enterprise.

The early settlers lived on plain food, and had plenty of exercise. They dressed plainly, kept regular hours, abstained from excesses, and as a rule enjoyed good health. The exception to this was the fever, that "smote them by day and wasted them by night. From this there seemed no escape except to wear it out. Large families were the rule, and the cabin that could not show its round half dozen or more of tow-headed boys and girls was an exception. The farmers returns in the field were not more regular than the periodical yield of the cradle. Occasionally the measles or some such disease "got loose" in a family and created an unusual demand for catnip tea and other medicinal herbs. Once the measles got into the family of Hugh Wanock, and a commiserating neighbor inquiring how many were "down" was answered, "only twelve of the youngest."

It was the custom in early days for farmers to exchange work during haying, harvest and other heavy labor. In estimating such labor, a day's work was counted equal to two bushels of wheat.

Wheat in those early days was frequently hauled to Chicago by horse or ox teams, and the price was as low as $37\frac{1}{2}$ to 44 cents. Then calicos at Hennepin were worth 31 to $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents per yard; eggs 3 cents per dozen; butter 6 cents a pound!

The settlers did not regard times as desperate or hard in any sense. They had plenty to eat and wear, and little need of money. People were were healthy, hearty and happy.

The strange, wild beauty of the prairies will never be forgotten. They were one vast parterre of flowers, changing their hues each month of the season. In the fall great fires swept them over, leaving only a blackened waste, but still sublimely beautiful. Upon the prairies of Granville deer were plenty, and were sometimes seen in great droves or flocks like cattle

or sheep. They were not much hunted, and would come near the wood-chopper and visit the feeding places of the cattle.

Wolves, the pests of the barn-yard in winter, were numerous. Now and then they were run down on horseback and killed, but not often, as it was a difficult job and worth a good horse's life to attempt it, for the wolf is long-winded and very difficult to capture in this way. Many good horses were ruined in attempting it.

During the cold winters they became ravenous for food and would come to the very doors of the cabins in quest of it. They would visit men chopping in the woods, coming so close that they could almost strike them with their axes.

The Indian had a superstitious dread of prairie wolves, and did not molest them, but would kill the timber species because they scared their ponies, and, when occasion permitted, destroyed their young colts.

Snakes were abundant everywhere, and the venomous rattlesnake was justly dreaded. Mr. Gunn once found one coiled beneath his chair, which had crept into the house unobserved. It was despatched, and the next day its mate was discovered and killed near the same place. These reptiles always go in pairs, and when one is killed its mate invariably seeks it. Deer are the deadly foes of snakes, and a citizen describes the killing of one east of the village of Granville. He was traveling the road, when he saw a group of deer seemingly greatly excited, and striving to stamp something beneath their feet. They would go off a few steps and then return, striking viciously and rapidly with their fore feet. The traveler watched the performance until it closed, and on going to the place found a large yellow rattlesnake cut to pieces with their sharp hoofs.

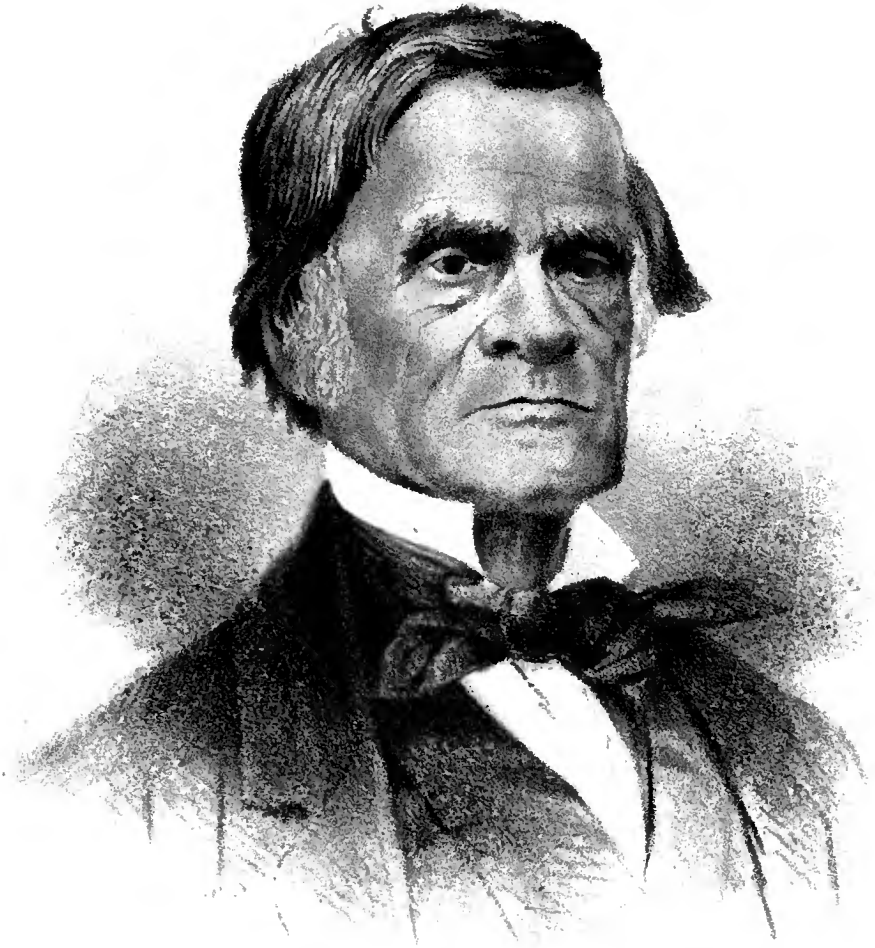
The Indians never fed their ponies, that white men knew of. These little beasts, no matter how long they had been used, would be turned out at night to skirmish around for food among the dead leaves and hazle twigs as best they could.

Previous to the winter of the great snow, opossums were very numerous, but that year they nearly all died off, and not for many years after did they become plentiful. The somewhat unpopular, but pretty and sometimes highly perfumed *Mephitis Americanus*, or skunk, was no stranger, but was found in the swamps, timber, and on the prairies, and the traveler on horseback was frequently glad to give the saucy little white-necked, black-eyed, bushy-tailed, odoriferous creature not only the whole road, but several rods margin beside.

Another animal often seen was the badger, as pugnacious and full of fight when cornered as to-day. Mr. Ish describes a combat he once saw between a sow and one of these fellows, in which the sow got decidedly worsted.

No coal has been found in Putnam County, and probably from the character of the formation none exists in the vicinity of Hennepin, as the limestone formation which is reached near the surface and has been bored to the depth of 800 feet precludes the idea. But, toward the eastern limits, on the prairies at Tonica, and in the country south and south-west is found this useful product, garnered in nature's storehouse for man's future use, and as the surface and character of the earth so far as tested are exactly similar to the coal region immediately adjoining, there is no reason to doubt but that a stratum of coal underlies both Granville and Magnolia.





Alden Hull

LA PRAIRIE, ILL.

MARSHALL COUNTY.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

ITS ORGANIZATION.



THE increase of population after the war was rapid, and by the close of 1837 there were large and flourishing settlements in various localities, and the question of forming new counties and county seats was sharply discussed.

The people hereabout were clamorous for a county of their own. Lacon, Henry and Webster were looming up as future cities, and numerous towns with high-sounding names had been built—on paper! Such as Troy City, Lyons, Chambersburg, Auburn, Bristol, Dorchester, etc. Robert's Point, Strawn's Woods, Round and Half Moon Prairies were—for those times, populous farming sections. A few farms here and there dotted the vast prairies on the west of the Illinois, and the territory that aspired to become a separate county had a population of 1,500 people.

A colony of energetic people from Ohio had settled in Lacon in 1836, and at once gave the infant town a surprising "boom," to use a phrase then unknown.

January 13, 1838, a meeting of the citizens of Lacon and vicinity was called, ostensibly to nominate candidates for legislative honors, but really to form a new county. Colonel Henderson, of Spoon River, having been previously sounded and found to be "solid" for the scheme, was recommended to the voters as a man "of ability and integrity," and he was named for Representative; and John Hamlin, also known to be right on the all-absorbing question, was recommended for the Senatorship.

Doctor Effner, Ira I. Fenn and Jesse C. Smith were appointed a committee to act and correspond as might be necessary in forwarding the objects of the meeting.

The gentlemen composing the meeting knew that the county question

would be unpopular with their neighbors in the vicinity of Hennepin, and also along the line of Tazewell County, whose interests would be antagonistic to the proposed dismemberment, hence a "still hunt" in the premises was deemed best. The people of Tazewell getting wind of the scheme, and discovering that two of their townships were coveted by the "Laconites," called a meeting "for the purpose of consulting on the best means to prevent the citizens of Putnam County from curtailing our county on the north." Learning this, the Lacon committee shrewdly disclaimed any such intention!

The vote of Lacon Precinct went almost to a man for Colonel Henderson, who felt under obligations to return favors to his enthusiastic and warm supporters. The local press — even that of Hennepin — favored the project, as many of the people there feared they would lose the county seat if the proposed division was not made.

Petitions were circulated and numerous signed praying for the establishment of the new County of Marshall. They were presented December 10, 1838, by Colonel Henderson, at once acted upon, a bill reported two days afterward, and by January 19 became a law.

Three days afterward, petitions for the formation of Stark County came in, also numerous signed by Hennepin people. So eager were they to save their county seat that they consented to the loss of almost the entire county. The act fixed the boundaries as at present, except that it did not include the townships of Evans and Bennington, then a portion of La Salle; but the law was afterward amended to include them, provided the people therein were willing. They, however, refused, and it failed; but under an act approved March 1, 18—, they yielded, and the towns named were duly annexed to Marshall County.

The Commissioners designated by law to select the county seat were: D. G. Salisbury, of Bureau; Wm. Ogle, of Putnam, and Campbell Wakefield, of Mc Lean County. They came into court and reported that "they had examined the different proposed sites for the seat of justice in Marshall County, taking into consideration the convenience, and the situation of the settlements with an eye to future population of the place to be chosen. Lacon possessed the natural advantages of location, and all other requisites, and they had accordingly chosen this town as the seat of justice of Marshall County. They also reported that they had selected Lots three, four and five, in Block forty-five, as the ground for a Court House and other buildings; also, that the proprietors of the

town had donated said lots to Marshall County, giving their notes and bonds in the sum of \$5,000 to the County, payable in equal instalments of \$1,666.66, in six, twelve and eighteen months from date, with interest. The men who executed these notes were: Wm. Fenn, Samuel Howe, Elisha Swan, Ira I. Fenn, Jonathan Babb, Robert Boal, Wm. Fisher and George Snyder.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.

Marshall County, as at present constituted, consists of eight full townships of six miles square each, viz: Bennington, Evans, Belle Plain and Roberts on the east, and La Prairie, Saratoga and Whitefield west of the Illinois River. The others, made more or less fractional by the winding of the river, are Hopewell, Lacon, Henry and Steuben.

The river bottoms are from three to five miles wide. The bottom land is remarkable for its richness of soil, and some exceedingly profitable farms are to be found.

The chain of hills bounding the west of the valley are full of excellent coal, obtained by drifting into the bluffs, and supplies the wants of the people of the villages and farmers on the prairies with fuel at very low rates.

The law fixed the 25th of February, 1839, as election day, to choose the new county officers.

George Snyder, Esq., a Justice of the Peace of Lacon Precinct, gave the notices fifteen days before the event, and candidates swarmed around the polls. There were *twenty-eight* worthy gentlemen who were willing to sacrifice themselves upon the altar of their country,—to hold different offices, eight of whom wanted to be Sheriff.

The candidates chosen were: Elisha Swan, William Maxwell and George H. Shaw, County Commissioners; Wm. H. Effner, Probate Justice; Chas. F. Speyers, Recorder; Silas Ramsey, Sheriff; Anson L. Deming, Treasurer; A. S. Fishburn, County Clerk; Geo. F. Case, Coroner; and Jordan Sawyer, Surveyor.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

The Governmental history of the new County is best told in the records of the County Commissioners' Court, which, before township organizations, supplied the place of the present Board of Supervisors.

The first acts of the members, whose first meeting was at the house of John D. Coutlett, March 2, 1839, was to look to the credentials of the various officers, and see that bonds required were satisfactory; after which the county was divided into election districts, as follows:

No. 1. La Fayette Precinct.—All that part of Marshall County west of the Illinois River, south of the line of Townships Nos. 12 and 13.

No. 2. Henry Precinct.—All of the County west of the river, and north of the line of the towns above, adjoining La Fayette Precinct; voting place at the house of Elias Thompson.

No. 3. Lacon Precinct.—All the County east of the river, and west of Ranges Nos. 1 and 2, west of the 3d principal meridian; elections to be held at the County Clerk's office.

No. 4. Lyons Precinct.—All east of the dividing line of Ranges 1 and 2; elections to be held at the house of W. B. Green.

The County was also divided into fourteen road districts, and three days' road labor required of every able-bodied man subject to such duty by law. George H. Shaw was appointed a commissioner to receive the money due Marshall County from the Internal Improvement fund, which the State had appropriated to Putnam County in 1837. The proportion due Marshall was \$3,290.00, with interest. John Wier was appointed School Commissioner, and gave bonds in the sum of \$10,000. For want of better accommodations, the Circuit Clerk, County Commissioners' Clerk, County Recorder, and Probate Justice of the Peace, were obliged to hold their offices in one room, in a building owned by Elisha Swan, who was limited in his charges to a rental not exceeding \$75 per annum.

The Commissioners voted themselves \$2.50 per diem, and the Clerk \$2.00; and they allowed Coutlett \$2.00 for the use of his house and firewood for four days, which would strike the reader as being reasonable. The pay of jurymen was fixed at 75 cents per day and "find themselves."

Among the first things to claim the attention of the Board was the laying out of new roads, and by their orders the present highway from Lacon to Spoon River was laid out June 3, 1839, and the same month the "State Road" was located through the eastern part of Marshall; and also a road through the towns of LaPrairie and Saratoga; likewise others. The sum of \$50 was appropriated for improving a "slew" near Lyons; a like sum to be expended near Owens' Mills, on Crow Creek, and \$100 to be expended on the road from Lacon to Wyoming.

In June, 1839, the home Board began to indulge in luxuries, and or-

dered six chairs and a map of the State, at a total cost of \$9.00. They were bought of Fenn, Howe & Co. They also invested \$1.75 in a Bible, on condition the seller threw in an ink stand and sand box. A. N. Ford files a bill for printing to the extent of \$2.00. Dr. Boal asks permission to run a ferry, which is granted on condition that he pay a fee of \$15.00, which, in September, was cut down to half that sum.

The first County Clerk elected by the people was James M. Shannon. He was a man of fair education and excellent qualifications for the place. He filled the office until March, 1845, when his habits became objectionable and could be no longer tolerated. He was complained of by information signed by two of the County Commissioners, of habitual intoxication, using abusive language, and insulting the Court in open session.

In June, 1845, the information filed came up for examination. The Commissioners tried it before themselves—Shannon, the defendant, as well as the complainants, appearing by attorneys. They refused to grant the accused a change of venue, or to sustain a plea as to their own jurisdiction, and saw no impropriety in trying a case before themselves brought by two of their own number, a majority of the Court. After hearing the evidence, they “bounced” the bibulous clerk and appointed David Davidson, June 3, 1845.

Long and tedious proceedings followed, Shannon having appealed to the Supreme Court for a hearing. During the trial at Ottawa, many witnesses were compelled to attend, costing the County several hundred dollars.

In the mean time Shannon had gone before the people with his grievances, and petitions circulated everywhere in the county to “re-onstate” him were numerous signed and laid before the Board, of which that tribunal took no notice. The fall election, however, settled the whole matter, for the people re-elected Shannon by a triumphant majority. He held the office until December 20, 1845, and then handed in his resignation, which was filed December 30.

His successor was Samuel C. Cochran, who was appointed to fill the vacancy, and at the next election was chosen to that office by the people.

In June 1847, Cochran resigned, and Silas Ramsey was appointed. He was afterward elected by the people. He held the office until 1849, when he became County Judge, and Washington E. Cook, Clerk.

In 1839, the total tax levied was \$875, and of this sum, Silas Ramsey, who was both Sheriff and Collector, raised \$787.12, showing him

to have been a very efficient officer. Forty cents on each one hundred dollars valuation was the sum assessed for county purposes.

In June 1840, the general census was taken, and Samuel Howe received the appointment of enumerator. He was a well known Abolitionist, and his appointment drew from one of the Commissioners the following spirited protest:

“The undersigned being opposed to the principles avowed by modern Abolitionists for the immediate emancipation of the slaves of the United States, do hereby enter my solemn protest against the appointment of Samuel Howe as Commissioner to take the census of Marshall County, on the ground that said Howe is in favor of immediate emancipation of the slaves aforesaid.

ELISHA SWAN.”

In September, 1840, David Myers brought into Court certain papers and a small amount of silver found in the purse of an unknown man who died at his house, and claimed \$15.00 for his care and burial, which was allowed.

About this time, also, Geo. F. Case was allowed \$14.00 for holding an inquest on the body of James McBride.

William Fisher was allowed at the same time, \$8.50 for paper and quills,—steel pens not having been introduced.

March 2, 1841, Joseph Burr was licensed to keep a ferry at Henry, and the license was fixed at \$2.00.

In March, too, Anson L. Deming resigned the office of Treasurer. He had received and paid out during his term \$931.43, all of which save \$40.00 was in County orders. The account was closed thus: “Commissions, \$38.80; balance, \$1.20. This sum was found to be safe, and was duly turned over to his successor, Lundsford Broadus.

Putnam County, up to this date, had not paid over the internal improvement fund quota. Edward Jones, Esq., of Tremont, Tazewell County, was appointed to prosecute and collect the money, March, 1841.

In September of this year, William Fenn was directed to see about putting up lightning-rods on the Court House. He had them made at home, by blacksmiths, and the job cost \$53.96.

Up to 1845 there had been no jail, and prisoners had to be guarded at the cost of the County. Thus we find a man named Andrew Zellar had been guilty of larceny, and bills were allowed as follows: Jesse Oran, guarding Zellar twenty-four hours, \$1.00; George Durat, forty-eight hours,

\$2.00; J. O'Connel twenty-four hours, \$1.00; Sam'l B. McLaughlin, twenty-four hours, \$1.00; J. W. Bettis, committing Zellar and guarding him, \$2.00. After getting him in some sort of a place, they had to feed him, and the bills were: \$1.75, \$4.06 and \$3.62½. This, with similar cases, awakened the Commissioners to an appreciation of the needs of a good jail, and we find them debating it soon after.

All efforts to compel Putnam County to pay over the funds she held belonging to Marshall, it seems, failed, and the latter paid her attorneys in the case, Messrs. Fenn & Peters, one hundred dollars.

Lundsford Broadus, in June, 1842, resigned the office of County Treasurer, and Hezekiah S. Crane was appointed to fill the vacancy.

In 1841 the tax levy was fifty cents on each one hundred dollars of valuation. The Commissioners appear to have gone into the "furnishing" business, and the records show this entry: "Addison Ramsey is allowed \$3.00 for a pair of pants furnished the infamous Andrew Zellar." The next year the assessment system was changed, and Peter Temple, for assessing the whole county, was allowed \$104.

James Hoyt was the Assessor for 1843. State bank paper had suffered a sad depreciation, and the Treasurer refused to receive it. He was ordered to take it at fifty per cent discount, and give tax-payers the benefit of "the rise."

In June, 1843, Sampson Rowe was licensed to keep a ferry at Henry, by paying the usual license of \$2.00.

Sandy Precinct, a new election district, was organized this session, and elections fixed at the house of Enoch Dent.

Town 29, Range 1 west, and 29, Range 1 east was organized into an election precinct, and Pierce Perry's house designated as the voting place thereof.

Wm. Maxwell was re-elected County Commissioner in August, 1843, and Levi Wilcox, Treasurer. James Hoyt assessed the county this year for \$57.50.

C. F. Speyer, Recorder of Deeds, resigned June, 1844, and County Clerk Shannon was appointed to take charge of the books and papers of the office till further orders.

C. S. Edwards was again re-elected a Commissioner in August, 1844, and Levi Wilcox assessed the county for \$116.

Doctor Boal was again granted a license to run a ferry at Lacon, he paying the usual fee.

In March, 1844, a petition was presented asking the county to purchase the Lacon ferry, signed by Silas Ramsey and a number of prominent citizens, but for some reason this sensible project was abandoned and the petition withdrawn.

In March, 1846, \$300 was appropriated by the County Commissioners to build an embankment through the sloughs from Lacon ferry to Sparland, on condition that the citizens would contribute \$400 in addition for the same purpose, and F. D. Drake was appointed a Commissioner to expend the money and superintend the work.

In March, 1846, the town of Lyons, near where Varna is now, was dropped from the Assessor's books and assessed as lands.

Thomas Gallaher, who had transcribed such of the records at Hennepin as related to Marshall County, was allowed \$250 for the work, the books having been received and approved.

In this year the ferry at Lacon passed into the hands of Wm. Fisher & Co., who were licensed to run it upon payment of \$15.00.

The cost of assessing the county in 1844 was \$150.

December 8, 1845, Richard Vinecore made application for license to keep a grocery in a brick building opposite the Lacon House. "The Court, taking into consideration the subject of said application, and believing that 'groceries' are not conducive to the public good, reject the application!" was the discouraging result of this petition.

In June, 1847, David M. Robinson was allowed \$14.00 for boarding Thomas Dobson, accused of and in custody for the killing of Hollenback.

In September, 1847, Richard Vinecore came again with his grocery petition, and met with better luck, being allowed to run his proposed saloon for \$40.00 per year license.

In June, 1848, a standing reward of fifty dollars was offered for the apprehension of all horse-thieves escaping from the County.

In December, 1849, under a new law Silas Ramsey was elected County Judge, and Thomas Cowan and J. W. Bettis Associate Justices of the Peace; Washington E. Cook, County Clerk; Abram Wall, School Commissioner; Resin B. Rogers, Treasurer.

NEW TOWNSHIPS.

In March, 1850, the new law, providing for township organization took effect, and Samuel Camp, Addison Ramsey and Nathan Patton were

appointed Commissioners to divide the territory into convenient townships, which they did as follows:

Congressional Town 30, Range 1 west, 3d parallel meridian, to be named Roberts.

Town 30, Range 1 east, 3d parallel meridian, Evans.

Town 30, Range 2 west, Hopewell.

Fractional Town 30, Range 3 west, and Fractional Town 29, Range 3 west, Lacon.

Town 29, Range 2 west, Richland.

Town 29, Range 1 west, and Town 29, Range 1 east, Belle Plain.

Fractional Town 13, Range 10 east, 4th parallel meridian and road on the east side of the line leading from the ferry in said town, and heretofore held by the County of Putnam, Henry.

Town 13, Range 9 east, 4th parallel meridian, and Town 13, Range 8 east, same parallel meridian, Whitefield.

Town 12, Range 8 east, 4th parallel meridian, Fairfield.

Town 12, Range 9 east, 4th parallel meridian, Steuben.

The law provided that in selecting the names for towns under the township organization law, that the Commissioners should avoid getting the names of towns in other counties, and as "Fairfield" had been adopted numerous elsewhere, County Judge Ramsey changed "Fairfield," the first choice of the people of that region, to "La Prairie," their second preference.

The first Board of Supervisors of Marshall County met at the Court House in Lacon, November 11, 1850. There were present: Theodore Perry, Henry Snyder, John B. White, Chas. S. Edwards, James Gibson, Albert Ramsey, Reuben F. Bell, Wm. Maxwell, Amasa Garrett, George W. Bettis.

Saratoga was set off in September, 1855, and Bennington, Dec. 17, 1856.

Greenberry L. Fort was chosen Messenger of this body, an office of great ornament, which subsequent boards of supervisors have dispensed with.

On motion of Edwards, Wm. Maxwell was chosen the first Chairman.

In March, 1851, Silas Ramsey, W. E. Cook and G. L. Fort were chosen Commissioners to purchase eighty acres of land for a county poor farm.

EARLY RECORDS.

The first deed recorded in the new Court was from Daniel Davis to Al-

exander McIntosh, March 26, 1838, for a piece of land in Putnam County. The next, from Robert Bird and Rachel, his wife, to John Strawn, August 15, 1831, for a piece of land in Columbia (Lacon), for \$38; witness: James Dever and John Kemp; before Colby F. Stevenson, Justice of the Peace.

The town of Columbia was surveyed by Colby F. Stevenson, August 6, 1831, containing 130 lots, for John Strawn and others. The first conveyance of lots in Columbia was from John Strawn to Jesse Sawyer, October 6, 1831.

The first marriages recorded are: David Gwynn and Harriet Jane Martin, March 10, 1839, "by Henry D. Palmer, elder and minister of the Gospel." The next was Joel B. Perkins and Margaret Burt, by the Rev. Henry D. Palmer, April 4, 1839; John D. Coutlett and Sarah E. Dever, by Rev. Zadock Hall, April 6, 1839; Samuel Mitchell was married to Mary Work, May 29, 1839, by Rev. James H. Dickey.

The first Circuit Court in Marshall County began in Lacon, April 23, 1839. Thos. Ford was Judge; James M. Shannon, Clerk; Silas Ramsey, Sheriff. It was held in the old Methodist Church, long since turned into a mercantile establishment. The first case before the Court was that of Luther P. Frost vs. Long & Ramsey, which was dismissed at the plaintiff's cost.

Another was The People vs. Solomon Brewer, for assault and battery. The jury, after being out all night, returned a verdict of "not guilty." Ira Fenn, Esq., talking for the State, moved for a new trial, but it was overruled.

The Grand Jury met at the M. E. Church, and was composed of Ira F. Lowery, foreman; Lewis Barney, Joel Corbett, Jeremiah Cooper, Allen N. Ford, Chas. Rice, Wm. Gray, Enoch Sawyer, Jonah D. Stewart, Elijah Freeman, Jr., Nathan Owen, Geo. Scott, Sam. Howe, Robt. Bennington, John Bird, Andrew Jackson, Henry Snyder, Allen Hunter.

No business claimed their attention, and they were discharged.

At the next term, October, 1839, a peddler put in his appearance as a defendant in a case in which he had been indicted for selling clocks without a license. At that time there existed a deeply-rooted prejudice against Yankee clock peddlers, which appears to have come down to this day. Besides, clocks were regarded as extravagant luxuries, the sun being considered the best regulator and indicator of time.

The peddler, whose name was Erastus Higbee, had been jerked up and

accused of selling without a license. He pleaded guilty, was fined fifty dollars and costs, and told to travel. And it is on record that he did travel.

At the same time Chas. H. Bevins was indicted for larceny, convicted and sent to the Penitentiary for three years, being the first convict from Marshall County.

The first divorce applied for or granted was that of Elizabeth Gibbons vs. James H. Gibbons.

In the first court docket, on a fly leaf, is written a portion of the Lord's Prayer, ending with the word "trespasses," which, being a legal one, was deemed a proper introduction to court proceedings.

Thomas Fitzpatrick and Dennis Daily were the first foreigners who were naturalized in the County, having been admitted to citizenship at the April term of the Circuit Court, 1840.

The first Circuit Judges presiding here were: Thos. Ford, from 1839 to 1842; John D. Caton, from 1842 to 1848; followed by T. L. Dickey, Edwin L. Leland, J. L. Richmond and John Burns. Judge Richmond died before the expiration of his term, and Mark Bangs was appointed his successor. He was an able and upright officer, and presided with impartial fairness.

COURT HOUSES AND JAILS.

The Court House question began to agitate the Court at the first meeting of that body, and Elisha Swan was directed to get from the "machanicks" an estimate of the cost of building one, "say forty-five feet wide and fifty feet long, the foundation and superstructure to be of brick." The contract was awarded in December, 1839, to Edward White and Thomas F. Shepherd, and signed January 14, 1840. The cost was fixed at \$8,000. It was to be 40x55 feet, two stories high. The contractors were required to give bonds in \$16,000, or double the amount of the cost of the proposed building.

In January, 1840, they were allowed to draw, as part payment on their job, \$5,000 in county bonds.

December 8, 1840, the building was finished and turned over to the County, and the additional bonds in payment therefor were issued.

September 7, 1843, a contract was entered into with John Guthrie to

build a jail for \$515, and soon after Thomas Weir became his partner in the work.

Wm. A. and Elijah Bird for fencing the Court House received \$52.80, and \$6.00 for making stiles.

In June, 1846, the Commissioners decided to erect a house as a dwelling for the jailor, and advertised for bids for the work. John M. Lindley obtained the contract, for \$450.

The Court House caught fire at eight o'clock on the morning of January 5, 1847, from a defective flue, on the west side, near the roof, and was burned down, being a total loss of the building and fixtures in the court room as well as below. The books and papers and movable furniture were all saved.

Immediately after this event the Board of Supervisors met, and measures for rebuilding were taken. Fortunately there was an insurance of \$5,000 on the old building, which was at once available. The old material saved was ordered sold, and W. E. Cook appointed to collect the money and hold it subject to the order of the Board. To make the County secure, he gave bonds in the sum of \$10,000; and in a short time reported every dollar on hand.

In the meantime the Board rented a room from Mr. Wm. Fenn, at the rate of \$125 per annum, for county purposes, where the records mostly saved were stored, and the different officers quartered therein.

Albert Ramsey, Theodore Perry and James W. Maxwell were a committee on building, and soon as plans and specifications could be prepared, the contract was awarded to Comegys & Bro., and Card and Haggard at the February session, 1853. John W. Bettis, Theodore Perry and H. L. Crane were appointed to superintend the work and suggest such changes and alterations as might be beneficial to the County.

The Building Committee reported the work done, and the building in the hands of the Board in November, 1853, for which they had paid, for the original contract, \$7,050.50; alterations, \$301.39 — total, \$7,351.89.

In September 1856, the old Jail having proven defective and inadequate to the wants of the County, H. L. Crane, N. G. Henthorn and Edward White were appointed a committee to draft plans for a new jail and Sheriff's house.

In December, plans and specifications were presented and bids invited.

In January 1857, Edward White received the contract to do the work

for \$12,000, and H. L. Crane, N. G. Henthorn and W. E. Cook were chosen a committee to superintend the work. It was done during that spring and summer, and as the records have it, duly "excepted."

During these years the County east and west was rapidly filling up, and land was advancing in value. The river afforded the only outlet for the rapidly increasing volume of products, and enterprising parties began to look for other modes of transportation.



CHAPTER XXXIV.

THE WESTERN AIR LINE RAILROAD.



THIS once famous projected road was to run from Philadelphia to Fort Wayne, Ind.; thence across the prairies of our State, through Marshall County from Wenona to Lacon, where it was to cross the Illinois River; thence west to Wyoming, Stark County, and onward over the Mississippi at New Boston, in a direct line to Council Bluffs, on the Missouri. It was grand in its inception, but failed miserably in execution, and involved the County and individuals in large losses, entailing debts not yet liquidated.

Lacon, in its corporate capacity, voted \$50,000 in aid of its construction, and Marshall County \$100,000, to be invested in the capital stock of the road. The firm of Fisher & Co. subscribed \$10,000, and the sum total swelled to large proportions.

Much of the credit of originating the enterprise and giving it force is due to Ira I. Fenn and Theodore Perry, both at that time citizens of Lacon. To give it character, the Hon. Robert Schenck, of Ohio, was made President, while Mr. Fenn was elected Treasurer and E. A. Whipple, Secretary. The Board of Directors were: William Fisher, Silas Ramsey, S. L. Fleming and Theodore Perry.

The headquarters of the company were at Lacon, and Ira I. Fenn was the principal worker. He had great faith in the ultimate success of the project, and devoted most of his time to the interests of the road.

Work began in 1853, and in November of that year the Board of Supervisors, carrying out the wishes of their constituents, caused the bonds voted to issue, bearing ten per cent interest, with twenty years to run. In the meantime there was considerable opposition manifested, and in March, 1854, the Clerk of the Board was ordered to withhold their delivery, the vote standing 7 to 3.

In December, 1855, Ira I. Fenn, on behalf of the Railroad Company, came before the Board and demanded \$30,000 worth of the bonds. A lively fight resulted, and finally the subject was tabled till June, 1856,

when a motion to issue \$35,000 was lost by a vote of 4 to 8, but the next day reconsidered and passed, 6 to 4.

In March, 1856, Fenn came again and demanded the eighth and ninth installments of \$5,000 each. Meantime an injunction had been granted restraining the Board from issuing any of the preceding amounts.

In September, they passed an order by a vote of 6 for and 5 votes against, to issue \$40,000 of the bonds, requiring an indemnity against loss or expense of exchange between Lacon and New York city, where the payments were to be made. December, 1856, those remaining unsold were ordered delivered, and found ready purchasers.

In 1861 President Schenk was sent to Europe to negotiate for iron and rolling stock. He was supplied with bonds of different counties and towns, about \$5,000 worth of which he hypothecated before starting, to raise money for expenses. While there the war broke out, and British capitalists refused to invest money in our "blarsted country" in the beginning of a civil war the end of which could not be clearly foreseen, and Schenk returned, to become a Federal General.

The bonds which he had hypothecated were put up at a forced sale and advertised in the New York papers. The conveyance or trust deed to secure a loan was one of those "cut-throat" documents which give all the advantage to the money lender and places the borrower completely at his mercy. This instrument gave the trustee power to sell the entire road-bed if the money was not paid when due!

Judge Thompson, of Oledo; Olof Johnson, of Galva; Wm. Thomas, of Wyoming, and one or two others living along the line of the road west of the Illinois River, having money, saw a chance for a speculation at this sale. They formed a sort of syndicate, sent one of their number to New York, and bought the entire road-bed, right of way and everything it had of value, which they subsequently sold in parcels to suit customers. The C., B. & Q. Company became owner of most of the line in this State, and afterward transferred that portion lying between Lacon and Dwight to the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Company.

Judge Thompson was severely censured for this course, and not long after emigrated to California, where he has since resided.



LACON TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXV.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



DERIVING its name from the principal town within its borders, this township is conspicuous for its varied scenery, though what resemblance there may be between Laconia, or Sparta, in ancient Greece (from which the town is named), and this division of Marshall County, topographically or otherwise, is not apparent. The surface is diversified by hill and dale, prairie and woodland. It is about ten miles in length from north to south, and at its southern extremity near the mouth of Crow Creek, is four miles wide, gradually diminishing toward its northern limit. Across its southern border runs Crow Creek, a deep, quiet stream ordinarily, but capable of indefinite expansion when it spreads over almost the entire country.

The bluffs are picturesque, and at their base is a valley affording good pasturage and arable land, subject to occasional overflow. The bottoms are filled with ponds, sloughs, small lakes, and patches of excellent timber.

Several minor streams intersect it beside the first named, known respectively as Pigeon Creek, Strawn's Run, Dry Run, etc., all of them flowing into the Illinois.

A short distance below the city of Lacon, the bluffs bend to the eastward, leaving a prairie from two to three miles in width. It is on a second plateau, or level, about midway between the river bed and the top of the outer bluffs, and covered with well tilled farms.

The soil is a deep sandy loam made, up from the deposits of long ages ago, but affords reasonably good crops, and is especially adapted to fruit growing and vegetables.

The bluffs along the eastern line of the town and the ravines are covered with timber, much of it of very fair quality, consisting of white, red, black and bur oaks, ash, hickory linden wood, and black walnut.

The timber line extends from two to three miles inland, and the quality is good, affording at this day an abundance for fuel and building purposes.

Along the streams and bordering the fields and roads, when allowed to grow, are thickets of sumac, crab-apple, wild cherry, paw-paw, the brilliant flowered red-bud, etc., while in the bottoms of the Illinois is still to be found the pecan tree, bearing the delicious and peculiarly American nut of that name. They are not found, we are told, north of the latitude of Lacon.

Paw-paws grew everywhere near the rivers or larger streams, and were in great request by the Indians and some of the whites, not all of the latter being able to cultivate a liking for the extremely rich and strongly flavored fruit.

The principal business outlets of the township are the river, the Chicago and Alton Railroad, and the Bureau Valley Branch of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, through its station at Sparland.

LACON.

The first explorers who looked upon the site of Lacon must have been struck with its singular beauty and the possession of every requirement desirable in the location of a city. Beginning at the river, there was a gradual rise for half a mile, and then a level prairie extending a mile further to the wooded terrace beyond. The surface intervening was dotted with knolls, eminences, and occasional miniature lakes, since drained or filled up. In summer the prairie was one vast bed of waving grass and brilliant flowers, changing their tints with each month.

Along the river's bank a belt of oaks, cottonwood and red maples, with an inner lining of willows extended, through which, at intervals glimpses of water were had, which in the sunlight shimmered like molten silver.

What is now Water street was covered with a dense thicket of hazle brush, with here and there a large tree. At the upper end a bayou opened into what was afterward known as "Swan's Basin," and below town a similar outlet gave egress to the surplus water of the numerous springs along the bank. A thicket of hazel brush covered the ground where the woolen mill stands, and extended down to the cemetery; and

the bottom where the old slaughter house stood was dotted with trees and patches of plum and crab-apple thickets, while Johnson's grove extended in the shape of a V northward to the Court House square. Scattering trees covered the bottom west of W. E. Cook's, and thence around to the Benson (now Henry Fisher) place. Another belt followed the brewery ravine, covering the ground where Hoffrichter's slaughter house stands, and extending to the timber on the bluffs. All else was prairie, covered in summer with tall grass and gaily painted flowers, where the wild deer roamed, the wolf made his covert, the prairie chicken beat his tattoo and called his flock together, and each spring and fall the migrating duck and wild goose tarried for rest and recreation during their long voyages "from lands of sun to lands of snow" on the shores of Hudson's Bay.

The setting of this sylvan picture on the east was a line of bluffs covered with heavy forest trees, unvexed by woodman's ax and their occupants undisturbed by hunter's rifle. The children of the forest whose houses were in the valley below roamed through its leafy labyrinths, and with bow and spear struck down the lordly buck and timid doe. The river swarmed with fish, the prairies and forests with game, the earth brought forth bountifully, and the red man, the only dweller unmolested for centuries, hunted, fought, sung his death song and died.

But a change came over the scene. The pale faces made their appearance and the Indian gave way before the civilizing influences of whisky and gunpowder.

The first white man who looked upon the site where Lacon stands cannot be named. Over two hundred years ago La Salle and his adventurous companions explored the river and built a rude fort opposite Peoria, where they passed the winter, followed by Champlain and others; but the thick fringe of trees that curtained the bank here, shut out all view from the river and we have no evidence of their effecting a landing.

Adventurous trappers and land explorers undoubtedly traversed this section, and the Government surveyors who laid out the military tract across the river in 1815-16 probably came over to view the panorama spread before them from the western bluffs, but the first positive visit to the place we have record of was by John Strawn and a man named Haver, in the summer of 1828. In the succeeding year Strawn removed with his family to the prairie three miles east, reaching there the 21st day of September. The country in the vicinity of Beardstown had been under cul-

tivation several years, and Strawn, seeing the importance of laying in supplies for the winter, proceeded there on horseback, and chartering a keel boat, loaded it with corn, etc., which was propelled up the river and landed near the site of the old mill below town, where its contents were unloaded and hauled to their destination. One pleasant Sabbath in February of that winter Rachael (Mrs. Bane), aged eleven, and Mary Jane (Mrs. Thompson), aged nine, started unattended, and following the track made by the wagons, reached the river in due time, and were undoubtedly the first white females who saw the place. A company of Pottawatomie Indians were camped in a grove near where the woolen mill stands, and looked curiously upon the pale faced squaws, but did not molest them. A few rods distant were a couple of low, covered pens made of poles, from which a sickening stench emanated. Looking through the crevices, the decaying remains of several Indians were seen placed in sitting postures, with their guns and blankets at their sides, ready for departure when the Great Spirit called. They were the victims of a drunken debauch of a few days previous, in which five persons were killed. The girls visited the river bank, gathered a few pebbles as mementos of their visit, and returned unmolested, to the great relief of their anxious mother, who very much feared she would never again behold them.

The Legislature of 1824-5 organized the County of Putnam, embracing all the territory east and north of Marshall to the State line of Wisconsin, west to Warren, and thence southward 105 miles, covering about 11,000 square miles, out of which has since been formed twenty-three of the richest counties in the State. The County, however, was never organized, the few hunters and trappers in the territory caring little for form, and being, as it were, a law unto themselves.

In 1830-1 Putnam was re-organized, including in its territory the present Counties of Marshall, Bureau, Putnam and Stark, and Hennepin made the county seat. Settlements had already begun on Round and Sand Prairies, and a few families had opened farms in what since became Roberts' Township. Although the west side was surveyed in 1815-16, no attempt at settlement had been made up to this time. In the spring of 1831 General Jonathan Babb and Major Henry Filler, of Somerset, Ohio, companions in arms in the war of 1812, journeyed on horseback from Ohio to Illinois, and visited the present site of Lacon, then known as Strawn's Landing. They were struck with the beauty of the place and its favorable location for a town, and as the land was coming into market

in July, they left with John Strawn a sum of money to secure the entry of the fractional tract next the river, on joint account.

On the 18th of July, 1831, the first day of the Government land sales at Springfield, Strawn, in behalf of Babb & Filler, entered the south-east fractional quarter of Section twenty-six, in Township thirty, north of Range three, west of the third principal meridian. It embraced 67 15-100 acres, being that on which the greater part of the original town was laid off. Strawn entered it in his own name, for the convenience of transfer, and with the alleged consent of the other parties donated certain lots to induce the investment of capital. These transfers the parties refused to confirm, and out of it grew a long and acrimonious lawsuit, running through all the courts and ending in the defeat of Strawn. The tract in controversy covered the territory west of Washington street and north of the woolen mill.

The patent of the land was not issued until October 27, 1835, and bears the signature of Andrew Jackson, President.

The fraction of land below Second street and west of Prairie was entered by Robert Bird, one of the oldest settlers of Belle Plain Township, and sold by him to John Strawn. The instrument of sale bears record of August 15, 1831, and was the first deed recorded in Putnam County.

The land lying between Washington and High streets (80 acres) was entered by Morgan Buckingham, and that lying between High street and the Barnes place (80 acres) was entered by Isaac Buckingham, and by them transferred October 2, 1833, to Ira I. Fenn for \$2,600. The Barnes property (160 acres), the Reddan, Hoffrichter and Jahu Buckingham places were originally entered by Jacob and Frances Reeder. South and west of this was 160 acres of school lands, divided into ten-acre tracts, now covered by Wilcox's, Henthorn's and Ball's additions, Mrs. Ramsey's farm and Johnson's Grove.

The town was laid off in August, 1831, and named Columbia, the surveys being made by John Stevenson, Surveyor of Sangamon, and Colby F. Stevenson, Surveyor of Putnam County. It was acknowledged August 19, before Thomas Gallaher, a Justice of the Peace at Hennepin, and was the first town plat recorded in Putnam County.

It is worthy of mention that at this time a large part of Northern Illinois was still a wilderness. Six years before a Mr. Schoolcraft traveled from Peoria to Chicago without finding a civilized habitation on the way. Chicago was not laid off, though a thriving village of forty or fifty houses,

with two hundred and fifty inhabitants and five stores covered the site. Peoria was a village of some promise, and the lead mines about Galena had been worked for several years, but the future cities of Princeton, Henry and Chillicothe had not a single inhabitant.

About twelve miles eastward Jesse Roberts had reared a cabin where his son Livingston now lives, and Geo. H. Shaw and Chas. Edwards had selected their future homes at the "Point." A few homes skirted the forest along the edge of Round Prairie, and a single settler looked out upon the fertile waste of Half Moon. Three and a half miles east of the river the hospitable log cabin of John Strawn stood, with its latch-string always outside, and upon the bluffs where they reside to-day stood the cabins of Lot and Joshua Bullman, with that of their brother-in-law, Beltha Griffith, hard by. On the south came James Hall and Newton Reeder, who built a little east of the dwelling afterward erected by Lundsford Broadus, where the latter's son Irving lives to-day. Further south an Ohio emigrant named Hamilton had made a claim which he sold to John Wier, and down the river Joseph Babb had opened a farm. John Armstrong had made a claim on land afterward owned by Robert Rickey; in the neighborhood lived Geo. Easter, and north of town a family named Waughob and another named Lancaster had temporary residences.

The future site of Lacon was covered with a dense growth of coarse grass, and to make the surveys correctly William Strawn was mounted on a strong horse attached to a log of wood, with which he traversed the principle streets, thus enabling the engineers to run their lines.

The survey made, the streets named, the lots numbered and the place christened, it was advertised in the few papers in the State, and a public sale of lots held on the 28th day of September of that year. The auctioneer was John Knox, and Robert Barries acted as clerk; some fifteen persons attended the sale. Among the sales made were lot 1 in block 2, and lots 1 and 2 in block 21, to Jesse Sawyer; lots 7 and 8 in block 21, to Samuel Russell; lots 5 and 6 in block 2, to Henry K. Casell; lots 3 and 4 in block 2, to Thaddens Barney; lot 4 in block 8, and 1 and 4 in block 5, to William Haws; lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in block 9, to A. N. Dening; lot 1 in block 6, to Elisha Swan; lots 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in block 8, lot 8 in block 6, and lot 2 in block 7, were bought by Jesse C. Smith and Joseph Johnson.

These sales were either made at the time or soon after, the consideration paid varying from five to ten dollars each. No improvements were

made this fall, but in the winter of 1831 H. K. Cassell, who was living on the Babb place, assisted by John Shaner, hewed and framed the timbers for a house, which he set up the spring following where Mrs. John McEntee now lives, but before completion the breaking out of the war changed his plans, and it was not finished and occupied until the spring of 1834. The windows and door frames were made of haekberry, split and smoothed with a drawing knife. The chimney was made of sticks, and the lime was obtained west of the river. In getting it to the bank he was assisted by Franklin Graves and George Sparr, obtaining it from the latter.

In 1831 General Neal, of Springfield, in anticipation of trouble with the Indians, came to the settlement and organized the nucleus of a militia force, appointing John Strawn Colonel, and designating it the Fortieth Regiment of Illinois Militia. Black Hawk's re-crossing the Mississippi and Stillman's defeat are matters of history, and immediately thereafter Strawn was ordered to enroll whatever number he could and muster them in for duty. In obedience to this runners were sent out, and such as could bear arms assembled where Lacon now stands, May 20, 1832. The men were mounted, and each was armed with rifle or shot-gun, with haversack and powder-horn strung at the side.

The duty assigned them was to patrol the river and give notice of the approach of Indians. Their farthest march was to the Winnebago Swamps, but they never encountered the enemy. In a few weeks it was demonstrated there was no danger or need of military protection, and they were mustered out at Hennepin, June 18th of the same year.

In the summer of 1831 Elisha Swan brought a stock of merchandise to Columbia and opened out in a cabin built by Newton Reeder, standing in the Irving Broadus field, south of Mrs. Vernay's, near the foot of the bluff.

In the summer of 1833 he hewed out the frame of a new building and hauled it to where Henry now stands, intending to start a town and open business there, but finding the site covered by the Sixteenth (school) Section, and unable to procure titles at the time, he changed his plans and determined to set it up and establish himself in Lacon, which was done. This was in the fall of 1833, and hence to Elisha Swan belongs the honor of being the first settler of this town.

The building stood on the ground afterward occupied by Miller's Brewery, since burned down. It was a one and a half story building,

20x36, and served for a time as both store and dwelling. The boards for the floor were brought on a keel boat from St. Louis, but the weather boards and shingles were riven by hand. It was a rather pretentious building for the times, and served its purpose well. Afterward it changed hands, and for a number of years was known as the old "Gapen House."

Swan opened business soon as the building was completed, and here during the same year was born his daughter Louisa, afterward married to W. Robinson, and the first white child born in the place.

The firm name under which Swan operated was that of Swan & Deming, and their stock was unusually large and good. It embraced articles required by the new settlers, and also for the Indian trade, many of whom came in early times to barter furs, feathers or game for whatever suited their fancy. Stocks were brought from St. Louis on keel boats. Mr. Swan purchased one called the "Dido," which he loaded with wheat and took to St. Louis in the fall of 1833, his crew consisting of himself, Robert Bird, Jr., H. W. Cassell and two men named Chaplin and Bronson. Returning, they loaded with merchandise, making the trip in two weeks.

Mr. Swan extended his business as the country settled up and trade increased, and assisted largely in developing the interests of the town; but through an extended credit got into financial difficulties and failed, after which he removed to Naples, where he died a few years later of cholera. His wife was a daughter of Enoch Dent, and still survives.

In the spring of 1834 Cassell moved from his claim south of town to his residence in Columbia, and soon a well defined path between his house and Swan's store marked the line of what is now Water street.

In June of this year an election for Constable and Justice of the Peace was ordered for the precinct, and fifty votes were polled, the voting place being at John Strawn's.

In August of 1833 Thaddeus Barney and wife came from Northern New York, being the first emigrants from abroad to Columbia. Engaging board for himself and wife at Swan's, and afterward at John Wier's, he set about the erection of a cabin on the lot now occupied by Richard Boyd,—a part of which is still standing. It was two stories high, covered with the usual "shake" roof, and had a substantial chimney of mud and sticks at the end. It was soon finished and occupied, but his wife getting sick, he became disheartened and disgusted, and determined to abandon the place forever. Packing their household goods, they awaited

the return of a boat known to be up the river, and had the inexpressible mortification of seeing her pass without landing. It was known to be the last trip of the season, and Mrs. B., utterly discouraged, declared her intention of going to St. Louis in a dug-out sooner than remain here. It was indeed their only recourse, and the suggestion was acted upon at once. A few indispensable articles were thrown in, a couch made for the invalid, and the frail craft paddled out into the stream. They reached St. Louis in safety, and after three years absence returned to the town and opened the "Marshall House," long afterward the leading hotel in Lacon. Mr. Barney died in 1844 and was buried in the cemetery below town, and Mrs. Barney became the wife of John Rogers, with whom she lived until 18—, when she too died, and sleeps beside her first husband. She was formerly from Wheeling, Va., and while living here two nieces came to visit her from there, one of whom became the first wife of Robert Davis, the banker of Henry, and the other married William Hadley.

The fourth house in Columbia was a two-story log cabin built by Geo. Snyder, in the fall of 1834, but was not occupied until the following spring. With Jacob Reeder he came from Ohio on the steamer Joe Daviess, with their respective families, Mr. R. buying a log cabin and an acre of land near where John Hoffrichter's slaughter-house stands, for \$40.00. The forty acres adjoining was still in market, and was entered by him. Snyder's cabin stood west of Fisher's brick house and next to the distillery. He kept open doors to the new settlers, and was genial and hospitable in the extreme. The rooms were partitioned with cotton cloth, and a some-time occupant has humorously told how its scanty proportions served for a drug store, a harness shop, a law office and a young ladies sleeping apartment, besides the families of the owners and numerous boarders and visitors.

Dr. Robert Boal visited Columbia this year, but did not remove to the place until later.

In 1834 came Jesse C. Smith and Joseph H. Johnson, from Cincinnati, Ohio. The former at one time was doing business in Wheeling, Va., where he became acquainted with John Wier, which fact probably induced him to visit the new town. Smith and Johnson journeyed on horseback, sometimes camping on the way. They proposed, if a suitable place could be found, to go into the milling business, and Strawn, to secure their location in Columbia, made them a liberal donation of lots in the new town. The site selected was that now occupied by the Lacon

elevator. The castings, machinery, etc., were brought from Cincinnati, and the mill was opened for business in 1835-6. By their agreement with Strawn they were to pay the nominal sum of \$10 for each lot "donated," but Strawn's partners refused to confirm this, and the Courts compelled them to pay \$50 per lot. The sums advanced were all repaid after the mill was completed.

Though Columbia had made little progress at this time, the country to the eastward was rapidly filling up, and those living in the vicinity may very properly be named in this connection. Three miles below town Joseph Babb had located in 1831, and built a double log cabin, where he dispensed a generous hospitality. He had a son named Benjamin who succeeded to the estate, and several daughters married to well-known citizens. He died in 1835, and at his request was buried on the point of the high bluff near the road north of his house, so that he could see (as he expressed it) "his old friends and neighbors when they passed by."

Near where Henry Wier lives, two men named Hurlburt and Hardesty had made a claim and built a house, which they sold to Hezekiah Crane. In the old cabin upon the brow of the bluff John Wier lived, having settled there in 1832. He bought a claim of 240 acres of Samuel Hamilton for \$500, and entered 240 more at the same time.

Among the prominent settlers in these times was a family named Waughob or Walkup, who emigrated to the County from Pennsylvania, along with John Strawn. It consisted of William Waughob and wife,—the latter bed-ridden—two sons and four daughters, one of them married to a man named Easter, who built a cabin where the brick school house, two miles below Lacon, stands.

Another emigrant was James Shaner, who made a claim where James Hall lives, and built a part of the old house, which is still standing. Mr. Waughob laid claim to the property afterward owned by the Bullmans, and to various tracts elsewhere. He entered the eighty acres where St. Clair Bullman lives, but got into litigation, and part of it went to Judge Caton for services. He was the first, also, to claim the Shafer place. Mr. Waughob, Sr., died in the fall of 1831. He was the first person interred in the Broadus Cemetery. Mrs. Waughob died October 6, 1838. The only living representative of the family living in this County, so far as we know, is an old lady named Overmire, who lives on Sandy Creek. Of George Easter, wedded to one of the girls, it is said he at one time broke

his leg, and there being no doctor nearer than Hennepin, John Wier set the limb, and the man got well.

In the fall of 1831 James Hall came to the country and settled where he has ever since lived, and there likewise came with him a man named Johnson, and William McNeil, afterward brutally murdered. In the spring of 1832 came the Bullmans—Lot and Joshua. The latter was married at the time, and Lot afterward wedded Ann, daughter of Joshua Babb. With them came a brother-in-law named James Smalley and built a cabin on the hill north of Joshua. His wife died not long after and he wedded Mary, daughter of James Orr, afterward Mrs. Asa Thompson, who still lives in the enjoyment of a green old age. He was something of a speculator, and along with Mr. Orr laid out the long forgotten town of Bristol, on the grounds of the latter north of John Fisher's. Only one lot was sold and this was traded for a box of hats in St. Louis, which never came, so the expected future Chicago dropped out of existence. It never had an inhabitant. A little south of this William Feazle, who died a few years ago, lived in a cabin built by Virgil Lancaster. He was married to a sister of Silas Ramsay, and one day while standing by a fire-place a bolt of lightning struck her dead. In the field at the bottom of the bluff north of Joshua Bullman's lived a man named Beltha Griffith. He sold his claim to Fenn, Howe & Co., and here Ira and Norman Fenn and their families spent their first winter in Lacon. The place where Henry Fisher lives was first settled by a man named Gage.

The Vernay place was entered by Robert Iliff, who sold it to David Vernay, whose widowed companion still lives there. In the Irving Broadus field not far from John Hoffrichter's slaughter house stood the cabin of Jacob Reeder, owner of the Barnes' property, which he sold soon after to Theodore Perry, who first improved it.

We now return to Columbia. The year 1835 brought little change. Work upon the new flouring mill progressed slowly. The building was large, and facilities for construction were wanting, so that it was nearly two years from commencement to completion. It was set in operation in the fall of 1836, and at once gave an impetus to the business of the place. People came to it from an hundred miles away. The Grand De Tour plow works were just starting in business, and came here for their first supplies. In 1838-9 there was a great scarcity of flour in Galena, and Johnson loaded five teams, with ten barrels each, and sent them there, realizing \$20 per barrel.

During its construction the proprietors kept a store in a small building opposite, now owned by Mrs. Conroy, the license for which was issued by the Commissioners' Court of Putnam County, June 1, 1835. For some time they kept "bachelor's hall" with their employes in a log building, on Water street, one block north of the distillery. The cellar of this building was quite a resort for snakes, which paid unceremonious visits to one of the proprietors (Smith) as he lay sick upon the floor above.

The mill did a flourishing business up to 1857, when, owing to the death of one of the partners, it was sold at administrator's sale, and was bought by William Fisher & Co., for \$2,000. They expended a large sum in enlarging and improving, and had just ordered new boilers for it when it took fire and burned down, about the year 1855.

In March, 1832, Swan obtained a license from the authorities of Putnam County for the establishment of a ferry, paying five dollars for the privilege. Formerly crossing had been done in canoes, and if anything bulky was to be taken over, two were lashed together and a platform laid upon them. Horses or cattle were made to swim. Mr. Swan put on a small boat, but the amount of travel at the time was very small, and the enterprise far from being profitable.

Roads had previously been surveyed eastward toward Metamora and to Caledonia on the way to Hennepin, and in 1836 the Commissioners' Court ordered the survey of one from the bank of the river opposite Columbia westward, to intersect the road running from Peoria to Galena. Previously there had been no authorized road coming to the ferry.

The year 1835 witnessed various improvements. The proprietors of the town, to induce settlers, made offers of certain lots at nominal prices to those who would erect houses two stories high, and on those conditions two or three were built, one of them by Philip McGuire, a single man, and another by William Burns, a relative of John Wier.

The cemetery below town was laid out in 1836. It was thickly covered with hazel brush at the time, and scattering oaks of various sizes. The first person interred was a daughter of Virgil Lancaster, and the second was James Henthorn, who died in September. He assisted in forming the Methodist Society and was its first class-leader.

About this time, too, or a few months earlier, Barrows & Case built a steam saw-mill at the lower end of town, and the same year Dennis Barney erected one on the Babb place, three miles below, and not long after added a wool carding and fulling machine.

The new settlers began raising sheep at an early day, and in the course of time Mr. Barney's modest venture grew into a first-class carding and wool dressing mill, 45x46 feet, three stories high. He was on the high road to prosperity, when on the night of June 14, 1843, it took fire and was entirely destroyed. He had no insurance, and the loss was irreparable. He began again in a small way at Crow Creek, but met with poor success.

Dr. Condee was the first physician in the place. He came in 1834 and taught a term of school in a cabin south-west of Irving Broadus' place, built by William Waughob. He became a partner of Dr. Boal, and built a residence across the railway track from the packing house, into which Dr. Boal and family moved on their arrival, and wherein their daughter, Clara, wife of our eminent townsman, Colonel Fort, was born. The house still stands on Broad street, east of the Pomeroy cooper shop.

Dr. Condee returned to Rushville, Indiana, and died in 1838.

In 1835 a man named O'Neal opened a store and built a cabin where the Eagle Mill stood, which passed into the hands of William Hadley.

Dr. Effner was the second physician. He came from Bloomington in 1834, and began a two-story log house on the corner opposite the old brick hotel. It was not completed until some time after, and fell into the hands of Fenn, Howe & Co., who sold it to a man named Boyle. It was burned down in 1856 and the lot sold to James Hadley, who built a two-story frame building thereon, since burned down.

Another physician of Lacon was a Dr. Wolfe. He was addicted to drinking, and when the saloon keepers here refused to longer sell to him, took a couple of jugs and went to Chillicothe. He swam the river and got them filled, and returned in like manner, losing one of them on the way. With the other he reached home, mixed the liquor with opium, and drank himself to death.

In 1835, too, came Gen. Jonathan Babb and Nelson G. Henthorn, who reached Columbia on the 30th of September, and took up their temporary abode with friends below the town. The General began at once the construction of a substantial frame house near where the office of the Phoenix Mill long after stood. When that was built, the old house was removed up town, and still stands.

In 1835 Ira I. Fenn, a young and rising young lawyer, of Dayton, Ohio, in company with Samuel Howe, journeyed West on horseback, visiting Lacon and the country surrounding. They were so well pleased

that they purchased a half interest in the new town, and prepared for removal. They were the pioneers of the so-called Lacon Colony, embracing the three brothers Fenn, viz: Ira I., Norman and William, the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy and Dr. Robert Boal, with their respective families, William Fisher, Augustus Pomeroy, Jr., and Samuel Howe, a single man. Later in the season came William Hancock, Hartley Malone, H. L. and H. P. Crane. They were all men of character and standing, and would exert an influence for good in any community. To them more than any others Lacon is indebted for its good name, its social standing, and its high literary and moral status.

The name of Fisher deserves more than the brief mention accorded above. William, who preceded his older brother, had been doing business with the latter at Rossville, Ohio, but dissolved partnership, and purchasing a two-ninths' interest in the new town of Columbia for \$4,000, became a partner in the firm of Fenn, Howe & Co. As this market seemed overstocked with goods, he took a portion of their stock to Hennepin, and remained until the completion of the brick on the south-east corner of Fifth and Main streets, when he returned to Lacon. In the fall of 1838 he withdrew from the firm to form that of William Fisher & Co., and opened a store in a building north of Reil's livery stable. They also began packing pork, and the first year cut up 750 hogs, mostly from La Salle Prairie, west of Chillicothe.

It is proper to state here that the first pork packed in the place was by Fenn, Howe & Co., in 1837. Swan also went into the business, cutting up, in 1839, 3,000 hogs.

Jabez Fisher having decided to concentrate his western business in Lacon, extensive preparations were made, and the old slaughter house below town and several other buildings were erected in 1840. In 1849-50 the brick packing house was built at a cost of \$10,000. At the time it was considered the most complete of its kind in the West. The number of hogs packed by them ranged from 750 (the first year's product) to 11,000, and the amount annually paid out varied from \$50,000 to \$300,000. It was no unusual thing for steamers to take on an entire cargo of pork and its products and proceed to New Orleans without breaking bulk. It furnished a market for all the surrounding country, and hogs were driven here from territory now covered by eleven counties.

Another important interest connected with it was the cooperating business, employing throughout the season from six to twenty men. The

pioneer cooper was Samuel Pomeroy, and the business was the means of bringing to the place such men as Calvin Chapman, Abner Shinn and George F. Wightman.

The currency in circulation at the time was pretty nearly worthless, and would not be received for taxes. There was little gold or silver in circulation, and the financial situation was deplorable. Mr. Fisher brought good money, and such was the confidence in his integrity that tax collectors gave public notice that "Boston money," as the funds he paid were called, would be receivable for all public dues. To his credit be it said—and no finer tribute could be paid—that during his long business life this confidence was never shaken.

In those times there were neither railroads nor express companies in the West and exchanges and collections were attended with difficulties. The mail and stage coach were the means employed for the conveyance of valuables, and it was the usual custom to insure packages and then start them on their long journey. Occasionally they were lost, but not often.

Somewhere about the year 1852 a package sent from Boston was missed. The Postmaster here was a one-legged Mexican soldier named Williamson, who was believed to be a person of the strictest integrity. The Fishers were instructed in advance of the shipment of packages and knew when to expect them. There was seldom any delay, and hence when two packages of fifteen hundred dollars each failed to arrive it occasioned endless wonder and comment. Williamson was well connected here, his brother being married to a daughter of Norman Fenn, and was not suspected, but the Postoffice Department concluded he was the guilty party, and placed detectives on his track who soon obtained evidence that convicted him, and he made a clean breast of the matter. He was sent to the Alton Penitentiary for ten years, and died there.

The rapid development of the country and the competence that many men enjoy to-day is due to this firm. They made a market for hogs when there was none other between Chicago and St. Louis, and paid good money when most needed. Misfortunes came in after years, and the riches laboriously piled up were swept away; yet they can say with the old Roman, "All is not lost while honor remains."

In 1836 the name of the town was changed to Lacon. The credit of suggesting it rightly belongs to D. C. Holbrook, of Cincinnati. He was one of the founders of Cairo, largely interested in the extensive improvements undertaken by the State at this time, and a personal friend of

Jesse C. Smith. General Henderson was Representative from the District, and Smith and Ira Fenn went down to lobby the measure through. There they met Holbrook, who gave them some assistance and contributed the name. The matter was referred home, discussed and adopted.

Reference has been made to the firm of Fenn, Howe & Co., who became part owners of the town site and built a store in the winter of 1836, east of the present elevator, which was afterward removed, and it now forms part of the dwelling and restaurant of Fred. Roth. Swan, at a later date, removed his storehouse to the corner, where the brick hotel stands, which, after his failure, burned down, and the lot fell into the hands of Dr. Wilcox, who erected on the ground a two-story frame building, and that likewise caught fire one fourth of July and was consumed.

William Hadley was another emigrant who came in 1836, and his son James is one of the leading merchants of Peoria.

Other early settlers were Jesse Bane, who married Rachel, eldest daughter of John Strawn, and J. C. Coutlett, who for many years carried on the merchant tailoring business. About this time, too, came Barrows and Case, Cochran and Perry, merchants, Lindley and Fishburn and many others.

In the summer of 1836 the street leading to the river was cleared and a substantial road made through the morass by placing timbers side by side and covering them with brush and dirt. The succeeding winter the timber fronting the town was chopped down, and a great freshet in the spring carried it away. Instead of the shallow ponds now seen, they were deep and clear, being fed from springs in the bottom.

In 1837 the town was incorporated under the general act, and elected a Board of Trustees, with William Fenn for President, and Ira I. Fenn, Clerk.

The postoffice was established in 1835, and Dr. Effner appointed postmaster. Before this the citizens relied upon the office of Crow Creek, at Bell's Ford, for mail facilities. A letter from the Eastern States cost 25 cents postage, and correspondence was small, as compared with the present time. The new Postmaster, it is said, carried the entire mail in his hat, and distributed it among the owners as he found them. Mails were carried in four-horse stages, and the route was from Peru to Hennepin, *via* Granville, and thence to Bell's Crossing, over Crow Creek, and so on to Peoria; but after the establishment of the postoffice here it was

changed so that stages came directly down the river from Hennepin, and crossed the Illinois at this place.

In 1838 Frink & Trowbridge obtained contracts for all the routes in this country. Their headquarters were in Chicago, and the schedule called for a daily mail between that place and Peoria.

In this year (1837) the Presbyterian Church was organized, an extended notice of this and the other churches being given elsewhere.

From this time the new town grew rapidly. In 1838 Norman Fenn built the house where George W. Wightman lives, and Ira I. Fenn completed the dwelling where he lived until the day of his death.

The Fisher brick, as the corner store was called, was begun in 1837 by Fenn, Howe & Co., and finished the succeeding season. Samuel Howe built the house formerly occupied by Owen McEntee as a flour store and still standing, and the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy built the "Jake Foster" house. The front room was made purposely large for prayer meetings, but we fear its "days of grace" are ended.

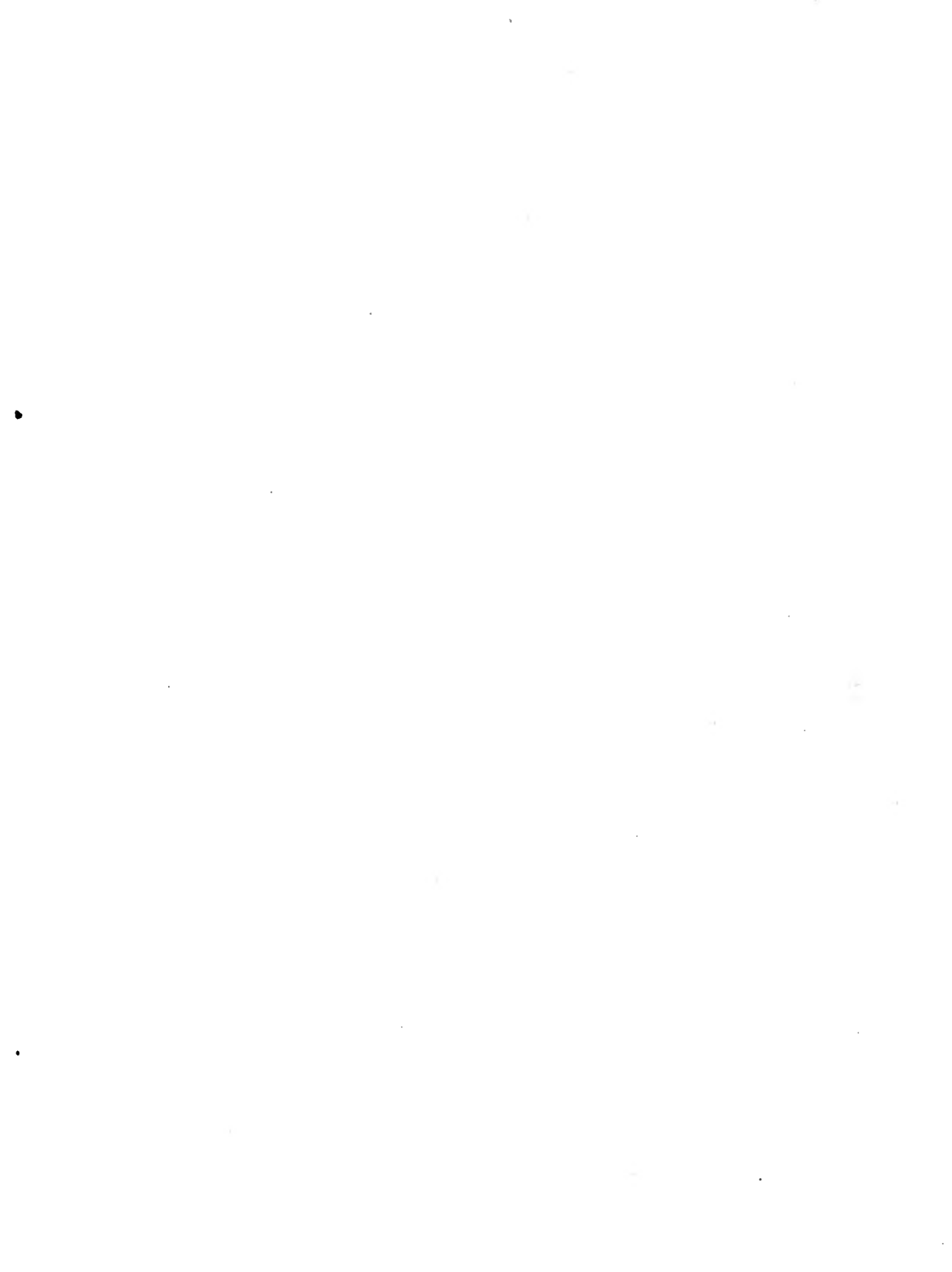
The new proprietors of the place early turned their attention to education, and in 1836 the "Lacon Academy" was organized, and \$1,000 pledged to its support. A building was put up in that year capable of holding sixty or seventy pupils, which for several years afforded all the educational privileges needed. It was used for church purposes, town meetings, elections, lyceums and all public purposes for many years, and afterward was turned into a dwelling house. Later still it served as a work-shop, and finally was turned around facing the street, a more pretentious front added, and became the store which William Fisher occupies. Here in the spring of 1837 was taught the first school in Lacon, by Jane M. Kilgore, now a well preserved matron of sixty, and wife of Henry M. Barnes. Among her pupils were the three children of Norman Fenn,—Sarah Ann, Adaline and William Porter. Sarah married Samuel Dunham, builder of the Presbyterian Church, who in less than one month died, and she became a widow, after which she wedded Eleazer Pomeroy, dying many years ago. Adaline married James N. Williamson, moved to Chicago, and died in Michigan in 1878. William Porter enlisted in the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry in the war of the rebellion, served with credit until after the capture of Mobile and died of the small pox.

Gen. Babb sent three children—Jane, Evaline and Erastus. The two girls became wives of the Rev. John T. Devore, a noted Methodist minister of early times, and both died in Oregon. Erastus also died there.



W. E. COOK.

LACON, ILL.



William Hadley sent his two sons, at present living in Peoria; and the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy sent two,—Henry and Augustus. They removed elsewhere at an early day.

Samuel Pomeroy sent Cornelia, Samuel and Frank. Cornelia became the wife of Judge Bangs, for many years a resident of Lacon, and now of Chicago. Samuel was for several years with William Fisher, and died in Peru, and Frank lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Ira Fenn sent three nieces named respectively Matilda, Laetitia and Maria McMillen. Matilda died in Lacon; Laetitia married Geo. Eckley, became the mother of two children, removed to California, and now lives with her daughter in the Sandwich Islands.

There were two children named Lindsay,—Benjamin and Dorcas. The former was for many years a conductor on the C. & A. Railroad, and the latter married George Wightman. There was also among the pupils a girl named Jemima Orr, who afterward became the wife of Philip Maguire.

The old school house served its purpose for several years, and was replaced by a larger one, afterward reconstructed into the dwelling now occupied by the family of the late Henry L. Crane.

In 1856 the present High School building was erected at a cost of \$8,000, and was reconstructed in 1878. The public schools of the place have always stood high, and still maintain their reputation.

The act establishing the County of Marshall passed January 19, 1839, and under its provisions Lacon was made the County seat April 6, 1839. The first Circuit Court was held in the old M. E. Church (long since converted into a place of business). April 23^d of that year, Thomas Ford presided as Judge, and J. M. Shannon was appointed Clerk. The Grand Jurors were Ira Lowrey, Lewis Barney, Joel Corbill, Jeremiah Cooper, Allen N. Ford, Charles Rice, William Gray, Enoch Sawyer, Zorah D. Stewart, Elijah Freeman, Jr., Nathan Owen, George Scott, Samuel Howe, Robert Bennington, John Bird, Andrew Jackson, Henry Snyder, Allen Hunter. There being no jury cases on the docket, no petit jury was summoned.

A movement toward constructing a Court House was begun in June, and in December a contract was entered into with White & Shepherd, of Tremont, for putting up a building with stone foundations and brick superstructure, 40x55 feet, for \$8,000. It stood fourteen years, and burned down January 5, 1853, through a defect in one of the chimneys.

The present edifice was built in 1854, by two Peoria firms, and cost \$7,300.

The old log jail, still standing in the rear of the Court House, was built in 1844, by George and Thomas Wier, for \$500. It proved quite insecure and inadequate for the purpose, many prisoners escaping from it. The present structure, with comfortable rooms for the Sheriff, etc., was built in 1857, and cost \$12,000.

About this time a movement was set on foot for constructing a railroad from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Fort Wayne, Ind., crossing the river at this point. A charter was obtained from the Legislature, and the County voted by a large majority to subscribe \$100,000 to the capital stock. In December, 1855, the city of Lacon also voted bonds to the extent of \$50,000 for the same purpose. Individual subscriptions to a considerable amount were likewise procured, and a large amount of grading done; but it was evidently too early for so great an enterprise, and the return of hard times compelled its abandonment for lack of means to carry it through. The bonds voted by the city were paid with interest and the debt extinguished in 1878, but a portion of the County bonds are still outstanding.

The Township of Lacon voted \$60,000 toward building a branch of the Chicago & Alton Railroad from Wenona to Lacon, which was completed, but there appears to have been some informality in the proceeding, and their legality is disputed.

Among other improvements worthy of extended note may be mentioned the milling interest of Lacon. The Phoenix Mill, built in 1855 by William Fisher, cost \$42,000, and the Model Mill, built by Fenn, Perry & Dodds, cost a like sum. The former burned down about 1871, and was not rebuilt. In 1857 a distillery was added to the Model Mill, which burned down in the spring of 1862. The next year the Thayer Bros., of Chicago, purchased the property and greatly enlarged its capacity. August 12, 1864, the boilers of the distillery exploded, damaging the property to the extent of \$25,000 and killing five men, viz: Michael Sullivan, James Howard, Daniel Barnhouse, Daniel Foltz and — Stephens. In a single year it paid the Government a revenue tax of one million nine hundred and ninety-three thousand dollars. After the death of the Thayers the works were run in a desultory way for some time and then dismantled.

Another enterprise of which Lacon is deservedly proud is its Woolen Mill, where are made the celebrated and widely known Prairie State

shawls. So far as known, it is the first establishment of the kind west of the Alleghanies, and such is the excellence of their manufacture that they successfully compete in style and finish with the best Eastern-made goods. Their annual production is about 30,000 shawls of various patterns and styles, as well as a large quantity of piece goods. The project originated in a letter upon the subject of manufactures written by Spencer Ellsworth for the *Chicago Tribune*, which attracted the attention of William F. Sagne and John Grieves, out of which grew a correspondence leading to a meeting of a half dozen citizens and the appointment of William Fisher and Mr. Ellsworth as a committee to meet and confer with those gentlemen. Their report was considered so favorable that a company was organized and incorporated with a nominal capital of \$100,000, afterward increased to \$123,000. Books of subscription were opened and a Board of Directors chosen, consisting of Archibald Riddell, Andrew Smith, Robert Pringle, John Grieves, William Fisher, D. E. Thomas and Spencer Ellsworth. D. E. Thomas was chosen President, and Spencer Ellsworth, Secretary. During the winter the capital subscription was worked up until \$50,000 was raised, when the buildings were put under contract and finished that summer. They furnish employment to some sixty-five persons, and with little intermission the mill has run continuously since its erection.

THE LACON FERRY.

The first ferry across the river was established by Elisha Swan in 1832, who built a flat for the purpose and propelled it with oars. Its principal use was the conveyance of coal from the Sparland banks. In 1837 he sold his interest to Dr. Boal, who built a larger flat capable of carrying two teams. It was constructed on the bank near the lower saw mill, so as to run it out at the slough entrance.

On the opposite shore the track turned up the river bank for a quarter of a mile, and then followed the high ground near the creek to what was known as the Reddick House. A very good road was found for most of the way.

Joseph Johnson and Charles Ballance, of Peoria, secured the fractional tract of ground across the river, above the ferry, with a view of establishing a rival ferry, but sold their interest to William Fisher. William

Fisher & Co. bought Dr. Boal's interest, and several years later, while the Doctor was in the Legislature, secured a charter through him. A larger boat was constructed, which served until 1849, when a new one was built. The receipts were small and the franchise was not considered valuable.

The first ferryman was Joseph Mac Taylor, and Richard Vinecore ran it for several years. He was succeeded by a man named King, who got drunk, fell off the boat and was drowned. Josiah Martin ran it several years, and John Jason also. Ed. Corcoran was the "boatman pale" for seventeen years, and a better man 't were hard to find.

The road and its repairs across the river has cost, according to William Fisher, \$12,000. The County paid Sparr toward constructing the first bridge \$300.

In 1857 William Fisher became sole owner of the property for a consideration of \$20,000. He built a new boat and added steam power. He also purchased a steamer for use in seasons of high water, and made the crossing popular with the public.

In January, 1869, it passed into the hands of Jabez Fisher & Co., and in 1879 was sold to the city of Lacon for \$6,000.



CHAPTER XXXVI.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.



THE Presbyterian Church of Lacon was organized mainly through the aid of the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, assisted by a few devout Christian men and women, who had been in the County but a short time. Among those prominent in the good work may be mentioned the three Fenn brothers, Ira I., William and Norman; likewise Samuel Howe, Hezekiah T. Crane, and others, who had known and listened to the ministrations of Mr. Pomeroy in Ohio, and at whose solicitation he had agreed to accompany them into the wilderness. Services were held in private houses, and as considerable interest was manifested in the cause it was decided to organize a society. Accordingly the 12th of May, 1837, was set apart, and due notice being given, a large congregation assembled at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy. Here a sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Farnum, by direction of the Peoria Presbytery, assisted by the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, after which those qualified and desiring to enter into a Church organization were advised to come forward.

Thirty-eight persons presented themselves, exhibiting satisfactory evidence of previous good standing, and were enrolled, as follows:

Samuel M. Kilgore and his wife, Jacob and Frances Reeder, William and Eleanor McCuen, David and Harriet Mitchell, Norman Fenn, Ira I. and Eunice B. Fenn, Hezekiah and Clarissa Crane, Thaddeus and Ann Barney, James and Margaret Work, Susan Work, Isabella Work, Wm. and Maria Fenn, Martha Ramsay, Jane M. Kilgore, John T. Shepherd, Charles and Mary Barrows, Mrs. Susan L. Pomeroy, Mary Ann Pomeroy, Rev. Augustus D. Pomeroy, William Fisher, George and Mary Snyder, William and Priscilla Dodds, Mrs. Mary Murphy, Samuel and Sarah Howe and Mary J. McEwen.

The Articles of Faith and Covenant of the Presbytery of Ottawa were adopted, and Charles Barrows, David Mitchell Hezekiah T. Crane and Ira

I. Fenn were elected Elders. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered for the first time June 14, 1837.

The Rev. Mr. Pomeroy, who had previously labored a part of the time at Hennepin, was employed to devote his whole services to the Church here.

July 29, Ira I. Fenn was elected Clerk. August 1, Samuel Pomeroy, Mary Pomery, Elijah Pomeroy, Isabella Kilgore, Emily Spangler, James Work, Jr., Samuel Work, Mary Work, Elizabeth and Margaret Work joined. January, 27, 1838, twelve new members were enrolled, and eight admitted for examination. January 28, five persons were baptized, the first recorded.

During the winter the most remarkable revival in the history of the Church took place, and on the 19th of February thirty-four persons made profession of faith and were received in the Society.

February 19, six persons were baptized, and April 7, six additional members joined.

In March, 1838, there were five dismissals of members who wished to join other churches.

In July, 1837, William McCune was removed by death, and on the 14th of August Eunice B. Fenn, and in February, 1838, Harriet Mitchell. In September, 1838, Mrs. Sarah W. Johnson; November, Mary Pomeroy; June 20, 1839, Jacob Smalley.

September 15, 1838, four new converts were secured.

February 25, 1839, the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy asked to be relieved from the care of the Church on account of failing health, which was granted.

The first minister of the Society, as stated before, was the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, who began in the fall of 1836, and closed by resignation February 25, 1839.

The second was the Rev. H. T. Pendleton, who commenced his labors in June, 1839, and served one year. He was succeeded by the Rev. David Jones, who preached three years.

In October, 1843, the Rev. David Smith was engaged and labored one year, when his services were terminated by death.

On the 4th of August, 1844, Henry G. Pendleton began his labors, preaching one year.

August 19, the Rev. Joseph Fowler was secured and preached until April, 1853,—a longer time than any other minister since the organization of the Society.

In 1854 the Rev. Mr. Christopher began preaching as stated supply, and served the Society four and a half years. He was dismissed in November, 1858, and died in 1879. On December 1st of that year the Rev. Mr. Waldo was hired and labored eighteen months. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Parsons, who preached for three and a half years.

In July, 1865, the Rev. Mr. Felch took charge of the Church, and continued until dismissed in 1865. During his pastorate about one-half the congregation seceded and formed the Congregational Church. Both societies got along pleasantly together until 1879, when joint services were resumed again under the ministration of the Rev. Mr. Tracey. Mr. Felch afterward abandoned the ministry and went into the insurance business.

December 10, 1865, the Rev. John McLeish was engaged as "stated supply," and preached two years. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Curtiss, who remained three years and six months. After Mr. Curtiss came the Rev. C. F. Littell, Rev. T. S. Vail, and Rev. S. D. Wells, who was succeeded by the present incumbent, the Rev. William Tracey.

Public worship was first held and the Church organized at the residence of Mr. Pomeroy, and afterward at the house of Henry L. Crane, in a room occupied jointly with the Methodists. This served until the old public school house was built, which accommodated all denominations alike for years. The attendants sat on benches of the rudest construction, and the minister stood at a table equally primitive.

The present house of worship was begun in 1849, and finished in 1851, at a total cost of \$4,000. It contains a fine bell, and a pipe organ costing originally \$1,500. The Society is in a flourishing condition.

THE M. E. CHURCH OF LACON.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Lacon dates back to the spring of 1836, when so far as known the first sermon heard in the place was preached in the unfinished Jesse Smith mill, by the Rev. Quinn Hall. The families of Hartley Malone and Henry L. Crane, both Methodists and ardent workers, had reached the place a few days before, and took an active interest in the cause. At this meeting a large congregation assembled, coming from the country round about, and notice was given

that service would be held the Thursday following at the cabin of James Hall, east of Lacon, and the Rev. A. E. Phelps would officiate. This worthy and pious man, of remarkable ability, and John McMurtry, a sweet singer of Israel, traveled the Pekin circuit, embracing all the country between Hennepin and Pekin and the Illinois and Vermilion Rivers, making the "round" once in two weeks. The Methodists of Lacon, requesting the appointment be changed to the village, on his next arrival Mr. Phelps held services at the cabin of Mr. Malone. At this meeting the little band of Methodists handed in their "letters" or credentials of standing, and from this may be dated the first organized class and society of the place. The names of those uniting at this time were: James Henthorn, Sarah Henthorn, Nancy Henthorn, Sarah Effner, Jonathan Babb, Mary Babb, E. H. Williamson, Catherine Williamson, H. L. Crane, Elizabeth Crane, Hartley Malone, Julia Malone, William Hadley, Sarah Hadley, D. M. Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson. James Henthorn was appointed leader, but died in September. He was the second person interred in the new cemetery, a daughter of Virgil Lancaster being the first. After the death of Mr. Henthorn, H. L. Crane was appointed leader, in which capacity he served faithfully for many years. He died in February, 1880, and with a single exception (Mrs. Hartley Malone) was the only survivor of the original class. For the first year services were held in a frame building erected by Dr. Condee that stood near the Fisher Mill. It had neither fire-place nor stove, yet during this time served both the Methodists and Presbyterians.

The first Church was erected in 1837, and dedicated in November by the Rev. Wm. Cundiff, pastor. It served the Society for twenty years, or until the completion of the present fine structure. After that it became a workshop, and then a store. At present it stands on the south side of Fifth street, and is used as a merchant tailor's shop. The building of the present Church was begun in 1855, and dedicated Sunday, June 24, 1860. At eleven A. M., Dr. O. S. Munsell preached in the audience room, and A. C. Price in the basement. F. Smith preached at three P. M., and Dr. Munsell in the evening. The dedicatory services were held at the close of the evening service.

1838, Z. Hall was pastor.

1839, Lacon became the head of a "circuit" embracing all of Putnam and Marshall Counties east of the Illinois River, with what is now

Tonica, and Cedar Point, in La Salle County—David Blackwell, pastor.

1840, David Dickinson.

1841, C. Atkinson, J. B. Houts.

1842, J. C. Pinckard.

1843, "supplied."

1844, J. F. Devore.

1845, Francis Smith.

1846, C. Babcock, T. F. Royal.

1847 and '48, W. C. Cumming, A. D. Field.

1849, Lacon became a station, B. C. Swartz, pastor, who was succeeded as follows:

1850 and '51, L. R. Ellis.

1852 and '53, Z. Hall.

1854 and '55, Joseph S. Frost.

1856, Ira Norris (supply).

1857, Ahab Keller.

1858 and '59, B. Applebee.

1860, S. B. Smith.

1861 and '62, C. C. Knowlton.

1863, J. S. Millsap.

1864, G. M. Irwin.

1865, '66 and '67, J. W. Haney.

1868, William Watson.

1869 and '70, Jarvice G. Evans.

1871, W. P. Graves.

1872, P. A. Crist.

1873 and '74, A. Bower.

1875, L. B. Kent.

1876 and '77, S. Brink.

1878, A. C. Price.

1879, L. Springer.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF LACON.

The Baptist Society of Lacon was organized in February, 1855, under the ministrations of Elder I. L. Mahan, of Connecticut, who, guided by Divine influences, selected Lacon as a field for his operations.

At first meetings were held in various places. It was nearly a month

before a Baptist Society was formed, and it was not until January 4, 1856, that they decided to erect a church. Before this, however, unsuccessful attempts had been made to collect money by subscriptions to procure a building suitable for Divine worship. The originators and founders of the Baptist Church consisted of the following, eight in number: L. Holland, B. T. Baldwin, Lucius G. Thompson, James McWhitney, Jane McWhitney, Esther A. Bauham, I. L. Mahan, H. Jane Mahow.

The latter part of the year 1857, by untiring diligence and hard labor, nearly \$4,500 was raised, and with this the Society determined to erect an edifice and consecrate it to the good work, trusting in a Divine Providence for aid to complete it.

The first pastor of the Church was Rev. I. L. Mahan, who succeeded in increasing the membership "a hundred fold." During his two years pastorage the number of members increased from eight to twenty souls.

During the first two years eight of the members were expelled, and three died. Notwithstanding, the Church was in a very good condition when Rev. Mr. Gray was called, after the resignation of Elder Mahan. Since then Rev. Mr. Thompson, Rev. A. P. Graves, Rev. J. P. Agendroad and Rev. D. Shields have supplied the pulpit. Since the first steps that were taken in the foundation of this Society it clearly shows that the overruling hand of Providence prospered these few people, and made the Church what it now is.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Catholic Church of Lacon was established at a comparatively recent date, but previous to that time services were held and masses celebrated at the houses of individuals, notably that of Jack Kelly. The earliest person we can identify was Rev. Father Montori, an Italian, who came once a month. A lot for church purposes was donated by the proprietors of the place, and a building, part frame and part log, erected thereon, and served as a place of worship several years. It now forms a part of the Jesse Whittaker residence.

Father Montori was succeeded by Father Rinaldi, likewise an Italian, through whose exertions a frame building was erected, which served the purposes of the Society until 1867. He also built the Mrs. Thompson residence, and lived there with his sisters as housekeeper. After him

came Rev. Thomas Lynch, in December 31, 1853, who served until his death, July 15, 1856. Following him came Father Francis McGuire, and he was succeeded by Father Mehan, date unknown. To him succeeded

— Father Thos. Ogden,
 “ Walter H. Power,
 “ John N. Harrigan,
 “ James Wall,
 “ E. Delihanty,
 “ John Kilkenny,
 “ P. Flanagan,
 “ M. McDermott,
 “ P. J. Campbell,
 “ John F. Power, the present incumbent.

Under Father Kilkenny's administration the building of the present church edifice was undertaken and finished in 1867. It is probably the the costliest church building in the County, and cost when completed \$13,000.

Rev. Father Campbell's services were terminated by death, in May, 1877. He had many friends, and died greatly regretted.

Under the ministration of Father Power a fine school building was erected, and a flourishing school in charge of sisters of the church established.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The First Congregational Church of Lacon was organized October 1, 1865, with a membership of forty persons, viz: Mark Bangs, H. C. Bangs, C. H. Madeley, H. P. B. Madeley, E. C. Turner, Abigail Turner, William B. Thomas, C. B. Meyer, Emma M. Meyer, C. Belle Hamaker, Mrs. John M. Shields, I. H. Reeder, John Hutchins, Helen E. Hutchins, Samuel Pomeroy, Susan Pomeroy, Mrs. E. A. C. Roberts, Miss Margaret Madeley, E. F. Pomeroy, Mrs. E. F. Pomeroy, Euphemia Blodgett, Mrs. D. G. Warner, Martha Mosier, John P. Shepard, Eveline Shepard, Mrs. S. J. McFadin, Mrs. A. E. Hutchins, Miss Anna T. Hutchins, John S. Bane, Ephriam Williamson, C. C. Beadle, Mrs. C. C. Beadle, D. W. Coan, Mrs. A. Stephens, Mrs. H. F. Akeroid, Lucy A. Eckley, Millie P. Ball, Mrs. A. Page, Mrs. W. E. Cook, Minnie Ross.

They erected their Church building during the autumn of the sam

year, at a cost of \$4,200. The lots were given by W. E. Cook, and were at that time valued at \$1,000. The house was dedicated in November of that year.

The first Deacons were Samuel Pomeroy, Edward C. Turner, Mark Bangs and Charles H. Madeley.

Trustees—Mark Bangs, John Hutchins and C. B. Meyer.

First pastor, Rev. S. S. Reeves; followed by the Rev. Mr. Stevens, now of the First Congrégational Church of Peoria; Mr. Codington, a graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary, who received his first ordination here; Mr. Williams, from Boston, Mass.; Mr. Clifton, a graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary; and Rev. William Tracy, the present pastor of the Union Church.

The Church received an accession of about forty members during the first year under the pastorate of Mr. Reeves.

The succeeding Deacons were Ira Norris and John Hutchins.

In April 1879, the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches united as the Union Church of Lacon, upon a basis of Confession of Faith, common to both organizations.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

In 1858 an Episcopal Society was organized under Rev. Mr. Lay, with about a dozen members, and a liberal attendance of outsiders. They built a church the succeeding year, and flourished for a while, but most of the leading members moved elsewhere, and services were not sustained. The building is unoccupied.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

MASONS.

Lacon Lodge No. 61 A. F. & A. M. is one of the oldest in this part of the State, having been chartered October 4, 1848. In the disastrous fire that destroyed Cook's block all its records and charter were destroyed, and the only information attainable comes from the records of the Grand Lodge. From it we learn that William Fenn, Abner Shinn, Joseph Ra-

ley and Addison Ramsay were charter members, and William Fenn its first presiding officer.

The affairs of the Society are in a very flourishing condition, and it numbers about fifty active members.

ODD FELLOWS.

This Society was organized October 17, 1851, the charter members being W. E. Cook, Silas Ramsay, Charles I. Wood and John T. Pride.

The oldest living member of the organization is George Johnson, whose membership dates from the year 1852.

There are about eighty active members, and the Society is in a very flourishing condition. In the fire that burned their hall their records and much valuable furniture were destroyed, but all their former prosperity has been regained, and contracts have been let for a new and better one, and the Society has a surplus fund on hand of nearly \$2,000.

THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS OF LACON.

The newspaper history of Lacon dates back to the year 1837, when Allen N. Ford, an enterprising young printer of Hartford, Connecticut, entered into a contract with the proprietors of the then town of Columbia to transfer himself, family and material for issuing a weekly paper to the new town. The proprietors of Columbia possessed both enterprise and intelligence, and were quick to discover that printer's ink was the talismanic "open sesame" leading to success. So early as 1836 an effort was made to start a paper in the new town, which fell through, and negotiations were then began, through the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, with Mr. Ford, and carried to a termination satisfactory to all parties. The conditions were that he accept a bonus of \$2,000, subscribed by the citizens, and publish for them a paper at least two years. As men of all shades of opinion, religious and political, contributed to the purpose, it was necessarily non-partisan.

Mr. Ford having accepted the conditions, early made preparations to depart. An office outfit was purchased, exceptionally good for the time, and shipped via New Orleans, while the proprietor and his family, consisting of himself, wife, and two little boys (one of whom is now an

influential political writer and the other a practical printer), set out for the West, making the long journey by railroad, steamboat and canal.

At Alton he engaged two printers to assist on his paper, one of them a brother of the martyr Lovejoy.

It was seven weeks after their shipment before his press and fixtures arrived, and finally on the 13th of December, 1837, the initial number appeared, christened the *Lacon Herald*. It was a neatly printed and well edited seven column paper, and in general news compares favorably with the newspapers of to-day. There was a notable lack of local news, an entire absence of fun and facetiæ, but in solid instruction and useful information it was the equal of more pretentious papers to-day. The selections were excellent—particularly of poetry, most of the cotemporary gems of the day appearing in its pages. The paper was printed in a small building standing where Brereton's carriage shop now does, and appeared with greater or less regularity for two years, when the proprietor changed its name to the *Illinois Gazette*, and espoused the Whig side of partisan politics.

In 1858-9, owing to failing health, Mr. Ford sold the office to Joshua Allen, a young printer from Hartford, Conn., who associated with himself in its publication J. H. Bouham. Failing in his payments, the office reverted to its former owner. When the war of the rebellion broke out Mr. Allen enlisted as a private in Captain Shaw's company of the Eleventh Regiment, and fell at Fort Donelson.

In the later years of the *Gazette*, Capt. Henry Ford, a son of the proprietor, contributed many scholarly and well written articles, in the absence of the editor taking entire editorial charge of its pages. He is now engaged upon the *Cleveland Leader*, and has won a deservedly high reputation as an educator and journalist.

In 1866 the *Gazette* passed into the hands of Spencer Ellsworth, its present owner, who changed its name to the *Home Journal*, and has continued its publication to the present time. The office is equipped with every appliance required in first class offices, having steam power and cylinder presses for newspaper and jobbing, and in circulation and influence compares favorably with country newspapers throughout the State.

The records of the Democratic press here are vague and indefinite in spite of our efforts to obtain them. No records or files appear to have been preserved. About 1850 Jesse Lynch, assisted by the party, purchased a press and outfit and started the *Lacon Herald*. How long he

continued in its charge is not known, but it afterward passed into the hands of Robert Burns; he gave place to J. W. Mason, and he in turn to Chandler & Golliday. P. K. Barrett was the editorial successor of Chandler. He was a caustic writer, and long remembered by the citizens. At some time unknown the name of the paper was changed to the *Sentinel*, and in 1854 John Harney became its owner and turned it into the *Lacon Intelligencer*. Three years later Deacon Ira Norris was its purchaser, and continued its publication successfully until 1869, when he sold to William Trench, a practical printer and editor, formerly connected with the Peoria daily press. He was a conscientious writer and an honest man, respected by all. The publication was continued by him until its sale to Meyers & Bell, when it underwent another change of name and became the *Illinois Statesman*.

Mr. Bell was an able political writer, but neither himself nor Mr. Myers had a practical knowledge of the business, and wishing to dispose of it, a purchaser was found ostensibly in the person of J. L. Mohler, who bought it for Spencer Ellsworth, and its publication was suspended. The press and much of the material were sold to parties in Galva.

In 1867, J. G. Ford, a Kentuckian, brought an office here and started the *Lacon Democrat*, a very good paper, which he published one year, but not meeting the success anticipated, removed to Pontiac. An office was subsequently brought from Chillicothe and its publication continued.

The Marshall County bar has always ranked high, and individual members have won eminent positions in the judicial and political history of the State. The father of "all lawyers" in the place was clearly Ira I. Fenn, who as counselor and advocate maintained an excellent reputation. One of his first students was Silas Ramsey, and another was Mark Bangs, at one time Circuit Judge, and for four years United States District Attorney.

Another noted lawyer and upright Judge was S. L. Richmond, who wore the ermine for several years, and won a high reputation for judicial fairness and knowledge of law.

Another lawyer with a national record is the Hon. G. L. Fort, present Member of Congress and prospective Governor of the State. He has won promotion by fair and honorable service, and deserves the honors thrust upon him.

Another name "honored among the people" is John Burns. Fred.

Shaw was a promising lawyer, killed at Donelson; and Henry Miller, a victim of consumption, had many admirers, as likewise did Robert O'Hara, a young lawyer and printer of stainless reputation, who found an early grave.

It is safe to assert that Lacon, as insignificant a place as it occupies on the map, has contributed more public men to the service of the nation than most places of its size, and that all began life as lawyers. In proof of this, during its brief existence it has furnished one Congressman, four Circuit Court Judges, and one United States District Attorney.

During the war of the rebellion Lacon bore its full share of burdens, contributing liberally in men and means. Company D of the Eleventh Regiment Illinois Infantry was mainly recruited here, and in the disastrous fight of Fort Donelson many of its bravest men went down, among whom were Capt. Fred. Shaw, killed upon the field, and Lieutenant Wilcox was dangerously wounded and came home to die. Our limits will not admit a record of their names and glorious deeds, and to give it of this place alone would be an invidious distinction we care not to make. A company was raised here for the Seventy-seventh, of which Robert Brock was Captain and J. D. Shields, Lieutenant. No mention we can make does justice to their bravery and patriotism,—a volume would be required to fitly do it.



CHAPTER XXXVII.

CROW CREEK AND VICINITY.



SETTLEMENT was made in the vicinity of what is known as Crow Creek at an early day, the new comers being attracted by the rich alluvial bottoms, the clear springs of water, and the general attractiveness of the locality. The hills widen as they approach the Illinois River, and leave an extensive tract of rich farming land in the valley between them.

The bluffs here, in addition to their beautiful conformations, varieties of shape and commanding prominence, become interesting from their historical associations and Indian traditions. They are covered with timber, and the sides where not precipitous are lined with Indian graves, to which investigation has assigned a pre-historic age. Stone utensils curiously wrought and specimens of pottery have been brought to light, which scientists agree in ascribing to the artian-ship of an unknown race of people whose rise, existence, decline and final extermination remain among the dim uncertainties of ages long since past.

When the first settlers saw this region, fifty years ago, there were indisputable evidences of long continued Indian occupation.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The first cabin on Crow Creek stood not far above the bridge, where there was a good body of timber. Daniel, the father of James Sowards, cut logs for his house there in 1833.

John Hunter lived upon a claim made by himself, where he afterward died, and near where his widow still remains, having sold his first claim to Samuel Gibbs.

Nathan Owen also lived here, and Samuel Headlock arrived in 1833

from Walnut Grove. Bird sold his claim to Obediah McCune, who afterward removed to Tazewell County, and was buried there.

Headlock and Frazier Sowards came here together.

Among the settlers of the vicinity is James Sowards, who as boy and man has been a citizen of the locality since 1832. He drove team and made himself generally useful for several years about the mills, and still remains upon his farm. His recollection of the early settlers is that Robert Bird had a cabin up the creek where the McCune farm is, before the Owen mills were built.

In the spring of 1831 the waters of the creek and Illinois River were four feet higher than they have been at any time since that date.

The first school house in this locality was built in 1835, about one hundred yards from Samuel Gibbs' dwelling, and Charles Richards taught school therein during the winter of that year. Messrs. Irwin, Cummings and Ogle are remembered among the early teachers.

A school house was also put up near the roadside not far from Owen's Mills, at an early day.

THE CROW CREEK MILLS.

Timothy Owen came here in 1834, and about the same time Nathan Owen, Preston Conley and William Davis made claims in the vicinity. The Owens built a cabin on what was afterward the Martin place.

In the fall of the same year and the winter and spring following, the Owens and Samuel Headlock erected a saw and grist mill not far above the present crossing. The saw mill was first completed, and attained an excellent reputation and a large patronage. The flouring mill was completed in 1834, and did excellent work. At first nearly all the machinery in both mills was of wood, made by the Owen brothers, a third brother, Roderick Owen, who was a blacksmith, contributing such iron work as was indispensable.

The toll for grinding was one-eighth of the product.

For sawing walnut lumber the price was 75 cents per 100 feet; if the millers sold the lumber, \$1.50 per 100 feet. Ash lumber was about the same, and oak a trifle less. After the grist mill was completed and in successful operation the saw mill was abandoned.

Neither of these mills proved a profitable investments. Although

not often troubled with high water, or other hindrances, the mill running continually, there was very little ready money to be had, and the credit system which extensively prevailed everywhere required a large capital. Much of this credit was never turned into cash, either by the Owens or those to whom the mill was leased.

Timothy Owen leased his interest and settled upon his farm in Richland, but afterward continued a partner in the management of the mills, until in June 185-, when they burned down, and as there was no insurance, involved a loss to him of about \$5,000.

Mr. Owens' brother-in-law, Mr. Headlock, made a claim on Crow Creek, at the mouth of Dry Run, in 1833.

In 1834 Joe Martin put up a mill on Crow Creek, about forty rods below Owen's Mill, but his dam backed water upon the latter, and he could get no sufficient head. A lawsuit grew out of this affair, and Martin finally abandoned his mill project here and went farther down the stream, where he began again on a saw mill, but shortly afterward sold to Samuel Headlock and he to Dr. Temple, who in a year or so turned it into a grist mill, ran it five years, sold to Temple and Hull and went to Missouri.

Part of the dam at Owen's Mill was on Congress land, and had not been included in the lines of a tract entered by that firm, which they supposed enclosed their mill site. The fact of the defective title was discovered by an unprincipled fellow, who happened to let it leak out that he intended to steal a march on the Owens and get to Springfield and obtain the title before they knew it. A race ensued, which was won by the millers.

In 1840 Dennis Barney built a carding and fulling mill on Crow Creek, above Owens' Mills, near and below the Gibbs place, he having been burned out of a similar enterprise near Joseph Babb's.

THE CROW CREEK COUNCIL.

In May, 1827, rumors reached Washington that the Indian tribes of Indiana and Illinois were uniting preparatory to a general uprising against the whites. General Cass, at that time Indian agent for the north-west, proceeded immediately to Peoria, where he called a council of chiefs representing the different tribes to learn their grievances, and, if possible, avert threatened calamity.

This council convened at the mouth of Crow Creek, June 21, 1827. General Cass made a conciliatory speech, promising them many reforms and urging them to withdraw from their alliance with the Winnebagos. Presents were distributed among the discontented savages and pledges of friendship passed. Girty, the infamous outlaw, acted as interpreter, and it is said many of the presents stuck to his fingers in passing through his hands. However, he succeeded in so favorably impressing General Cass as to receive from him a silver medal in recognition of his services in this important council. Twenty-five years after General Cass, in adverting to this council, spoke of it as one of the most agreeable events of his life.

FREE STATE.

The region round about the mouth of Crow Creek for many years bore the pompous title of "Free State." The majority of the people who first settled there were, as a class, prone to be a law unto themselves; that is, they did not puzzle themselves with poring over law-books and blindly-worded statutes to ascertain their rights or learn the technical name of their rights and grievances, but each individual took his own course, and depended upon the strength of his arms or the agility of his legs to get him out of any trouble. True, they understood themselves to be an important part of the nation on election days, and voted early and often, showing "Free State" to be generally solid for any person or party lucky enough to win its support.

They did not acquire their highly complimentary name from being above all law, however, because they took unto themselves the right to make laws and execute statutes in their own way. They elected justices and constables enough, but not so much to enforce the laws as to go through the forms, for every man of commanding muscle was his own justice and constable, judge and jury. The early justices who held high court here dispensed justice in a manner from which there was no appeal, because an attempt to appeal from their decisions was a direct insult to the court, amounting to an impeachment of the judicial purity and legal qualifications of the judge, and the penalty was invariably a fight or a foot race—the appellee pursued by an indignant judge armed with a club, his insignia of office.

At the sittings of these early courts, black eyes and bloody noses con-

stituted a regular part of the proceedings, and “The Court” was usually a lively participant in these trials, frequently coming out second, third or fourth best, but never grumbling, because these were a legitimate and important part of its duties. The fees, it is said, were always payable in whisky! As an evidence of the perfect independence in these very early courts from the cumbersome hindrance and delays of the law, a pioneer Justice of the Peace once foreclosed a mortgage before himself, issued an execution, and actually sold out a delinquent debtor’s farm, all in fifteen minutes’ time! Where could one have found a Freer State than here?

This highly independent community had a prejudice against all gentlemen of the cloth, whether lawyers or preachers. They managed their law suits in their own peculiar way, as we have seen. When a preacher’s ill-fated stars sent him here he would be allowed to eat and “bait” his horse, if in day-light, or to obtain a night’s lodgings peaceably, but any manifestation of an intention on his part to preach or abide among them would be promptly met with a notice served by the authorities of “Free State,” giving him twenty-four hours in which to get away! They were never known to defy such a notice!

Sometimes they did not deem it necessary, or were unwilling, to try the question of their misunderstandings even before their expeditious courts, and instead referred their causes to the ancient legal method of “a wager by trial of battle.” One case, that of “Ben. Headlock *vs.* old Jeff Sowards,” is remembered, in which the plaintiff and defendant met on the open plain, near where the present school house stands, stripped to the buff in presence of many witnesses, and argued the case for half an hour, during which three rounds were fought, and neither succeeded in proving his superior claims to a verdict in his favor. The Court, one of the Justices of the Peace, declared that they had “no cause of action,” and on each party paying his own costs, *i. e.*, the whisky, the case was dismissed!

During election times “Free State” was the scene of great commotion. The boys would vote at one poll, cross the County line into the next voting place, and there also give their favorite candidates a lift, provided the other party was not too strong; and if nearly equal, a general pitched battle was the result of denying these extremely free American citizens their right to vote early and often, “a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only!”

In these conflicts, as detailed by an eye witness, besides brawny fists,

such weapons were used as clubs, fence stakes, pieces of broken rails, handspikes, and such stones as could be found lying around loose. In one of these skirmishes a then well known young man of that section had his entire clothing stripped off, and was obliged to wend his way homeward under cover of a horse blanket.

“Bill Sowards,” elsewhere mentioned, also lived here, and was never an idle spectator of such performances. He was, in fact, an active spirit among them, and when properly “liquored up,” usually went around “spoiling for a fight” and anxious to “chaw some one up.”

For years Bill “ruled the roost” like a tyrant, but at last met his match. Among others, he had deeply insulted George Hedlock, a diminutive fellow, but full of grit, who determined on revenge. Getting together a number of “the boys,” pledged to see fair play, he took a handful of red pepper in one hand, and challenging Sowards to a contest, filled the bully’s eyes with the pungent powder, completely blinding him, and then pounded his victim until the latter prayed for mercy and promised to ever after behave himself. It was Bill’s last fight, and he became a quiet, peaceable citizen.

In justice to Bill, it should be said that when sober he was a generous, warm-hearted man, upright and industrious; but when inflamed by drink his brutal qualities were developed.

AN OLD PIONEER.

Joseph Babb, an old pioneer of Lacon Township, came to the country in the fall of 1831, and erected a cabin three miles below town, on what has since been called the “Babb place.” He stayed two weeks at John Strawn’s while selecting a location and building a cabin, and the night of moving into it was surprised by the appearance of a large body of Indians, mounted on their ponies, whose camping ground he had unwittingly invaded. They were returning from their annual fall hunt, and came back, as was their custom, to spend the winter here. Mr. Babb having seen his family comfortably settled, returned to Ohio to close up some unfinished business, and for four months his unprotected family, consisting mainly of women, were exposed to the ignorant and—when inflamed with whisky—infuriate whims of three hundred savages. Of his six children, five were girls, and his only son a stripling of nineteen.

Mrs. Babb was an exceedingly timid woman, and the agony and terror they suffered cannot be described.

The life led by Mrs. Babb and her family, alone in the woods, over a mile from any white settler, in the edge of this hell of blood-thirsty demons, was fearful beyond description and how she passed through it is a marvel. One of the actors, then a timid girl of fifteen, still lives (Mrs. Lot Bullman), and to this day her recollection of the terrible scenes seems like a hideous nightmare. The days were hard enough, but the nights were worse, and when the drunken savages grew too demonstrative it was the mother's custom to take her little children and flee to the woods in the rear of her cabin, where sheltered behind some friendly log, wrapped in blankets, they lay exposed to the pitiless cold until morning. These orgies were of daily and nightly occurrence, and not once but many times did the poor wife and children lay in their blankets upon the bleak hillside. Toward spring a Mr. Newton Reeder, learning the state of things, voluntarily rode to the Indian Agent's below, who promptly came to their relief and compelled the chief and his people to remove their camp across the river, threatening if not done to send his soldiers and shoot every Indian found. As the lands had been already sold to the Government, and the savages had no longer any right to remain, they had to comply.

Nacquette, the chief, had seven wives whose wigwams were ranged round his own, and who reigned supreme. He had a son, a fine looking Indian, who desired to marry Anna Babb (now Mrs. Bullman), and one day presented himself before her father's cabin, arrayed in the killing outfit of an Indian brave, and formally proposed to "swap" a dozen or more of ponies for the comely white squaw, and great was his grief when his offer was declined.

AN INCIDENT IN THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

During the Black Hawk war it was greatly feared by the settlers of Round Prairie and neighborhood that the Indians would pay them a visit, destroy their homes, and massacre their families. Joseph Babb, who was a most courageous and energetic man, declared from the first, however, that he was confident they would not be molested, and endeavored in many ways to imbue his neighbors with a like feeling of confidence. His wife, however, was a very timid lady, and the many wild rumors which reached the settlement from time to time tended to greatly

excite and alarm her, and in obedience to her wishes he removed her and the children from his own house to Mr. John Wier's.

At Mr. Wier's quite a number already had collected, and the first night the Babbs were there twenty-two persons slept in one room, which was scarcely larger than an ordinary sleeping apartment in our days.

It was reported that the Indians had appeared in large force some distance up the Illinois River, and that they had killed a Mr. Phillips, west of Hennepin. The rangers thereupon hastened to the scene of their reported depredations.

In the meantime orders had been given that from sunrise to sunset no guns should be fired, lest their report should create unnecessary alarm among the settlers, and it was determined that a fine of five dollars should be imposed on whoever should be guilty of disobedience. This was well understood throughout the vicinity and everyone was exceedingly careful.

One day about three o'clock in the afternoon, the party assembled at Mr. Wiers were suddenly startled by a heavy discharge of firearms. All were seized with terror and fright, for it was immediately supposed that the long expected and much dreaded savages had come at last, and that scenes of havoc, bloodshed and outrage were about to be enacted.

Momentarily expecting to hear the fearful war-whoop, they awaited in terror and almost breathlessly for the appearance of the painted fiends, but hours passed and yet no enemy appeared, nor did any alarming sounds greet their ears.

Evening came at last and with it Mr. Swan and Miss Price, both on horseback. All rushed forth to meet them, anxious to hear the latest news.

Mr. Swan said the Indians had encountered the Rangers and fired upon them, about sixteen miles up the river, and that they intended to attack the settlement that night. He advised everyone to flee at once to Colonel Strawn's—a mile or two distant—whither he and Miss Price were going, and assist in fortifying the place. With this he and his companion rode on.

Mr. Babb and Mr. Wier determined, however, to remain where they were and began to make preparations for defense. Mrs. Babb was a very religious woman and possessed great faith in the efficacy of prayer. Calling Mrs. Wier to one side she whispered to her and together they withdrew to the woods near by, where they remained a short time.

When they returned, Mr. Wier, assisted by Mr. Babb, was rolling a wagon up against a window to still further strengthen their position.

“Joseph,” cried Mrs. Babb to her husband in a peculiarly joyous tone of voice, “you need n’t fortify any more against the Indians, for I have been out in the forest and on my bended knees I have prayed to my Maker for protection and He has answered my prayers, and told me in His way that there is no danger.”

Both men gazed at her in surprise and reverence akin to awe, for her cheeks were like roses, her face shown with an unusual light and her eyes sparkled with a singular brilliancy. So impressed were they by her words that they made no more attempts at fortifying, and such confidence had been restored by her surprising speech and appearance that all thought of danger seemed to have faded from their minds and they went to bed that night at the usual time.

About midnight, however, they were awakened and again startled. On this occasion by a loud knocking on their cabin door and by the barking and howling of dogs. “The Indians have come!” exclaimed some one, and in a moment all was confusion. Guns were seized, locks were hastily inspected and they prepared to sell their lives as dearly as possible, but the sound of a familiar voice outside soon allayed all their fears. It was Mr. Swan, who, having learned that all rumors of the presence of Indians in the neighborhood were false, and thinking that the people at Wier’s would all be sitting up and anxiously watching the turn of affairs, had very considerably come to acquaint them with the glad tidings.

The firing they had heard was done by the Rangers themselves, who had returned home about three in the afternoon, and having been absent when the agreement about the use of firearms had been made and being ignorant of it, had discharged their weapons, as it was the custom to do in the days of flint-locks.

WILD HOGS.

The first settlers in the country found the river bottoms abounding in hogs, and when a diet of fresh pork was wanted a few hours’ hunt would yield a supply. We have been told that in 1825-6 a man named Funk used to drive hogs from the vicinity of Springfield to Galena and many escaped by the way, from which sprung those found in this section. They were tall and raw-boned—regular rail splitters as the settlers said,

and as ferocious as they were wild. Numerous instances are told of settlers being "treed" by them, but no worse accidents happened. One Billy Marsh, from the vicinity of Crow Creek, was returning home one night in a jubilant mood when he ran into and wakened a brood, which pursued and compelled him to take to a tree for safety; and once on a time Sam Headlock and Roderick Owen, going home from Lacon at night, disturbed a drove near the mouth of Crow Creek, and were compelled to climb trees for safety. The infuriated porkers gashed the trees with their teeth and tried to shake them down, but failing in this they retired a few rods and kept sharp watch of their prisoners until morning, when they wandered off and allowed them to escape.

A DRUNKEN INDIAN RIOT.

In the spring of 1831 Robert Bird, Jr., and John S. Armstrong, now a prominent citizen of La Salle County, nephew of Col. John Strawn, visited the camping place of the Indians, a little north of where the Lacon cemetery is located. As the visitors were entering the camp a violent outbreak occurred among the red men, in which knives and tomahawks were freely used, and a fearful tumult of eries arose. As they passed the tent of Nanquette, the chief, he rushed to the door and exclaimed, "*Puckachee* (clear out), Indians drunk, Indians kill *chimokaman*" (white man). They left as directed, but returning next day found the place deserted, and in a rudely constructed pen the bodies of five dead Indians lying stark and stiff, killed in the melee of the day before. One fellow's head had been nearly cut off. By his side near one hand the carcass of an opossum was placed. The bodies were laid side by side upon mats made of flags from the neighboring swamps, with pipes and tobacco at the left and a knife by the right hand of each. Blankets were laid over the bodies and the heads of the dead were all turned toward the east. Around this strange grave, on an elevation a foot or more above the general level of the ground, there was built a pen of maple and ash poles, and a few poles covered the same, which were weighted down by heavier logs and stones, which the boys had no difficulty in removing to get a better view of the bodies, some of which were hacked and cut in a frightful manner.

It appears that a number of the Indians the day before had returned from "Cock-a-mink,"—the name by which Peoria was known to

them—where they had bartered furs, venison and fish for knives, blankets, tobacco and whisky, with results as above stated.

FATHER AND DAUGHTER FROZEN TO DEATH.

The remarkable change of temperature that took place December 20, 1836, is noted all over this section, and has its place in the memory of every old citizen. One person describes it as follows:

The morning was mild, with a settled rain gradually changing the snow on the ground into a miserable slush. Suddenly a black cloud came sweeping over the sky from the northwest, accompanied with a roaring wind. As the cold wave it bore struck the land, the rain and slush were changed in a twinkling into ice.

It is stated upon the authority of many that the change of temperature was so great and so swift that "chickens and geese, also hogs and cows, were frozen in the slush as they stood, and unless they were extricated by cutting the ice around their feet, they remained there to perish." It is reported that a drover on the large prairie north of Springfield, with a herd of 1,000 to 1,500 hogs, was overtaken by the sudden cold on the prairie eight miles from town. He left his hogs and drove with his men to the village for safety,—all of the party more or less frozen before shelter was reached. The abandoned animals piled one upon another for warmth. Those on the inside smothered, and those on the outside froze; and next morning a pyramid of 500 dead swine was heaped up on the prairie. The remainder wandered about, but eventually perished of cold.

Almost every locality has its separate story of suffering and exposure, which will be told in their appropriate places, but the crowning horror happened just across the line of Woodford County, in Black Partridge Township. A laborer, named Butler lived there his family consisting of himself and wife, a grown up daughter named Margaret, and a son about ten years old. They were in very destitute circumstances, and frequently objects of public charity, the neighbors supplying them with clothing and provisions.

That fatal afternoon Mr. Butler and his daughter left the house in search of an estray cow. When they started a light rain was falling, and the ground was covered with mud and slush. How far they had journeyed is not exactly known, but from circumstances it is presumed when a mile or two from home, on their return, the fearful change began. They

were most thinly clad, the girl's clothing consisting of a calico dress, a single under garment, and an old shawl thrown across her shoulders.

They traveled as fast as possible, but the intense and piercing cold so affected the girl that she could go no further. They were less than a mile from home, and her father removing his coat and putting it around her; put his boots upon her feet, and placing her in a sitting position against a tree he left, hoping to return and save her.

He started home coatless and barefoot, and reached a running stream, where appearances indicated he turned to restore circulation to his frozen feet by placing them in the water.

On the following morning neither of the unfortunate people having returned, search was made and he was found at the creek frozen stiff, his feet encased in a sheet of ice. The girl was found sitting against the tree dressed as stated and so frozen that it was impossible to compose her limbs so as to fit an ordinary coffin. They were buried a couple of days afterward, the unusual spectacle attracting people from long distances. In the locality the noted change is commemorated as the "Butler Snap."

FIGHT OF HOOVER AND BOWLES, AND DEATH OF BOWLES.

Cy. Bowles was the bully of all this country until the advent of big Bill Hoover. He came from the vicinity of Hennepin, and numerous stories are yet told in the river towns of his fights and arrests. He could not bear a rival, and when Hoover came upon the scene would not rest until he had tested his strength. Report credited him with coming purposely to provoke a quarrel with his rival, and that he began the contest is proven. Hoover sat in Vinecore's saloon, when Bowles entered with gun in hand, and setting his foot on Hoover's knee, gave him a push, upon which Hoover remarked he "had best let him alone." Bowles repeated the act, when Hoover rose, and catching him round the waist, doubled him down on the floor as he would a ten year old boy.

In all of this no temper was exhibited by the parties, but it is evident Bowles, who was a man of ungovernable passions, was deeply angered at his discomfiture, and going over to Fenn's store, procured a heavy dirk knife and hid it in his sleeve. Some one told Hoover of this, and he was cautioned to beware of him. Presently Bowles returned, and the men, warily watching each other, began bantering for a fight and passed out of

the door. Going out Bowles made a pass at Hoover and cut him in the back and again in the breast, and the fight began.

Hoover was unarmed while his antagonist held a knife in one hand and his gun in the other. It was the aim of the former to knock the knife from Bowles' hand by striking his wrist, and twice he tried it without effect, but the third time succeeded. Bowles then grasped his gun by the muzzle and aimed a fearful blow, which Hoover dodged with surprising agility, recovering himself with incredible quickness. The gun was broken to pieces, and Hoover, warding off the blows, wrenched it from his hands, when Bowles ran into the street.

Prudence, it seems, should have taught the man the futility of a longer fight and warned him to let Hoover alone. But he was insane with passion and incapable of reasoning. Procuring a stout cudgel, he returned to renew the contest. Hoover waited until he saw his enemy, and then went to him. The latter aimed a blow with his cudgel, which was turned aside, when Hoover's weapon descended on Bowles' head, cutting it clear open and exposing the brain. He lived but three days.

Mac Robinson was Constable, and tried to arrest Hoover, but the latter told him to stand aside. He went to Peoria for a time, but the Grand Jury refused to find a bill against him, he returned. In 1852-3 he went to California, and was finally killed there in a row.

BIG BILL HOOVER.

A noted character here in early times was the individual named above. He was a Hercules in form and muscle, stood six feet in his stockings, and weighed 248 pounds. One who saw him stripped said he was the finest specimen of physical manhood he ever looked upon. He was quick as a mountain cat and fearless of danger. His disposition was quiet and peaceable, but he was addicted to drink, and when in his cups was like an enraged tiger.

At one time while living in Peoria he attended Mabie's circus, and became enraged at some remark of the clown, whom he wished to punish in the ring, but being prevented, went to the hotel where the latter stopped and knocked him down. Attached to the circus were three men who, priding themselves on their fighting abilities, determined to have revenge. Bill had gone to the Franklin House, where he boarded, and

sat by the fire playing with a poker when they entered and asked the landlord for their man, who, suspecting trouble, answered evasively, while Bill passed into the dining room and secreting a large butcher knife in his sleeve and further arming himself with the poker returned. "Have you seen Bill Hoover?" they asked, as he entered, and the answer was given, "That's me." Quick as lightning came a blow that felled him to the floor, but he was on his feet in an instant, knife in hand, with which he dealt his assailant a deadly blow across the ribs and laid him out. The next one he struck across the face, making a gash that cut one eye out, laid open the side of his head, and nearly severed an ear. The third he knocked down with the poker, and the battle was over. He was arrested by the Coroner and discharged, as he had acted clearly in self-defense.



HENRY TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.



DHIS is a fractional Township consisting of ten full and eight parts of sections, or portions of eight sections. The Illinois River in a devious way washes its eastern boundary, and Senachwine and Whitefield bound it north and west.

Along the river borders it is low and swampy and unfit for cultivation, but soon rises into arable table lands capable of high cultivation and yielding large returns to the husbandman. This portion is known as Crow Meadow Prairie, once a favorite hunting ground for the Indians, and long noted for its unrivaled beauty.

On the west, a border of low wooded hills enclose it when the leaves are out with an emerald setting, while on the east the bolder bluffs of the Illinois sweep round in a graceful curve, and then bend away again towards Lacon.

The river is navigable for boats of the largest size, and here is located the finest lock in the West, built at a cost of half a million dollars. The town is well situated for business and commands a heavy trade in grain and lumber. It has likewise an energetic set of business men and merchants, who have pushed their enterprises far beyond the usual limits of trade and draw traffic from all the towns surrounding. A steamer connects it with Peoria, making daily trips throughout the season of navigation, and the Bureau Valley Railroad connects the place with Chicago, etc.

The first known resident here was a man named Hart, who built a cabin on the present site of the town in 1830, which was soon after deserted. About 1831 another cabin was built, near the site of the old mill, north of the ravine, and for some time was occupied by a man named Stacy, who built a log house in 1832 on the site of Webster. Elias Thompson

came next. His house stood on the edge of the ravine, near or on the ground afterward occupied by Bower's mill. For a long time it was the only hotel, and occasionally served as a church, the proprietor, in addition to his other duties, being a local preacher of deserved note.

Mr. Thompson and his son David opened the first farms in the Township, the former at the head of the ravine, east of where he lived. They devoted their time principally to raising vegetables for the "tavern."

At this time settlers hugged close to the timber, the prairies being considered too bleak and exposed for cultivation, and only fit for pasturage.

Another log cabin is known to have stood under the river bank as early as 1833, and was occupied by a hunter named Hatfield, who sometimes served as ferryman.

There stood a small log building near the corner of School and Front streets, and across on the north side of School street, nearly opposite the present bridge, stands the first frame building erected in the city. It was built by Mr. Hale, and occupied by him in 1835, and is now a part of Mrs. St. Clair's residence.

In 1831 or '32, Erastus Wright and William Porter, of Springfield, visited this section, and foreseeing a good prospect for a future town, made a claim. They also procured a ferry license from the Commissioners of Peoria County, a transcript of which they filed upon the organization of Putnam County, in the proper court.

In 1833 Anson L. Deming and Elisha Swan, of Columbia, also made claim to the town site, and to strengthen it procured a boat and contracted with Major Thompson to run a ferry for them, and Swan made preparations to build a store.

The rival claimants after some wrangle concluded to jointly lay out a town and divide the profits on the lots as fast as sold. They sent to Springfield for a surveyor named Porter, when the discovery was made that being school land it could not be sold, so Mr. Swan abandoned his plans and returned to Columbia, and Thompson became possessor of the ferry property.

The school officers soon after circulated petitions asking of the Superintendent of Schools permission to sell the Sixteenth Section, setting forth there were fifteen voters and fifty white people in the Township. It was granted, and B. M. Hayes appointed to survey and lay it out, which was done, and the Trustees in their report say:

"Lots from number thirty to two hundred and ninety-one inclusive,

with streets and alleys within and thereto appertaining, and the public grounds on said map designated, we propose as a town by the name of Henry, in memory of the late Gen. James D. Henry, deceased, who gallantly led the Illinois volunteers to victory over the Sae and Fox Indians in the year 1832, and who lately died of disease caused by that arduous service."

To Hooper Warren, an intimate friend of General Henry, is due the credit of suggesting the name.

A public sale of lots was held a week after the survey in Hennepin, by Nathaniel Chamberlain, School Commissioner. There was but little competition by speculators, the lots generally being bought by citizens and settlers of Putnam County, at prices equivalent to \$1.25 per acre, or one dollar per lot. When the real estate mania broke out in 1837 these lots were snapped up by speculators and held at high prices, and the growth of the town sadly retarded.

As before stated, the first farm in Henry Township was made by Elias Thompson and his son David in the spring of 1833, that of the former now being known as the "Davis place."

Sampson Rowe and William Lathrop came in 1834. Elias Thompson soon after built the old Henry House, and had a small garden patch broken the year previous. He subsequently sold out and went to California, where he died. He was a preacher, bee hunter and man of various trades.

John Hale, a preacher, came to Henry soon after, in about 1835, and did some work as a carpenter on Thompson's tavern, besides keeping a grocery store, and Mr. Burr or Bradley succeeded him in the latter business in 1836. He afterward went to Kansas and is reported to have died there.

David B. Culver and Orson Culver, sons of Orsemus Culver, broke ground for their places in 1835. The Mallorys came very early, in 1835. Loten Frisbee in 1835, and Andrew Styles the same season. Styles brought the first threshing machine to the Township.

In 1836, William Kidney and Simeon Pool arrived.

George Klein arrived in 1837, and Fred W. Bell the same year, as also did George Hiller, Fred Reinbeck, J. W. Jones, Dr. Templeton, Andrew Styles and Anton Appel.

Valentine Weis came in 1838, and Augustus C. Asherman the same year. Also Anton Sidel, James Dennis and Walter Plato.

In 1839 Fred W. Troenly and Balser Klein. In that year lands first came into market here.

We cannot give the year in which Major Thompson built the "Henry House" and the postoffice was established. It seems to have given the first impulse to business and enterprise.

The first prominent merchant was a man named Bradley, who came here under the pseudonym of Joseph Burr. He had failed in business in the East and to escape his creditors, changed his name, came to this locality with the remnants of his fortune and opened a business in which he was very successful. He was strictly honorable, and when sufficient means were accumulated went back to his former home and paid every dollar. Returning, he assumed his full name and was known as Joseph Burr Bradley. He was the first Postmaster of the place and built the first warehouse.

Another firm was Lloyd Brothers, who came here in 1849 from St. Louis, and did a flourishing business; Harless & Lancaster, Cheever & Herndon, Thomas Gallaher, and Ben. Lombard, were well known merchants. The last named made extensive improvements and then removed to Chicago, where reverses overtook him. He now lives in Galesburg. In 1837-8 a blacksmith shop was started on the site of Lloyd's land office.

In this year a frame building was erected on the site of B. Yeager's saloon by Sampson Rowe; and the building known as the Paskill House was built about 1839.

In 1837 two accidents occurred—that of Reuben Converse, who was drowned from off the ferry, and a Mr. Lyon, who fell from a hotel window and was killed.

Hooper Warren, in an article in the *Gazette*, published August 12, 1848, says: "Up to 1844 there were but two or three families permanently settled in Henry, but now there are twenty-four. Here are four stores at which general assortments of merchandise are kept, one drug and medicine store, one lumber yard, one shoemaker's shop, four carpenters, two blacksmiths, two coopers, one gold and silver smith, and a wagon-maker's shop soon to be built. There are four churches for worshipping congregations, viz: Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist and the Protestant Methodists building or meeting house. A Catholic Church is to be erected, also a Female Seminary, by the Presbyterians, on the prairie, one mile north-west of town.

The first school house in the place was a log building that stood at the head of the ravine east of town. It was built in 1838, but the new settlers needing the services of their children, it was turned into a smoke house by an enterprising merchant, and when not required for this purpose was used for religious meetings.

Dr. Boal, of Lacon, for many years was the only physician for all this section.

When the canal was opened, in 1848, J. C. Rolla, for Wm. H. Kellogg, loaded and shipped the first boat load of grain that ever left Putnam County for Chicago. Mr. Kellogg had a small office, and bought grain at what was known as Hall's Landing, four miles above Henry, on the east side of the river. Shortly after, a second shipment was made in the same direction, for the same owner.

The first canal boat load of wheat ever sent to Chicago from Henry was shipped by the same individual, in 1852.

The first flour mill was built by Ben Bower & Bro., in 1850. The only mill for grinding corn on the west side of the river for years was one built in 1833 by John Hamlin.

Henry began to make substantial progress in 1844, and in 1850 had 401 inhabitants; in 1851, 789; in 1853, 1,009; in 1854, 1,306, and at the last census 2,000.

The cemetery of Henry, is one of the neatest burial grounds in Marshall County. It is laid out with artistic taste and when ornamented to the full measure of its original design will be exquisitely beautiful. It was platted by the Henry Cemetery Association, under whose supervision the various improvements have been made, is attended with care, and is a credit alike to its managers, to the citizens of Henry, and the Township.

Henry was incorporated as a city under the general act, at the session of 1854.

In 1858 Henry and Lacon competed for the location of the Fair Grounds of the County Mechanics' Institute, and the former won, having raised \$3,600, while Lacon fell short \$500.

Opposite the town is a magnificent lock and dam, erected by the State as part of a general system for improving the navigation of the river.

Beside the magnificent lock and dam before alluded to, a costly bridge spans the river, with a high embankment reaching to the bluff a mile distant. It has been of great value to the city, opening up as it does at all

seasons, the fertile country on the east, that otherwise might seek other markets.

CHURCHES.

The first church organized here so far as can now be told was by the Rev. Mr. Devore in 1840.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

In the spring of 1849 William Wycoff removed to Henry, his wife being an active member of the Protestant Dutch Church. In the fall of the same year they were followed by Richard Lloyd. Mrs. Lloyd was likewise a believer, and through their influence, in the winter of 1850 the Rev. E. S. High, under the direction of the Board of Missions, preached once in four weeks to such congregations as came to hear, continuing his labors for two years.

In 1855 came Rev. John Marquis, and steps were taken which resulted in an organization August 17, 1855. The Ruling Elders were Lucas V. Hoagland, James Petrie and William P. Williams. The following persons presented certificates of membership: Mrs. Elizabeth Wycoff, Lucas V. Hoagland, Anna M. Hoagland, Amelia Hoagland, Sarah W. Hoagland, Harriet N. Hoagland, Wm. P. Williams, and Petronella his wife, Harriet C. Black, Harriet Robertson, Abigail Nock, Elizabeth Marquis, Clementina M. Marquis and James Petrie.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The First Christian Church and Society, of Henry, were organized the 9th day of February, 1850, in the Protestant Methodist Church, in Henry, by Elder S. L. Pervier, with sixteen members, namely: Thomas Harless, Henry B. Burgess, William Bell, Henry Harless, John S. Scott, S. L. Pervier, Isaac Ricketts, Adna Buckout, Polly Scott, Viletta Bell, Abeliny Wiley, Catharine Ricketts, Polly Burgess, Clarisa Burgess, Rebecca Harless and Philena Pervier.

Their place of worship was in the Protestant Methodist Church, until they built a substantial brick 35 by 50-feet (some twenty-five feet from ground to roof), which was dedicated in June, 1851, Elder Josiah Knight, of Ohio, preaching the sermon of dedication. Thomas Harless and Rich-

ard Garretson were the principal contributors to the fund for the erection of this building.

S. L. Pervier was the first pastor; Thomas Harless, Henry B. Burgess and S. L. Pervier, the first Trustess; H. B. Burgess, first Church Clerk; Thomas Harless and B. F. Carpenter, first Deacons; Wm. D. Robinson, first Collector; Richard Garretson, first Treasurer.

In 1852 Elder Chester Covell, of New York, was called to take charge of the Church, and in 1860 Elder J. C. Goff, of Irvington, N. J., was chosen, who remained some thirteen years as pastor.

In June of 1852 this modest edifice was the scene of a nine-days discussion which attracted wide attention at the time, the subject being The Divinity of Christ. The participants were Revs. Luccock, of Canton, and Phelps, of Princeton, Ill., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, affirmative; Rev. Oliver Barr, of Aurora, Ill., and Revs. H. Summerbell and A. L. McKinney, of Ohio, of the Christian Church, negative. A reporter was employed with a view to the subsequent publication of the proceedings and arguments in full, but his notes were never prepared for the press.

THE NEW JERUSALEM OR SWEDENBORGIANS.

On the 22d of March, 1857, Rev. J. R. Hibbard, Superintendent of the Illinois Assembly of this denomination, at the request of Charles Davis, Henry Vogelsang, Joseph Holmes and others met the persons desirous of organizing a church, and after services did so organize. Their "platform" as laid down is in substance: Belief in the Divine word and the ten commandments, and doctrines of Emanuel Swedenborg. Their officers were: Charles Davis, Joel Morgan, Joseph Holmes, Trustees; O. H. Tyler, Treasurer; and J. W. Taber, Secretary. These officers were elected March 28, 1857, and Rev. Thos. Story was invited to lecture once a month.

In 1865-6 a church was built capable of seating two hundred persons, and dedicated July 30, 1866.

The ministers who have officiated here were the Rev. Thos. Storey, of Peoria, Rev. A. I. Bartels, and R. B. Edminster, who officiated nine years. The Rev. O. L. Barler, of Canton, next took charge, coming here once each month.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Catholics of Henry had no regular place of worship or established

seasons, the fertile country on the east, that otherwise might seek other markets.

CHURCHES.

The first church organized here so far as can now be told was by the Rev. Mr. Devore in 1840.

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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Catholics of Henry had no regular place of worship or established

priest until about 1850. Up to that time priests from abroad came occasionally to say Mass, visit the sick, bury the dead and perform like offices.

In 1852 the foundation of a church building was laid, now known as the German Catholic Church, and after a rest of two years a fine brick structure arose thereon. It is 35x56 feet and 22 feet to the ceiling. A graceful steeple adorns it, and its interior is tastefully ornamented. It has a gallery and is well and comfortably seated; it has a good organ, bell and altars. Near by is a still larger building, devoted to the sister's school. It was erected not many years ago.

The different priests who from time to time officiated at Henry for the Catholics before and since the church was built, were in the order named: Father Montori, 1848; Father Joseph Staley, 1849, who came pretty regularly till about 1851, when Father Kramer came. There being no bishop at Chicago, when the Catholics of Henry wanted clerical help they had to apply to St. Louis.

Other priests came here occasionally, among them Fathers Lynch and Powers, of Lacon. The resident priests were: Father O'Garry, Louis Cartaville, Lightner, Koehne, Reck, Schreiber, Albrecht, Von Schwerdler, and Schamoni, the present clergyman.

In 1874 the congregation becoming too large for the building, and many of them being Germans, an arrangement was made by which the two people separated, the Germans retaining the building and paying \$4,000. The Irish portion then built St. Mary's Church, a very fine structure, and a priest of their own nationality was given them. The congregation has since largely increased and the Society is in a flourishing condition.

The priests who have ministered to them are: Fathers Heafy, Murtaugh, Corcoran, and the present Rev. Father Thos. Quigley.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The fine building occupied by the Henry High School owns its existence to Rev. Mr. Fowler, of the Protestant Methodist Church, who conceived the plan of founding a first-class educational institution under

the auspices of that denomination. He traveled and lectured extensively, meeting with success.

It was finished in 1854 at a cost of \$28,000, and opened the same season under the name of the "North Illinois University." Rev. G. B. McElroy was the first principal, with Goff and Fox assistants.

For a time it was quite successful, but the hard times of 1857 came and its patronage fell off. After several attempts to revive it, the building was sold to the city of Henry and devoted to public school purposes.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

The Catholics of Henry and vicinity have long been noted for their religious zeal. About twenty-five years ago, recognizing the importance of beginning an early training of their children in the faith, they started schools in their behalf, at first supporting small private schools in different localities of the town. In 1859 Mr. Oner taught a select Catholic school in a private house a few months and was succeeded by Mr. Hertzog, who had a respectable and well attended gathering of Catholic pupils in Weis' building, a few doors above Warren's grocery store.

In 1860 a frame building was put up near the German Catholic Church and used for school purposes. The attendance was large for some time. school was also taught in the church itself at times. The frame building, originally built as a stable, was used some time, until the applicants became too numerous for its capacity, when the project was started of erecting a fine Catholic primary school which should be a credit to the place and accommodate that portion of the rapidly increasing population holding to this faith.

A large two-story brick structure was built near the Church, dedicated to this purpose, and taken in charge by the sisters of the Notre Dame Society of Milwaukee, who had conducted the former schools in the old frame building. These zealous sisters relinquished the charge to "The Sisters of the Precious Blood" in 1871, who now manage the educational interests of the Catholics in a highly creditable manner, the school being very popular. The building is substantially built and well furnished, costing about \$5,000. The school is simply an elementary one, where the rudiments of the English and German languages are taught, the latter to such as wish it. It is patronized by about ninety families, mainly the membership of the German Church, and is under the general superintendence of

Rev. Father Schamoni, the resident priest. A neat and comfortable parsonage stands in a large lot near the church and school.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

The Masonic organization of Henry is a large and influential society, and is in excellent working order. The first steps toward a lodge here were taken in 1857. October 25, of that year, a dispensation was obtained from the Grand Lodge, and the 119th Society of their Order in the State was duly instituted, with the following officers: Amos Bonney, W. M.; W. J. Culton, S. W.; H. H. Graves, J. W.

The Masters of Henry Lodge since its organization in 1851 embrace the following: 1851, Amos Bonney; 1852, Daniel McNeal, M. D.; 1853-4, W. B. Smith; 1855, John J. Higgins; 1856, W. B. Smith; 1857, J. W. Sinclair; 1858-9, G. Frank Lloyd; 1860, G. F. Harpst; 1861-2-3, W. B. Smith; 1864, Lewis Kaufman; 1865-6-7, G. F. Harpst; 1868, S. C. Hyndshaw; 1869-70-71-72-73, James G. Hull; 1864, J. K. McConnell; 1875, J. D. Culton; 1876-7-8-9, J. C. Wooley.

Until recently Marshall Lodge, No. 63, I. O. O. F., occupied the same room, but retired in the fall of 1878, when the Masons re-arranged and dressed their hall anew, at an expense of several hundred dollars, and now are very elegantly located. The hall is draped in blue, the ceilings, walls, curtains, carpet, chairs, etc., being also of that color. The carpets were made to order, and covered, as are the curtains and walls, with rich and tasteful emblems, peculiar to the fraternity.

NEWSPAPERS IN HENRY.

The first newspaper in Henry was the *Henry Courier*, commenced by Robert H. Ruggles, December 23, 1852. The material he brought up by steamboat from Edwardsville, Madison County, in this State. Its size was a five column folio. Afterward it was enlarged to an eight column paper, and again reduced to a six column. July 1, 1862, the material and good will was sold to Jonas D. Woodward, as proprietor, and until June, 1866, was edited by C. S. & J. D. Woodward.

The Marshall County *Democrat* was commenced April 11, 1863, by Charles R. Fisk; in July or August, 1864, F. M. Mills become purchaser,

continuing the paper but a few months. The material of this office was purchased by Spencer S. Burdick, in April, 1865, who commenced the publication of the Marshall County *Telegraph*, a seven column folio. In September, same year, George Burt, Jr., purchased an interest, the firm name being Burdick & Burt.

In June, 1866, a consolidation of the Henry *Courier* and the Marshall County *Telegraph* was effected and the paper changed to the Marshall County *Republican*, with S. S. Burdick, Geo. Burt, Jr., and J. D. Woodward as proprietors, under the firm name of Burdick, Burt & Woodward (the interest of C. S. Woodward being purchased by the new firm.) Three months later the interest of S. S. Burdick was purchased by the other partners, Burt & Woodward continuing the *Republican* until January, 1869, when Geo. Burt, Jr., became sole owner, who is still its publisher. At one time the paper was run as the Marshall County *Republican* and Putnam County *Register*. The name was finally changed to the Henry *Republican*. It has an engraved head, giving an accurate view of the Illinois River, the bridge, and lock and dam at this place. It is a six column quarto, and furnishes more reading matter than any of its county cotemporaries.

The *Republican* is equipped with a Campbell cylinder press and other material necessary to the outfit of a first class job and newspaper office. As a local newspaper it is unsurpassed, and in circulation, business and influence it leads most country papers in the State.

The Henry *Bulletin*, a small paper, was published here several years.

The *Reformed Missionary*, edited by Rev. C. Coit, was printed at the *Republican* office for some time; it was afterward moved away, and is now defunct.

The *Coming Woman*, an eight page paper, was printed at the *Republican* office for a couple of years; editress, Mrs. M. E. De Geer. It was afterward moved to Chicago, and is discontinued.

The *Normal Institute*, an educational paper, is now being printed at the *Republican* office, Prof. J. A. Holmes, editor. It is an eight page journal, and devoted to the interests of school teachers.

CROW MEADOW PRAIRIE.

At the north-west corner of this Township there lies a beautiful

and fertile region known as Crow Prairie. Its first settlers were Benajah and Russell Mallory, who made a claim here in 1834 and put up the first cabin, and sold to Col. Snyder in 1835.

In the latter year Loton Frisbee came, and after a short time opened his farm, near the corner of the town at the edge of the timber. At that time there was neither fence nor house on the prairie, save Mallory's or Snyders, and no frame house in Henry. David and Orsemus Culver had begun breaking ground at the lower end of the prairie, and there were cabins at Bonham's and Rowe's.

There were no settlers on the west side of this prairie near Frisbee's till 1838, when Jerry Jones came. A man named John Smith made a claim in 1835-6 to lands afterward owned by Ward and Wilson, latterly by Mr. Emerick.

Mr. Templeton built a sod house in 1837. Mr. Snyder's was the first frame house built on the prairie. The pioneer school house was built of logs in 1838, and was known as the "Snyder School House." It was replaced by a frame structure in 1848-9. Two of Mr. Lyons' daughters were among the earliest teachers in the old building, where Preacher Devore and Father Cummings held forth to the Methodists and Elder Chenowith to the Baptists.

The first marriage was that of one of Mr. Snyder to Miss Lyons.

The first child born on Crow Prairie was Hiram, son of Mr. and Mrs. Loton Frisbee, July 25, 1836, and about the same time but shortly after, one was born to Mr. Kellogg.

The prairie was named from the plentifulness of crows, but why they were more numerous here than elsewhere is not known.

During the summer and fall of 1838, billious fevers and ague prevailed to a fearful extent, and the few well persons, especially among the pioneer women, found their time and services constantly in demand. Mrs. Frisbee and Mrs. Williams were constantly "on the go" on errands of mercy to the families of their neighbors, and neighbors in those days sometimes lived five to seven miles apart.

Between Henry and Webster is an old graveyard, where lies interred Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Plato, Mr. Latta, Sallie Snyder and others.

DORCHESTER.

This town, whose existence is only remembered by the early settlers,

was laid out by Stephen F. Gale, July 26, 1834, Wm. H. Adams being the surveyor. The land in the vicinity had been purchased by others, when one Richareson, a lawyer of Chicago, and a German named Giuder, bargained for the site and laid out the town, expecting to realize from the sale of lots sufficient to make all concerned wealthy. No lots were sold and the property reverted to its original possessors.

WEBSTER.

This was another paper town of great promise and small performance. A man named Lorenzo Stacy, said to have built the first cabin in Henry, is known to have lived here in 1830-31. A man known as Esq. Dennis also lived on the ground, and buried his wife here, whose grave can still be seen. About 1836-7 a fractional quarter section was laid off into lots by Robert Latta, Alvin Dascomb, Walton Plato and Maj. P. McAllister, and named Webster in honor of the great expounder. It occupied a beautiful plateau two miles above Henry, and had a very convenient steamboat landing accessible at all seasons. The projectors of the town were energetic business men, and lots sold readily. A saw and grist mill to be propelled by steam were contracted for, and machinery brought upon the ground, but sickness of the proprietors suspended operations and they were never completed. A blacksmith shop was set up, a dozen cabins erected and a small store opened by Josiah Hayes, better known from his diminutive size and certain characteristics as "Little Hayes." He afterward moved to Olathe, Kansas, and, as Shakspeare says, "achieved greatness," becoming a Colonel in the Union army and Secretary of State. His first wife was a Miss Fanning and his second a Miss Nancy Potter, a school teacher. The death of Col. Latta gave the place its finishing blow. The settlers left and the cabins were removed elsewhere. In 1837 it was honored with a call from the "god-like Daniel," whose criticism upon it was that it was "a good place for a farm, but had been badly damaged by driving sticks (corner stakes) into it." Some slight depressions in the soil are all that remain of this supposed rival of Henry.

HOOPER WARREN.

Among the many distinguished individuals who in early times espoused the anti-slavery cause, one who deserves especial mention because of his

devotion and zeal was Hooper Warren, of Henry. He was a co-worker with the leading spirits of the country in behalf of freedom, and by a long life of useful, though to himself most unprofitable labor, earned a high niche in the temple of fame.

Mr. Warren was born at Walpole, N. H., in May, 1790, and brought up in Woodstock, Vt., where he learned the trade of a printer. In 1817, when twenty-seven years old, he removed to St. Louis, and in 1819 established himself at Edwardsville, Madison County, Ill., where he started the Edwardsville *Spectator*, the third newspaper published in the State. It was a fearless abolition organ, assailing the slavery question from that standpoint in front and rear, and soon obtained prominence and influence, not only in this State, but in the entire North. No newspaper in the Union was more liberally quoted from, either to criticise and condemn or approve and applaud its doctrines. Hitherto the few publications which had objected to slavery had been mildly expostulatory with their Southern brethren, and touched the vexed subject in a gingerly and apologetic manner, while his was boldly aggressive, denouncing not only the system itself, but all who upheld it. All manner of personal abuse and ill-treatment fell to his lot in the hot pro-slavery section around him, and even personal violence was not only repeatedly threatened by known as well as anonymous persons, but actually committed upon him. At length finding himself too far from the capital of the State, the seat of news and headquarters of politicians, in 1825 he removed his paper to Springfield and called it the *Saugamo Spectator*. It was the pioneer paper of that region, and its publication was continued with varying success about three years.

In 1828 he went to the lead mines, then the great center of attraction of the country, and established the *Galena Advertiser*, where he remained three years.

In 1831 he removed to Hennepin, the county seat of Putnam County, and there accepted the position of County and Circuit Clerk, declining the offer of a similar position at Chicago, as he deemed the prospects of the the town at the supposed head of navigation on the Illinois, immeasurably superior to those of the dingy mud-hole at the foot of Lake Michigan.

About the same time the citizens of Springfield, remembering him as a fearless and able editor, offered him \$750 in cash to return and conduct a newspaper, but this offer he also declined.

In 1835 he changed his location to Chicago, and there founded the

Commercial Advertiser, issuing the first numbers October 11, 1836. He continued his connection therewith about a year, when he returned to Hennepin in the fall of 1838, and in the spring of 1839 removed to Henry, where he afterward, till his death, made his home.

In the fall of 1840, in conjunction with Z. Eastman, at Lowell (Vermilionville), LaSalle County, he started the *Genius of Liberty*. This was a weekly newspaper devoted exclusively to the anti-slavery cause, and at once became its ablest champion. Besides his own keen, logical efforts, it contained speeches, sermons and letters from the foremost literary men of the day on the vital question, and speedily attained an exalted and influential position. But with no local advertising, without State, county or other official patronage, and with a subscription list necessarily limited by reason of being confined almost exclusively to the few and scattered anti-slavery zealots of that day, the paper, despite the strenuous efforts of its publishers and ardent friends and admirers, proved a financial failure in Lowell, and at the end of the year Mr. Warren retired from its management, and it was removed to Chicago, where it attained no special prominence, being mainly remembered as the forerunner of the *Chicago Tribune*.

In 1851 Mr. Warren became editor of the *Bureau County Advocate*, which position he retained two years and then retired from the journalistic field. He was a good practical printer, familiar with the details of the business, and as an editor quick and ready upon all subjects, especially such as came within the scope of his political convictions, seldom writing out his "copy," but composing his lengthy "leaders" in his stick, at the case. He was a firm temperance man, his habits as to intoxicants being strictly abstemious, but never a member of any society or organization based upon this principle. He died at Mendota, Illinois, at the house of his daughter, Mrs. Littlefield, August 24, 1864, passing painlessly away after a long and busy life, at the age of seventy-four years.

INCIDENTS.

The great staple of trade in early days was potatoes. Every farmer raised them, and never were such abundant crops seen. The many thousand bushels sent South cannot be computed, nor the fortunes made (or lost) by the parties engaged. One year so many bushels were thrown overboard as to be a positive nuisance to boatmen, and a bar in the river

against which they lodged and grew, achieved the name of "Potato Island."

The river towns along the lower Mississippi were where markets were usually found, and it was the custom to build keel boats, and loading them with the plentiful esculent, float them down to market. After a sale of the vegetables the boat was sold for its value as firewood.

On one occasion a wagon-maker in Henry named Brown traded a wagon to Geo. Dent for 2,000 bushels of potatoes in the fall, the latter agreeing to plant a certain variety of seed that Brown desired. They grew to a fabulous size, and Brown was delighted, until he cut one open and found a "goneness" he little anticipated. They were about as hollow as a bladder and not much more valuable. They were too big to measure and too numerous to count, so he sent word to Dent to count out a couple of thousand of the hollow things and keep the rest.

Charles Nock's farm was on the Island, below the city. Here was a large settlement of thrifty Germans.

Among the earliest settlers was a man named Van Kirk. He wore no hat, but tied a handkerchief tied around his bushy and unkempt locks. He regarded a beard as an abomination, and regularly plucked his out by the roots with pincers. He was unmarried, and lived about as a general utility man. When a small lad he had seen the battle of Trenton from a distance, and from constantly dwelling on the subject came to believe himself an active participant who ought to have a pension. He was intensely patriotic and on each recurring Fourth of July procured a gallon of "blackstrap," and retiring to some secluded grove, read the declaration of Independence, and made a speech, closing with toasts, which were loyally and enthusiastically drunk while the jug lasted. When he first came to the place he had considerable money, which, having occasion to make a journey he tied into an old handkerchief and chucked into a crack of the logs, telling Thompson it was some "old duds" he did n't care to take along. The "old duds" were \$2,800 in cash. Vankirk lived many years and finally died in the poor house.

George W. Ditman, of Magnolia, was once pursued by a pack of black wolves, and "saved his bacon" by hurriedly climbing a tree, where he remained through the night, while the yelling horde kept watch until daylight.

Mr. Edmund Britt, an old man well known about Henry many years ago, was considered "lightning proof." He was once knocked prostrate and his clothes and shoes torn off, but suffered no farther damages. On another occasion a bolt of lightning knocked him down and scorched his hair and whiskers, but he again escaped serious harm!

He was once digging a well when the windlass broke and he was buried in the sand, but came out "sound as a dollar." Another time the well caved in, burying him several feet deep in sand and clay, and everybody expected to see him taken out dead, but he came up "fresh and smiling" after several hours' imprisonment.

In the winter of 1852, a Mr. Snyder had been across the river hunting, and while returning broke through the ice at the mouth of Sandy Creek. He could touch the bottom with his feet and stood with his arms on the ice, yet he could not extricate himself. He hallowed for help and was heard by different persons for hours, but each one supposed it was some hunter calling a companion and no one went to his relief. The following morning he was found standing in the position described, dead. He had perished from exhaustion and cold.

During the Indian war excitement "Deacon" John L. Ramsey was going toward the ferry at Henry, when he saw a person approaching. The Deacon, who was given to joking, threw a red blanket on his shoulders and hid in the grass, arising just as the unsuspecting traveler, Mr. Frank Thomas, had neared his hiding place. The latter taking him for a redskin leveled his musket to fire, and then it was Ramsey's turn to get scared, and he threw off his blanket and yelled: "Do n't shoot, for God's sake, it's only me!"

The large wild cat of the timber is naturally a cowardly beast, but the following incident shows they are not averse to human flesh when "out of meat." Mr. Pools' two boys were once returning from school when they encountered a gang of them, whose threatening demonstrations caused the boys to take shelter in a tree. The varmints made demonstrations of attack, but the appearance of a dog put them to flight.

A hunter named Ward was once followed by a lynx, which he fortunately shot with the last bullet in his possession, and Guy Pool killed one close to his door, on Clear Creek.

Wild hogs were numerous and worse dreaded than any wild animal. They were fearless of man and beast, and quite frequently horses were badly wounded by these brutes. They were more savage when dogs were about, and would follow a man on horseback a long distance if accompanied by one to get at the latter. The attacks of wolves upon their offspring had rendered them the enemy of dogs, and they seemed to detect their presence in the timber at a long distance.

The cold snap of 1836 was the cause of a remarkable accident. A traveler whose name is unknown, riding a horse and followed by a dog, was being set across one of the primitive ferries, the flat being propelled by oars. The fast gathering ice swept them down stream where a landing could not be made, but the men escaped on the ice to the shore. The faithful dog remained with the horse and the next day both were found dead.

At the mouth of Clear Creek, on the farm of Guy W. Pool, the body of an Indian was found suspended in a tree. Near by were Indian graves. In the same locality another Indian, a child, had been "buried" in a peculiar way. The body of a willow tree was split open and the remains of the infant being placed between the halves in a hollow dug out. Around the whole were bound numerous hickory withes.

Christmas day, 1835, at a shooting match near Henry, a man named Little, a stranger, looking for a farm, strolled up to the crowd and was accidentally shot through the head by a drunken fellow named McKinney. Little had barely arrived when McKinney's gun was discharged, and Little dropped dead.

A man, still occasionally seen on the streets of Henry, wished to marry in the olden time, and having no money to pay the minister, bargained to pay him in coon skins, his intended promising to see it carried out.

A well remembered event in early days was the upsetting of a coach load of passengers, near Pools, which rolled down a steep precipice, going over several times without serious harm to the inmates.

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



THIS Township is said to have been named by Lundsford Broaddus. - It contains nearly thirty-six sections of land, much of it broken and mainly valuable as pasturage, though some of the best farms and residences in the county are within its borders. Sandy Creek washes its northern boundary and the Illinois River its western, and the territory contiguous is broken and often swampy, but the eastern and southern portions are fertile and under a high state of improvement. Its products are live stock and grain. Its farms are well cared for and their owners generally "well to do."

The pioneer white settler, George Wagner, arrived in the Township in the spring of 1830, and put up a cabin, the first in this locality. He sold it to Edward Harris, who lived here many years and died upon the farm now owned by Jerry Feazle.

The next old settlers were James Hall, William McNeill and Newton Reeder, who came together in 1831, and made claims, where Hall still resides. McNeill, a blacksmith, settled in the timber north-east of Lacon, and Reeder upon what is now the Broaddus farm.

Lot and Joshua Bullman came here the same year and began their respective farms, and near them Jacob Smalley stuck his stakes.

In 1831 Elisha Swan and Hanson L. Deming put up a double log house at the foot of the hill, in what is now known as the Broaddus field, where they embarked in the mercantile business, keeping such goods as the trade of the new country demanded. This was the frontier store of Columbia and vicinity.

Robert Antrim and Peter Barnhart came in 1832, and settled, the former on his well known place and the latter on what is now the Hancock farm. Lemuel Russell made a claim in 1833. Joseph VanBuskirk and William Boys came in 1832, and William Hancock in June 1836, buying Barnhart's claim.

Jeremiah Evans and his son Silas Evans came in 1834, and settled in the edge of the timber, on the south side of Sandy Creek. Jesse Sawyer and Caleb Forbes, with their families, came in 1831.

In 1833 the Freeman's came, likewise William White and John Benson.

The first marriage in the Township was that of Josiah W. Martin and Courtney Forbes, in 1832.

John Brumsey settled on Sandy in 1833, where his son Nathan still resides.

Antrim was an odd character, and for years partially insane, a disease which grew on him until he committed suicide by hanging himself. His first wife he married in Ohio, his second was Martha Harris, and the third Nancy, a sister of the famous "Si." Bowles.

The first school was taught by Miss Caroline Smith, in 1834.

The first camp meeting in Hopewell was held in the timber, between William Strawn's and Lacon, in June 1843, when the Reeves gang did some stealing. Elder Phillips presided. The attendance was large, considering the sparsely settled condition of the country.

Apple trees for the early orchards of this region were obtained first by John Strawn, who went to Princes nursery, in the southern part of the State, in 1832. In 1833 Wier, Strawn and others obtained some by going to Peoria for them in keel boats.

Barnhart brought seedling trees from Lawrenceburg, and planted them on his claim in 1832, which did well, some of the fruit being of a very fine quality.

There were other pioneers who lived for a while in Hopewell, but did not become permanent citizens. Among these were John Shaner, George Easter, Robert and William Waughob and Robert Waughob, Jr., who came out as early as September, 1829. Some of them located near where Mr. Ramp's orchard is located, and others made claims at the timber near the line, in Richland.

The first funeral was that of Robert Waughob, who died in September, 1831. There being no lumber in the settlement a rough coffin was

made of wooden slabs or puncheons, and the deceased placed therein and buried in the Broaddus Cemetery.

THE FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE.

This was located about two miles west of Sawyer's. It was of the prevailing style, had one door, and a log cut out on one side gave ample ventilation and a little light. It was built in 1836. A Mr. Lee first taught the Hopewellian ideas how to shoot.

A notable old time school house stood in the ravine south-east of Irving Broadus', where most of the present dwellers in the vicinity obtained their "larkin'." It was built in 1835 by Lemuel Russell, John Wier, James Hall, John Strawn, James Kane, William Hancock, the Bullman's, and other patrons of the school.

Two schools had been previously taught in the township, one in a cabin belonging to a man named Waughob and the other in a cabin near Lemuel Russell's. The first taught here was by a man named Elmore. Beside serving for school purposes it was used for debating clubs, church services, public meetings, itinerating shows, etc. The old school house served its purpose, and then gave away to something more pretentious and its timbers were made into a stable. Forty-four years after its erection a meeting of the surviving pupils was held on the spot, and a very interesting time was had.

THE FIRST SAW AND GRIST MILLS.

The first saw mill in the Township was put up by Jesse and Enoch Sawyer, in 1835. It stood not far from where the "old Henry road" crosses Sandy Creek. The Sawyers run this mill about four years, when they sold it to Ebenezer Pomeroy.

Mr. Caleb Forbes, in 1833, had a horse power saw mill near his farm, on the south side of Sandy, in the timber of the bluffs, that did good work for several years.

Nathan Brumsey also had a saw attachment to his grist mill, near the present home of Mrs. Broaddus.

The pioneer miller was Zion Shugart, who came to Ox Bow Prairie in 1829 and afterwards located on Sandy Creek, near the present residence of Mrs. Christopher Broaddus. He made his own mill stones, fastened the lower one to a stump and with appropriate machinery revolved the upper

one by horse power. It was slow and very hard work to grind or crack corn on this mill. It did not reduce it to meal, but rather left it in small fragmentary grains, but still as a labor saving machine it was a decided improvement upon the plans heretofore in use.

In 1831 Mr. Shugart constructed a corn and flour mill to run by water. When the conditions were favorable—water plenty, corn dry, machinery properly lubricated, and all else in harmony, this mill could grind about two bushels of corn into tolerable meal and bran every hour! The bolting apparatus consisted of a hand sieve, shaken by the customer whose grist was being ground.

This mill flourished until spring, when a freshet swept away everything belonging to it except the naked stones, which were taken away and put in a mill at Caleb Thompson's farm, where a good horse mill was built in the spring of 1832, and for about two years did about all the grinding for the country.

After this Mr. Shugart commenced a larger mill, but sold it before completion to John Brumsey. It had all the usual facilities and did good work. Brumsey sold it to a Mr. Trusten, and the latter to James Croft. William Fisher & Co. became the next owners and finally Mr. Broaddus. Only a few timbers remain to tell of its existence.

JESSE SAWYER.

Among the more noted settlers of Hopewell were Jesse Sawyer and Caleb Forbes. They came to this locality in the summer of 1830, on horseback, from North Carolina, and concluding to locate returned for their families, packed up their effects, and left Albemarle Sound in April, the journey occupying five months.

The family of Mr. Sawyer consisted of himself, wife, and five boys, one being a step-son, Mr. Lemuel Russell, then unmarried. Mr. Forbes had two sons and two daughters. They crossed a part of Tennessee, traveling through Kentucky and Indiana.

After many trials and hardships the party arrived here September 2, 1831, having traveled a distance of over eleven hundred miles. A rude cabin was put up near a large elm tree, a half mile south-east of the present residence of Enoch Sawyer. (Mrs. Jesse Sawyer died in her new home several years after, at the good old age of eighty-six years, and Mr. Jesse Sawyer, after getting his children here comfortably fixed, went to

California in 1849, and while on a journey from San Francisco to Oregon became sick and died, and was buried in the sea.)

Mr. S. explored much of the country for miles along the eastern boundaries of the Illinois River, but found no place that suited him better than the spot chosen, and which became his future home. His cabin was a log structure, one story high, with a stiek and mud chimney, and only one room, in which his family and two hired men lived the first winter.

During this time Forbes had erected a roomy house of hewed logs, and when the Indian war broke out this was turned into a fort for the protection of the two families. Doors and windows were heavily barricaded, port holes were made and the most elaborate means taken for offense as well defense, and to this fortress the two families retired at night, the "men folks" following their usual avocations during the day.

AN OLD TIME PREACHER.

About 1832 or 1833 Mr. Sawyer's father went to Springfield to enter land. A man named Howard kept a sort of tavern at Holland's Grove, near where Washington now stands, and there Mr. S. put up for the night. The landlord was short of beds and he was given a bed-fellow—a Methodist minister named Mitchell. After retiring these gentlemen struck up a conversation, in which Mr. Mitchell disclosed his profession, and, the further fact that he was hard up for money. He said if he had \$500 he could put it to good use and make it pay him well, and that if he knew where to get it he would pay fair interest for the same. Mr. Sawyer was a man of some means, and had more ready money than he desired to use, and though a careful business man he loaned the preacher the required sum, taking his note therefor. After parting with his new friend and thinking the matter over he concluded he had been too precipitate. It was not "business," and the conclusion arrived at was that he had been sold.

He had never seen or heard of Mitchell before, and only knew that his name was such from the man's own statement. Mrs. S., good, careful woman that she was, did not approve his conduct, and more than once expatiated upon the "old man's foolishness" in trusting the unknown preacher with so much money. Time rolled on—one, two, three, four and five years passed, and no account came from Mitchell.

By this time the old lady's fears had become realities, and he gave it up as "a bad speculation." One day business took him to Hennepin, and it being Sunday, he went to the Methodist Church. Imagine his surprise as service was about to begin, when the long lost Mitchell walked into the pulpit! The preacher took occasion to give his hearers a forcible sermon on the subject of temperance, painting in strong colors the fate of the drunkard, and condemning in the strongest terms "regular" and "occasional" drinking, and promising unending punishment for the bibulous man.

When services were over Mr. Sawyer left the church, unnoticed by the preacher, and went home without seeking an interview. He related to his family the circumstances, and, of course, all hopes of seeing his \$500 were gone.

At noon on the following day the preacher rode up to the gate and asked for dinner. There was no pretence of a recognition on either side, but Sawyer managed to whisper to his wife, "that's our preacher!" The good lady surveyed him with much dissatisfaction.

Mr. S. was in the habit of "taking something" before dinner, and moreover, feeling indifferent as to the preacher's sentiments and in defiance of the temperance lecture of Sunday took down the decanter and invited the preacher to imbibe. To the utter bewilderment of the old lady and surprise of Mr. S., the pious man poured out a goodly "horn," fixed it up with artistic skill and drank it down with evident relish! Whatever weak hopes Mr. Sawyer had for his money were now banished. Soon after each took another liberal "nip," and when dinner had been satisfactorily disposed of, the preacher said: "Mr. Sawyer, I have a little business with you." To this Mr. Sawyer replied: "All right, Mr. Mitchell; come this way."

This was the first time that either had spoken the name of the other! They sat down and the preacher drew from his coat pocket a well-filled bag and counted out the \$500, with interest, to a cent, and handed it over with "much obliged." This done, he mounted his horse and disappeared.

The old lady's opinion as to the character of that preacher underwent some modification, but still remained considerably mixed.

FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS.

The Indians often visited the Sawyer cabin and made themselves quite

at home. These red skinned inhabitants were numerous and had the faculty or habit of becoming exceedingly free on short acquaintance. They would come to the cabin in cold or wet weather and squat around the fire-place, monopolizing every inch of room without leave. They would lift the covers off the dinner pots to see what was being cooked, and were frequent applicants for food, a favor which was never denied when reasonable.

On one occasion not long after the cabin was built a dozen savages entered the door unbidden and sat down upon the floor to dry themselves. Mrs. Sawyer was alone, except Enoch, the family being in the woods making rails. Mrs. Sawyer was badly frightened, as they were the first she had seen, and retreated to an adjoining room for safety. Not a word of English could the copper-colored visitors speak, and after sitting so long as pleased them they departed, greatly to the relief of the inmates. One of the Indians arose and drawing his scalping knife motioned to Enoch to approach. Mrs. Sawyer, who was intently observing them, felt sure their time had come, but the savage by pantomimic signs made it known that he only wished to sharpen his knife on Sawyer's grindstone.

When Black Hawk proclaimed war and repudiated the treaty made by his tribe the Pottawattomies were in a quandary, and did not know whether to join the Sacs' and Fox's or remain neutral. A large number of the tribe, through the counsel of Shaubena, did not take up arms, and remained true to their pledges, but by far the greater number did.

In the spring of 1832 a rendezvous of Indians favorable to the war, was made at Holland's Grove, and the disaffected marched north, toward Dixon. Their trail was visible for years up the east side of the Illinois River, at various distances from it, but generally on the edge of the prairie, to avoid deep ravines and thick forests. They marched past Mr. Sawyer's on their ponies, going in single file, each warrior arrayed in war paint and looking as solemn as a funeral procession.

The winter after the war, the boys were sent to the woods to cut timber, and while absent from their team, half a dozen Indians came along and ate their dinners. The boys were indignant and vowed revenge, so taking their axes they followed the miscreants until their tracks became dangerously fresh and then returned.

THE ORIGINAL TRAMP.

Hopewell furnishes the starting point of the original tramp, or the first

great feat of long winded pedestrianism on record in this country. It was in 1833, when a Mrs. White and her son, who had come from North Carolina the previous year, determined to return to their old home. They were very poor, with not sufficient means to buy food on their way, letting alone transportation, and withal she was past the age allotted to man or woman, yet such was her love for her old home and so strong her desire to see it again, that braving all obstacles she started, and actually made the long distance on foot. Her simple story made friends everywhere and food and shelter were had for the asking, without money or price. Thus they journeyed slowly on and reached their destination after a nearly eleven hundred mile tramp.

GAME.

The early settlers of Hopewell found an abundance of game of all kinds in its season, and the river and tributary streams swarmed with fish. The ground was covered with the bones of buffalo and elk, and it was no unusual sight to see deer in droves of twenty and thirty crossing the prairie in single file. Among the feathered tribes, sand-hill cranes were the most numerous. They went in large flocks, and seen at a distance upon the bare prairie, were easily mistaken for sheep.

Gray foxes were numerous, and the highly perfumed *Mephitis Americanus*, not long after introduced himself pretty numerously. Gray squirrels too, were plenty, but the latter as well as foxes of the same color afterward gave place to red foxes and red squirrels, the only kinds now found in this section. Wild turkeys were not abundant until 1840. Bee trees were found everywhere in the timber, and the people needed no syrup for corn cakes.

Wolves, both the prairie and timber species, black and gray, were numerous, and the farmers' greatest dread and constant annoyance. On more than one occasion has Mr. Sawyer been called upon not only to exercise his skill as a marksman, but under critical circumstances, where a sure aim and steady nerve were needed. He was an expert and enthusiastic hunter, and brought with him from his Southern home a pair of superb hounds from which sprung a numerous progeny, with whose aid he has waged war against these "varmints" for many years. In the winter of 1833-34 he had occasion to go to mill. His conveyance was a sled upon which was a Pennsylvania wagon box, drawn by three yokes of oxen.

The mill was at Seybold's on the Vermillion river, and as Mr. Sawyer was returning with his grist through Sandy Creek timber on a bright moonlight night, he heard a low growl which he recognized as that of a wolf, and perceived a large gray timber wolf not ten feet away. It was crouched as if ready to spring, and its eyes glared with a flashing yellow green peculiar to the feline tribe. Young Sawyer was justifiably alarmed, and giving the brute a sharp cut with his long whip jumped into the sled. At a wayside cabin he borrowed a gun, and when the animal reappeared a lucky shot laid him out.

INCIDENTS.

As illustrating the rapid growth of timber in this country it is related that north and east of Hancock's house, forty years ago, there was a growth of low hazle brush, small oak and other trees. From the door of the house during fall and winter could be seen the white spots or tails of the deer as they browsed or frolicked through the thickets. On that same patch of what was once hazle-brush and saplings, large trees have grown, and within the last four or five years from eighteen to twenty cords of wood per acre were cut therefrom.

The old settlers in this like those of other localities had no flour or meal save such as they made themselves on a grater, in a stump mortar or pestle, with a spring-pole beater,—the pound-cake mill of the olden time. When they desired to put on style, they went to mill forty to one hundred miles away. Mr. Hancock remembers going to Dayton to mill, four miles above Ottawa, on Fox River.

They hauled their wheat to Chicago, where they found a market at fifty-six cents per bushel, and brought back lumber and salt, which they sold at good prices, the latter bringing as high as \$5.00 per barrel.

The farmers' wives knew nothing about saleratus or fancy baking powder. When they wanted fine rising, they made pearl ash by burning corn-cobs.

Wm. Strawn, whose parents were Methodists, and looked upon dancing with abhorrence, took his first lesson in tripping the "light fantastic toe" in this way: His mother had been baking bread in an old fashioned oven. William, in his bare feet, came near the fire to warm, and unwittingly

tingly stepped upon the large flat stone which, heated to a cherry red, forms a covering for the primitive oven. He lifted his foot with an agonizing yell of mingled surprise and pain, but in doing so placed the other on the same scorching surface. And then ensued a series of gyrations, contortions and fantastic steps, accompanied by howls and groans, which proved highly amusing to the other children, but which William to this day cannot recall without an involuntary shifting of his pedal extremities.



ROBERTS TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XL.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



HIS Township derived its name from the first settler in Marshall County, Jesse Roberts, who made his claim in a point of timber south of Sandy Creek, and for many years lived there noted as an eccentric but hospitable and generous man.

The Township contains thirty-six sections or 23,040 acres of land. The principal water course traversing its territory is Sandy Creek, a large stream coming from Evans Township on the east and flowing through Sections one, two, three, four, five and six nearly due west to the town of Hope-well, and thence to the Illinois River. From the south this stream is fed by Shaws', Myers', Gaylord's and a number of smaller branches, and from the north by Little Sandy and its tributaries. The entire town is well watered and abundantly supplied with timber. Between the branches named and those referred to there are stretches of prairie and openings that come down near the verge of the bluffs along the southern line of Sandy Creek. To the north and south these prairies widen, and beyond the several points of timber unite in a vast expanse of deep and remarkably rich soil, now covered with fine farms.

The Western Division of the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad runs through this Township from section twenty-five on the east to Section thirty on the west, connecting with the other great lines of railroad and affording an outlet for the products of the Township. A branch of this road also diverges south from the main branch at Varna, a village in this Township. While the soil is very deep and productive, the lands in some parts are less rolling than west of the Illinois River. When their roads have been improved to the general standard of excellence prevailing in other townships this will be a model farming region.

The objection of very level lands does not prevail along the timber, nor for two or three miles back therefrom, the surface in this part of the Township being a succession of gently rolling or undulating swells.

Fine large orchards are a special feature of Roberts. Apple trees of enormous growth are found on all of the older farms, and some of the orchards are of surprisingly extensive acreage. Many of the farmers along Sandy Creek are superior horticulturalists, especially "read up" in the culture of the apple, and by careful study and experiment have reduced fruit culture to a science. Profiting by experience they cultivate choice varieties almost exclusively, and only fail when the season is unfavorable.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first settlers here were: 1828—Livingston Roberts; 1829—Dr. J. Gaylord, Abel Estabrook, Horace Gaylord; 1830—Enoch Dent, Geo. Morton, G. H. Shaw, Wm. Cowan; 1831—Samuel Redmond, Eli Redmond; 1832—David Myers, Chas. S. Edward, David Stateler, Samuel Beckwith, Wm. McMillan, Jerry Hardenbower, John Myers; 1833—David Myer's family, Hiram Myers; 1834—B. Reynolds, Abram De Long; 1835; Wm. Swartz, Zeb Swarz; 1837—Mr. Davidson, Mr. Ellenborg; 1838—Mr. Usher, James Hoyt; Aaron Gaylord came to Marshall County about 1833, and settled in Roberts Township on the Keys farm. Mr. Gaylord himself and two daughters died in 1834. His wife Maria was left with a large family and raised them successfully. Among them were: Dr. Ed. Gaylord, of Magnolia; Dr. Hiram Gaylord, of Pontiac; James S. Gaylord, of Western Kansas; Orange Gaylord, who went to Oregon many years ago; Mrs. T. Beckwith, now in the south part of Evans Township.

VARNA.

This well-known village, born of railroad enterprise, was laid out September 10, 1870, on the south half of the north-east quarter of Section 28, Town 30, Range 1 west., by George Strant and wife, on the prairie along the Western Division of the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railroad. Additions have since been made from time to time until the town, on the maps, has assumed creditable proportions.

The original town is all north of and adjoining the railroad. It stands

on the level prairie to the east of Shaw's Point, and is the first station on the above mentioned road east of the County seat.

The first house in the village was built in 1870, a store, by Mr. John B. Brotherhood, who added a dwelling to it the same fall, and soon after Bobbitt and others followed his example, until a number of neat dwellings, stores, warehouses, churches and a good public school building, constituted the general make-up of the village. Its leading features are: Four churches,—German Lutheran, Swedish Lutheran, German Episcopal and Methodist—two grocery and general stores, two drug dealers, one hardware store, two boot and shoe shops and stores, one harness shop, two carpenters, two meat markets, a livery stable, four blacksmith shops, one lumber yard, two grain merchants and stock buyers, two hotels, two wagon shops, two dealers in agricultural implements, a tile manufactory, two milliners and a doctor. At the last election the poll books showed sixty-eight voters in the village.

Varna has the credit of maintaining an excellent public school. No. 8, which embraces the village, was organized in 1869, and Thomas Quaintance was the first teacher for two years. The school building erected in the summer of the year named, is a large frame structure, capable of accommodating one hundred pupils, and contains all the modern improvements for the graded system, on which plan the school is conducted.

THE SWEDISH CHURCH.

The natives of Sweden living in the vicinity of Varna first began to hold public worship about 1866. The only church then in this region of their faith was at Caledonia, west of Magnolia. About 1874 they held a largely attended and successful revival meeting at Varna, upon the conclusion of which they organized a Society, Rev. Mr. Lindall lending his aid to the success of the movement.

They selected as their first deacons and trustees, Andrew Lindall, O. P. Nelson, Charles Esterdahl, John Humstrom, Andrew Angstrom and C. A. Peterson.

The leading members were: C. Esterdahl, O. P. Nelson, Andrew Lindall and C. A. Humstrom, who constituted the building committee.

The church building was erected in 1874. It is a frame structure 25 x72 feet, 18 foot ceiling, neatly finished, and furnished with an organ, comfortable seats, etc. It cost entire \$4,500, and was built by subscrip-

tion. The original membership was 125, but it has now nearly doubled, and the Society is in a prosperous condition. It conducts an excellent Sunday School, which is managed, in turn, by four of the deacons.

The ministers have been: Rev. Mr. Londerblau, who occasionally visited Varna in 1870; Rev. Mr. Malberg, who came from time to time in 1874; succeeded by Rev. P. G. Brodine, who, in 1879, gave way to Rev. G. O. Gustafson.

GERMAN M. F. CHURCH.

This Society, at Varna, was formed in June, 1872. The trustees were Christian Koch, William Koch and Christian Benkendorf. About eleven persons organized the church, and built a small place of worship the same year, costing \$1,800.

The preacher who was mainly instrumental in the foundation of the Society was Rev. Barnard Ruch, and in January, 1880, the pastor was Rev. Mr. Danner.

THE GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This Society was organized at Varna in 1871. The first preacher was Rev. J. Johannes, to whose personal efforts its success was largely due. The trustees of the congregation were: Michael Kemnitz, Reinhardt Kitzman and George Sanwald.

Their meeting house was built in 1873. It is a frame structure, 43x60 feet, with a steeple and bell, comfortably seated, and was built by subscription, costing \$2,300. The congregation is small, but earnest in the work, and a good Sabbath School is kept in a flourishing condition.

The first services were by Rev. Mr. Kercher, and afterward Rev. Walter Krebs, who also had the spiritual wants of the Society in charge for years. The minister in 1879 was Rev. A. Sipple, of La Rose, who alternates his work between the church here and at the latter place.

LYONS.

Among the numerous towns that sprang up like mushrooms in a single night, in this region—on paper—during the speculative fever of 1835 and '36, the above is an example, and in its rise and fall is presented the

history of thousands equally ambitious and ill fated. Lyons was started by an Eastern company, its projectors residing in New York. It was laid out in 1836, but the plat, which contained one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the present village of Varna on the West and south-west, was never recorded.

The Association entered forty-six sections of land, mainly in this part of the state, and assessed twenty-five dollars per quarter section to build an agent's house here and provide for the expenses of surveying and selling the lots. This was the first building of any kind on this prairie for many miles, and was put up for the company by Henry Long, of Lacon. Its materials were hard wood and a frame of hewn logs, after the manner of all buildings beyond the limits of the timber in those days.

A committee of the Company made deeds of such few lots as were sold, which were so worded as to contain no streets and alleys, and as none of these had been dedicated to the public and no rights accrued by prescription or use, legal questions as to the right of buyers to fence them up and block up highways were avoided. As no clause was inserted in these conveyances compelling the owners to build upon the property thus bought—a provision inserted in similar conveyances of lots in some other new towns,—no house was ever erected within the limits of Lyons, save the dwelling of the agent.

When the sole resident of this city moved here, and became monarch of all he surveyed, his nearest neighbors were the few settlers along the line of Sandy Creek and C. S. Edwards and G. H. Shaw at Shaw's Point.

The land bought by the New York company was scattered about this region within a scope of six or seven miles and Lyons was laid out as the central point. The lots brought at the rate of from one to five dollars per acre, and were sold between 1847 and 1856, by which time the original company had parted with its interest in the property. Some of the lands sold as low as fifty cents an acre, but this brought no new settlers. Some "commanded," as the advertisements had it, \$20 per acre; the latter lying near the "city limits."

The town was surveyed for the Association by Jordon Sawyer, a brother of Enoch Sawyer, of Hopewell.

JESSE S. ROBERTS.

The man from whom the Township derives its name and the first set-

tlar in the County deserves a more extended notice than is given to most of the pioneers. This was Jesse S. Roberts, who was born on the Little Pedee, South Carolina, May 11, 1876. His father took sides with the mother country in her efforts to subdue the colonists, and at the close of the war was expatriated, taking up his residence at St. Johns, New Brunswick, where we believe he subsequently died. His family remained loyal, and were permitted to occupy the valuable property he held, which, by the law of primogeniture then in force, reverted to the oldest son, leaving the others, among whom was the subject of this sketch, to care for themselves.

Until eleven years old he lived at home with his mother, going to school occasionally and assisting in the labors of the farm as he could. At that age he was indentured to a saddler and harness maker, serving his master the full time of seven years, as was the good old custom. As before intimated, his father's estate was inherited by an elder brother, and the manifest injustice so embittered him that he determined to leave the country and seek out a home for himself in the new and fertile regions beyond the Ohio.

It was six hundred miles to his proposed destination, the road leading over mountains, through sparsely settled districts, and hostile tribes of Indians. Nothing daunted, however, he shouldered his axe, put a spare shirt or two in his bundle and set out, walking the entire distance.

He passed over the now justly celebrated "blue grass region," thinking it too destitute of timber, and proceeding to the vicinity of Smithland, Kentucky, selected a location among the heavy timber of the region, and putting up a cabin of rough logs open at one end, plied his axe industriously for three months, living by himself and doing his own cooking and washing.

Leaving his new home at this time he started back to South Carolina for a helpmeet, receiving along with her a feather bed and an old frying pan. With his wife and dowry mounted on an old mare—his sole worldly wealth—and himself trudging by her side, he again made the journey to the El Dorado of his hopes. His wife proved a most worthy companion, and together they cleared up a large farm, while children were born and their fortunes grew apace.

In course of time he owned slaves—a woman to help his wife and two stout fellows to assist him on the farm. He also built a flat boat and commenced making voyages to New Orleans, loading his craft with

grain, sheep, hogs and poultry, which he converted into cash and returned on foot, carrying about his person as high as six hundred dollars in silver. His road lay through the Indian nation, where he found cabins erected for the entertainment of travelers, who were expected to furnish their own provisions.

On one occasion he took down a likely young negro named Obed and bargained him away for six hundred dollars. The chattel was unusually sharp, and divining the nature of the transaction, "lit out" before the delivery of the property, reaching home two weeks before his master. There was some difficulty over the sale, but Roberts insisted that he sold him *on the run*, and it was compromised by the seller accepting four hundred dollars. Obed continued to light the fires and perform any service required until he heard his master was coming, when he started for Canada and was not seen again.

Slave property was in very good demand. Roberts paid at one time for a likely young black, seven hundred dollars in cash and one hundred and fifty acres of land. When he left the country he was the owner of a motherly old slave named Judy, who had nursed all his children, and as she did not wish to leave, he sought out a master satisfactory to her, and sold her for three hundred dollars cash, a barrel of whisky and a keg of powder. It is needless to say the whisky was all imbibed by the crowd which came to bid them adieu.

Wishing to educate his family beyond the influences of slavery, Mr. Roberts in that year sold his farm, came to Illinois and settled in the vicinity of Hillsboro, remaining there two years. In the meantime he came north, and renting a piece of land above Ottawa, raised a crop of corn there in 1828. During that summer he came into Putnam County and was advised by Mr. Knox to make the claim upon which he lived until his death, August 7, 1841, aged sixty-five.

JAMES HOYT.

James Hoyt was one of the first settlers of the prairie south of Sandy Creek in this Township. He came to the vicinity of Varna in 1838, making his home at Green's house, put up as the City Hotel of the prospective city of Lyons, and remained in the neighborhood until 1843, when he built a frame house about one and a half miles north of Varna, on the tract known as the Kestor place, where Dr. Gaylord had formerly

lived. The only building in this locality other than those of the farmers joining the timber were a log cabin built by David Meyers and one by his son John, in 1843 or '44, one-half mile west of Hoyt's.

In the fall of 1842 Mr. Hoyt went to Chicago with a load of wheat. He made the journey under all sorts of difficulties, but arrived safely, sold his grain for fifty cents per bushel, half "store pay," bought a stove, got sloughed—not "slewed"—frequently coming home, and lived on raw bacon all the way. As he fared sumptuously on chickens fixin's going up, he realized the abominable contrast in diet with well defined and deep disgust.

The winter of 1843 was an uncommonly hard one. Snow came early, covered the ground to the depth of one and a half feet and remained until the January following, when there was a ten days' period of thaw, followed by a new crop of snow, which did not wholly melt until the 10th of April, 1844.

Mr. Hoyt moved into his new place in the fall of 1843. The first day after his arrival there the deep snow fell, and then his troubles began. He had little or no fuel, and was four miles from where he could fiet firewood. He had to go the next morning, Sunday though it was, after wood, and kept up these long trips regularly and frequently all that winter.

SHAW'S POINT.

Next to Jesse Roberts the first permanent settler in Roberts was James H. Shaw, who made a claim at the point of timber that has since borne his name so early as 1831. It was long a prominent landmark, and the proprietor was widely known and respected. He came to Tazewell County in 1827, taught school in Magnolia in 1830, and finally settled down as a farmer as stated. His nearest neighbors were C. S. Edwards, whose fine farm afterward passed into the possession of Reuben Broadus. The two men took opposite sides in politics, and each filled stations of public trust and honor. The former has been gathered to his fathers, but the latter still remains. During the Black Hawk troubles their families sought protection in the Roberts stockade, and remained until danger was past. One night an alarm was raised and the men gathering their shooting irons rushed to defend their fortress. A valorous Frenchman made himself conspicuous by flourishing a big horse pistol and exhorting the

crying women and children to "die like men." It was only a scare, however, and no harm came of it.

The route usually traveled from Shaw's Point to Lacon led along the timber past the Harris place, until Mr. Edwards "blazed the way" through the prairie by the direct route.

CHICAGO AS A GRAIN MARKET IN 1829.

The privations and hardships endured by the early settlers can hardly be realized by their descendants, surrounded by every comfort and luxury. We know men who are in despair if the mail fails to arrive on time, and women who will sit down and cry if a visitor comes to dinner and there is no butter in the house; yet these are insignificant trifles compared with what our ancestors underwent. Think of living for months on pounded corn mixed with water and baked on a board before the fire; of keeping house without tea, coffee, sugar potatoes or fruits; of living in cabins destitute of windows, knowing nothing of the outside world, and seeing neither friend nor neighbor for months. Yet these were the experiences of the older settlers of our state.

There were no markets to speak of. Hennepin was a small trading post where furs and peltries could be bartered for merchandise, but the future thriving towns of Henry, Lacon and La Salle had, in 1829, not a single inhabitant. St. Louis was a place of some importance, but at this date few adventurous keels had plowed the waters of the Illinois. Galena, in the north-west, was a place of considerable mining interest and Chicago was looking up as a future lake port of some possible importance, yet at this time its wants were so little that an enterprising farmer of this County, who sent a load of oats there in 1839, could not find a purchaser, and was about despairing of a sale when he heard of an Englishman living five miles up the North Branch, whither he went and disposed of his load, accepting a greyhound in part payment.

The settler was Livingstone Roberts, whose outfit was three yoke of oxen, a "prairie schooner wagon," blanket, axe, camp kettle and flint and steel for striking fire. The route crossed the Vermillion near the present site of the village of Lowell, where he encamped the first night. No settlers were passed during the day and he saw no signs of improvement until he reached Ottawa, then a thriving town of three cabins, where he passed the second night. Fox River was forded a mile above, and that

day he made Holderman's Grove, where he found a single inhabitant in the person of a Frenchman named Vermet. The fourth day he camped beside a big spring near the present village of Plattville, and the fifth reached the crossing of the Du Page.

The sixth night he camped at the Summit, the only signs of civilization being two settlers' cabins skirting the timber. The next day he drove into Chicago and looked with wonder and awe upon the blue waters of Lake Michigan for the first time. The future city contained two frame dwellings and one store, the latter occupied by James Kinzie, the Indian trader. Around the fort was grouped the barracks and a few cabins tenanted by French and half breeds. Near the forks of the river a man named See kept a house of entertainment, where Roberts put up.

The thriving cities of Morris and Joliet had not even an existence at that time, and very few persons were seen upon the way. Occasionally an emigrant's wagon was passed, under whose white canvas a robust mother and half a dozen tow headed children were seen, while fastened behind was the spinning wheel, a crate of chickens and a couple of chairs.

Mr. Roberts followed the "teaming business" many years, making five or six trips to Chicago, and loading on his return with merchandise, salt, lumber, etc. His usual train was three teams made up of horses and oxen. In those days coffee cost at Chicago 12 cents per pound by the sack; sugar, 6 to 8 cents; and tea 25 cents. Salt cost \$1.05 per barrel, and sold here for \$6.00 to \$7.00.

One fall a boat from St. Louis froze up in the river near Henry, laden with forty hogsheads of sugar, and Mr. Roberts hauled three of them to Chicago for seventy cents per 100 pounds.

Mr. Roberts house was for many years a well known stopping place for travelers and a noted landmark. While the stages ran past he kept the station, and provided food for passengers. He was a man of unbounded hospitality, and no man was ever turned away hungry for want of means of payment. He has raised a large family of sons and daughters, who have left the paternal home and raised families of their own, yet he is still as young in feeling as when he first swung an axe on the prairie fifty-two years ago.

PIONEER FRUIT RAISERS.

The first citizen who took an active interest in the cultivation of fruit

trees was David Myers. He brought here a half bushel of seeds in the spring of 1835, and planted them on his farm. They grew finely, and five years afterward produced a good crop of excellent fruit. He used to go south often for seeds, sometimes getting them near St. Louis and other southern places.

His object was to establish a nursery for supplying others, and in the warm and fruitful soil a very few years sufficed to do this. Most of the old orchards in the County came from trees first raised by him. In those days fruit was not subject to the attacks of insects that in late years have proved such pests, but apples were free from spots and blemishes, and perfect in every respect. Those who have seen the nice fruit Kansas produces can form an idea of its beauty. Along with settlement and civilization came mildew, moths, curculios, borers and the thousand-and-one enemies of apples, pears, etc.

Mr. Myers' taste and fame as a fruit culturist descended to his sons, who more than maintain that of their ancestor.

OLD FORTS.

When the Indian war begun most of the settlers volunteered, Livingstone Roberts and others joining Stewart's Rangers. Their families meanwhile sought protection in hastily improvised forts or stockades, one of which surrounded the cabin of Jesse Roberts and another the Beckwith cabin, while a third and better was constructed at David Griffin's. They were made in the usual way—of split logs placed endwise in the ground, with port holes, etc., for musketry. It was a time of excitement and terror, and though the alarms which occurred told to-day seem ludicrous in the extreme they were fearfully real to the actors.

One incident is related of a not very warlike man who hid his wife and children beneath the cabin floor and himself climbed down the well. The woman and children were the first to emerge from their concealment, when the head of the family too, consented to come forth.

A German had a sick wife who could not well be moved, and he stayed behind to protect her, but the moonlight transformed every bush and tree into an Indian and he rushed to his wife in great fright exclaiming: "Katrina, we was all scallupped by the Injines of I don't go away so quick as never was. I get on my pony und go under the fort. You

don't be afraid. Dey not hurt you." Off he went, and she caught another horse and reached the fort before her husband..

Another incident occurred elsewhere and is strictly true. An eastern settler, who had brought with him a stove, caught the prevailing scare, and loading his portable property into a cart started to seek safety. His stove could not be carried and fearing to risk it with the deadly redskins he tumbled it down a deep well.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

In the spring of 1833 the body of an unknown man was found near the corner of the Stateler field, by the roadside, where he had evidently frozen to death. A passing traveler found the body, a coroner's jury was summoned, of which David Stateler and C. S. Edwards were members.

The investigation proved the corpse to be the remains of a young Englishman, who had been teaching school at Partridge Point. A few weeks previous he had been to Ottawa, and returning, stopped with Mr. Roberts, where he left a satchel with a few things therein, and informed the family that he was going to Washington, Tazewell County, to collect his school money. Mr. Hawkins had ferried him over Crow Creek on his return toward Roberts, about two weeks before the body was found, and he had undoubtedly perished from cold. On his person was found a case of medicines, indicating that he was a doctor, and in his coat pocket an empty bottle that once contained whisky.

The wolves had eaten his face slightly and otherwise disfigured him. Some papers found upon him indicated that he had been an officer in the British army, but his name has been forgotten. Letters were written according to such addresses as were discovered with him, but no answer was ever received. His body was buried as decently as circumstances would permit, in the corner of Hoyt's field, near where it was found.

THEFTS AND ROBBERIES.

In those days, as at the present time, though not so numerous in proportion to the population, thefts and robberies occurred. Then the most satisfactory mode of punishment of offenders was a resort to the law of mutual protection, where the people were judge, jury and executioner, but there is no record of infliction of the death penalty upon any white person, that dernier resort being occasionally presented as an alternative of

leaving the settlement; and the convicted party invariably choosing the latter horn of his peculiar dilemma.

Horses were frequently stolen, but oftener by the cunning red man, than by whites. Cattle were occasionally driven away, and depredations upon corn-fields sometimes made.

Mr. John Myers, son of the pioneer of Robert, relates a case which occurred in 1837. In the house at the time was a sum of money locked up in a chest, the key being hidden in the bed-clothing. A young man in their employ feigned sickness and remained about the house until he discovered where the money was kept, and the hiding place of the key, when he soon succeeded in transferring the treasure from the chest to his pockets. A few hours later the chap disappeared, and soon after the money was missed. The alarm was quickly given and pursuit made by the entire male population of the neighborhood. The fellow had tried to catch a horse pasturing near by, and thus add the crime of horse-stealing to the theft of the money, but failing, was compelled to foot it, and took to the prairie, where he was speedily overtaken and captured by Mr. John Burns. He had thrown away the money, but threats of lynching soon caused him to divulge its whereabouts, and it was all recovered. The thief was taken to Lacon for trial, and sent to the penitentiary for three years.

A DEN OF WOLVES.

Late one evening, in 1841, Mr. Green and Morgan Barber were in the timber at Shaw's Point, when the dogs drove a she wolf to her den. Mr. G. made a fire around the entrance and watched all night, determined to catch her, Barber returning for help. About daylight four small whelps came out and were captured, and later the dam was also caught in a trap, her mate the while prowling around but keeping out of shooting distance.

The whelps were taken home by Mr. Green and tamed, together with four small ones captured a few days before, and two more which he had bought from a neighbor's boy. He had the whole ten alive and playing around his house, under which they burrowed, keeping them for a couple of months, but they soon became troublesome and made war upon the chickens and turkeys. The old she wolf was given to Mr. Edwards to be used as a decoy, and was kept chained up near his house. She grew quite tame and apparently harmless, but one night, getting loose, she attacked and badly mutilated a cow, gorging herself and remaining near her victim until morning, when both were shot.

The old white wolf, her mate, which had successfully evaded pursuit and been a terror to the neighborhood for years, was captured at the big wolf hunt near Varna the same season, by Livingston Roberts, on which occasion Col. John Strawn made a characteristic speech.

Mr. Green's ten pets having become a nuisance, were beheaded. The bounty then receivable for taxes was one dollar for large and fifty cents for small wolves. The scalps were taken to Lacon and the bounty drawn. The officer who took charge of the scalps was careless in his duty, and instead of burning them, as required by law, threw them in a vault near the Court House, where a man named Quigg extracted these and other scalps and received the reward anew. On discovering the fraud a breeze was stirred up and some investigation followed, but as no evidence was produced of criminality on the part of the official concerned, the matter was finally dropped.

A NIGHT OF TERROR.

In the summer of 1833, a Mr. Hale living south of Beckwiths lost a child, and sympathizing neighbors came over to sit up with the corpse and comfort the bereaved family. The father, too, was lying very low and none but women about, when a pack of wolves, made daring by hunger, and doubtless scenting the dead child, came to the house and began to howl. They got beneath the floor, and scratched at the doors, seemingly determined to get inside.

The women were greatly terrified and threw brands of blazing fire-wood to drive them away. Mrs. Beckwith, who narrates this, says it was the most dreadful night she ever experienced.

Another instance related is of a young mother, who was left alone with a sick babe and no one near. The cabin had no windows, and the only door was a blanket hung before the opening. During the night her babe died, and then began the awfulest uproar outside imaginable. A gang of twenty or more wolves appeared and seemed determined to force an entrance.

The mother's fears were for her dead babe, which she wrapped in blankets and placed upon a beam over head, and then barricaded the door with the table. Throughout that long and dreadful night the poor woman stood against the frail protection, through which the infuriated brutes outside tried to force an entrance. Morning came at last, and

during the day her husband returned, and friends came to assist in the burial.

SNAKES.

The wooded ravines and prairies of Roberts specially abounded in snakes, and fifty years of unceasing war has not entirely subdued them. The common varieties most abounded, but the deadly rattler was often found and the settlers were compelled to be constantly on their guard.

Mr. Joshua Foster relates that in 1834 fifty-three rattle snakes, beside a large number of other varieties, were killed on his land. He was once removing his pants preparatory to retiring for the night, and thought he detected the rattle of one, and the next morning in taking them off the floor where they had lain, the source of the music was discovered. Mr. Foster had been out late searching for his cows the night before, and the reptile had probably struck at him and its hooked teeth catching in the pantaloons, was thus brought home.

It is a fact no less notable than true that the bite of a snake has no effect on a hog, and that these animals pursue them and search them out with an industry quite remarkable. And the snake, too, which stands its ground and seldom retreats from a man, will run at once from a hog.

A writer says: "The hog, in battling with a snake, strikes its sharp hoofs into the struggling folds of the reptile and eats up his erstwhile foe with a degree of gastronomic delight known only to the hog."

Between the snake tribe and the deer there is special animosity. The fleet-footed quadruped, one would think, had but a slight means of dispatching its agile enemy, but with its sharp hoofs it stamps them to death in a few minutes.

A SICKLY SEASON.

The year 1849 will be remembered by old settlers for the great prevalence of bilious diseases. It was known as the "sickly season." It was ushered in by a wet, dismal spring, a backward summer and very high waters in June, running down in August and leaving ponds of stagnant water everywhere to rot and breed pestilence and death. Ague was universal, even far out on the prairies among the few settlements that had been attempted in the wildernesses of grass and sloughs. Along the river bottoms and borders of streams ague was the universal, continual, unrelenting and incurable malady; never yielding to anything but its

higher type of bilious or intermittent fever, either of which in those days very frequently ended the patient's career.

The people were poor in every sense of the word. Ragged, shrunken of form, living skeletons, with nothing to eat, nobody to cook it, and no appetite to eat if food were cooked. The prevailing malady not only afflicted human beings, but even the dogs and cats dragged their hollow carcasses into the sunlight and trembled and shook as if stricken with the dread contagion. The calves grew too poor to bawl, cattle, neglected, roamed off among the timber, and the very chickens seemed to crow with a melancholy languor. Of course, these were exaggerated descriptions of the general complaint, but several of our old physicians, then young men, who went forth to battle that universal malady, still insist that the accounts cannot be overdrawn. During the great freshet in the spring, one or two steamboats and wrecks of others were seen in the cornfields between Ottawa and Hennepin by Dr. Perry, who soon after had occasion to note "the tallow faced" people he met. All were sallow, hollow-eyed, blue-lipped and ready to shake on the slightest provocation. Children died of fever and dysentery, and quinine, or "queen ann," as they called it, was the staple diet of everyone. A store keeper of a neighboring county said that region produced two articles, "queen ann and mosquitos." The mosquitos were pests of the most aggravating character, and owing to the extent of their breeding places from the unusual overflow and consequent stagnant water, their increase favored, too, by a fiercely hot sun, the winged messengers of sharp bills swarmed and grew to monstrous proportions, and as the modern appliances of wire screens and mosquito-bars were then unknown, the miserable victims of the double affliction were defenceless indeed.

But there is no evil without its corresponding good. The great flood drove the ducks out upon the ponds in the edge of the prairies, where they reared large flocks. They swarmed the country everywhere, and became so numerous and so accustomed to the new haunts of stubble field and corn that the settlers had no trouble in supplying themselves and neighbors with duck meat in abundance.

FORGOTTEN INCIDENTS.

Prairie fires were the great bane of the new settlers and usually caused immense damage. At one time a "back fire," set out by C. S. Edwards

and David Stateler, to protect their own property, swept across Sandy doing heavy damage, and the exasperated sufferers procured their indictment, but it appearing there was no malice in the intent they were acquitted. At this term of court Stephen A. Douglas was present, and served as public prosecutor *pro tem*.

Though prairies fires were numerous and the damage to property great it was seldom persons were caught in them, yet James Croft relates an incident where an emigrant was surrounded by fire and had to abandon his wagon. His horses were rapidly unhitched, and lashing them into a gallop he crossed the line of fire without danger, but his wagon and all its contents were destroyed.

Late in the fall of 1835 a destructive fire from the neighborhood of Martin's Point, or head of Crow Creek timber, swept over the prairies and did considerable damage to the settlers along Sandy Creek. It burned a half mile of fence on Mr. Shaw's farm and also destroyed his wheat stakes, as well as W. B. Green's corn crop.

All kinds of game was plentiful in those days. In fact there was no great demand for venison until the supply had become nearly exhausted. Quails were numerous, and any boy old enough to comprehend the mysteries of a stick trap could catch them near any barn yard. But as in those halcyon days butter often sold for four cents per pound and wild honey was everywhere plenty and very cheap, it was only in keeping with other things that the bird which "on toast" tempts the epicurean to extravagance in the purchase of a single specimen, should then have sold for a trifle over a penny when ready for the cook. A good horse which then commanded \$40 would now sell readily for \$150; oats and corn were a "bit" a bushel, and hay, \$3 per ton. Blue grass had not begun to appear in 1843 to 1845, except along the Ottawa and Bloomington road where travellers had fed their teams, and now and then a few straggling bunches were found around the cabins of the settlers who had brought the seed in trappings of their harness or wagons or crevices of feed boxes and wagon beds.

The old Adam was quite as predominant in those days as in these latter times, particularly among school boys, as the following incident

shows: A teacher named Williamson, who was excessively pious, was engaged at the Myers school house. He read and expounded the Scriptures daily and made long prayers—much longer in the estimation of the pupils than the circumstances required. Besides it was his custom to retire early and often to the woods to weep over the sinfulness of mankind in private,—or, as was surmised, for more worldly purposes. One Christmas day, when he had retired as usual, the boys barred him out. Great was his wrath, and his prayers for the time savored strongly of profanity, but with a rail he forced an entrance and made demonstrations of punishing the offenders, when he was unceremoniously hustled out, nor was admission given until full pardon was promised and an agreement exacted to forego his longest prayers.

After Roberts the first settler on the prairie was a man named Eli Redmond, who opened the farm John Myers now owns and afterward sold his claim to John Myers, Sr. His reputation for honesty was none of the best, and when settlers began to arrive he deemed it best to emigrate and removed to Holland's Grove, in Tazewell County. One day he was found with a missing horse in his possession and a hasty change was desirable, so he removed to Mosquito Grove, and from thence to Missouri. While living near Roberts' an old lady called Grandmother Redmond died, probably the first death in the County.

Some of the young men of Roberts Point remember the notable chase and capture of a deer one winter forty years ago. It was minus one horn and they had tired it out, and when Sam. Wright attacked it with a fence stake, and the deer made a plunge toward Samuel, who in consternation threw down his weapon and ran exclaiming, "Thunder! boys, he's after me!" The deer was captured, but the discomfitted blacksmith kept at a safer distance while it was being dispatched.

Various were the methods adopted by the pedagogues of those days to compel obedience, but the "original Jacobs" in this line was a fellow who kept a skeleton in the loft of the room which refractory pupils were sent to interview. As a belief in ghosts was universal and few cared to see the grisly object, his plan was a success, and he had the best ordered school ever taught there.

At the time of the Indian scare a man named Daniel Sowards lived at

Low Point, whose principal occupation was hunting bees. He kept a few cows, and one day was surprised by a stranger (John Myers) riding up to his cabin and asking the way to Roberts. Sowards was churning desperately, and never stopped a moment while the following colloquy occurred:

Sowards—"My God! man, where yer gwine to?"

Myers—"I'm going north to buy land."

Sowards—"Good heavens! man, haint yer heerd the Injuns is a killin' of the white people up thar,—men, wimmen and children?"

Myers—"No."

Sowards—(churning for dear life)—"Yes they be, and the white people's all runnin' away; and I'm gwine too, 's soon as this blasted butter comes!"

The most notable public gatherings of the times were camp meetings, at which the entire population of the County was wont to assemble. At one of these gatherings, in 1841, Camp Reeves and others of the gang made a midnight raid, carrying off the brethren's garments.

Among others who suffered was John Shepherd, of Granville, and the next morning, like Brian O'Linn of old, he had no pants to put on, and cut a ludicrous figure among the brethren clad in a horse blanket. A council of war was held, while Shepherd stalked about like an Indian chief, his scanty drapery displaying his long shanks, to the great amusement of the crowd and the grief and chagrin of that worthy man.

Others were even less fortunate, and had to abide in their tents or under the friendly cover of the bushes till they could send to their homes for other garments.

In 1841 a school teacher named John Wright, without apparent cause committed suicide, and a lad named Ezra Cowan, whose parents lived on the Griffin place, shot and killed his sister. A woman living on Sandy named Wilson, hanged herself, and afterward her daughter, Mrs. McCarty, put an end to her existence in like manner.

One of the oldest remembered schools in the Township was taught in a log house, half a mile north of Sandy, by a Frenchman named Du Fields, in 1832.

The cholera epidemic raged here in 1850, 1852 and 1854, and several fatal cases occurred.

BELLE PLAIN TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLI.

DESCRIPTION.



BELLE PLAIN Township derives its name from Colonel Belle, an early settler, who built at the crossing of Crow Creek, and for many years kept a noted house of entertainment. It is six miles square and contains thirty-six Townships of diversified prairie and timber, watered by Crow Creek, Martin's Branch and other smaller streams.

A fine body of timber borders Crow Creek, and there are detached bodies elsewhere, like Hollenback's Grove, Bennington's Grove, Four Mile Grove and others. The western division of the Chicago & Alton Railroad passes through its western limits, and its principal markets are at La Rose, Rutland and Minonk. Its products are mainly agricultural, and its citizens are extensively engaged in raising cattle and hogs, which find a market in Chicago.

Though considerably broken by hills and ravines it is considered one of the best Townships in the County, and is populated by an unusually intelligent class of people.

The pioneer settler in this section is James Martin, who visited Hollenbeck's Grove in 1829 on a prospecting tour, bringing his family the succeeding year. He made a claim while here, which was "jumped" during his absence, and had to be bought again from the occupant at a good round price. This was "squatters' law," from which there was little chance of success in an appeal. A man named Hawkins became specially notorious as a claim jumper, earning unenviable fame, and remained until the exasperated citizens signified that his health would suffer by longer tarrying.

THE OLD SETTLERS.

The first settlers of the township of Belle Plain, and some of them

among the first that ventured into the unbroken wilderness of this County, located at the grove at the head of Crow Creek, which for years was known as Martin's Point. These pioneers came about as follows: James Martin in August, 1829; Samuel Hawkins, 1830; Thomas Bennington, 1831; Jerry Black, Pierce Perry, Joseph and Robert Bennington, 1832; Daniel Hollenback, 1833; Nathan Patton, 1834; John Willson, 1835; Forsythe Hatton and James Clemens, 1836; David Hester and William Hendricks, 1838; Levi Wilcox and Wm. Hester, 1844.

John Skelton made a claim in 1835 and lived upon it several years but left for Iowa in 1845.

Nathan Patton bought part of his claim of Thomas Bennington which had been secured of Hawkins, who built one of his peculiar cabins upon it. In 1831 he entered from Government the remainder.

Forsythe Hatton settled here with six sons, three of whom, William, John F. and Andrew, soon made claims, the former on section 30, followed by John F., who located near the town of the family name of Pattonsburg, on section 36. The latter was an expert hunter, and bears a scar on his right arm, the result of an encounter with a wounded buck.

Daniel Hollenback came in 1833 and settled in the border of the grove to which he gave a name, his sons George, Jacob and Daniel, Jr., making claims in the vicinity as they became of sufficient age.

Mark Hatton, a brother of Forsythe Hatton, settled here in 1840. He was a soldier of the war of 1812, serving under Gen. Jackson at New Orleans.

Nathan Patton's sons were John, who died in 1875, and James, who died when twenty-one years old. His daughters were Mrs. Porch, Mrs. William Hester, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. James Shankland, and two unmarried daughters, living in Pattonsburg.

Perry's farm was partly improved by a man named Bland, who lived here in early times, and selling to the former, returned to Kentucky.

Robert Bird, Sr., made a claim in 1831, which he afterward sold to Nathan Patton.

James Martin first settled on the Hollenack place, but sold his claim to James Bird, who subsequently transferred it to Robert Bird, and he to Henry Miller. This was previous to 1832.

In 1836 John Winter, who had lived on Reuben Bell's place, moved

to the western border of the grove and began the improvement of his farm, on Section 35.

THE FIRST SCHOOLS.

The first school house at the grove or timber at the head of Crow Creek was built in the fall of 1836, and school taught that fall and winter by Geo. Van Buskirk. Miss Mary Jane Hallam managed the school the following summer, and among the early teachers were John Burns, James Clemens, Samuel Ogle and Mr. Wilcox. The school house was built of logs, after the manner of all such buildings in early days, and stood near the site of the residence of Geo. D. Hodge. Prior to the erection of this building school was taught in the neighborhood by a Mr. Baxter.

The first school at Cherry Grove was taught about 1840, when a school house was built.

LA ROSE.

The village of La Rose was laid out September 18, 1870, by Moses A. Gulick and wife, and has had a slow but substantial growth until the present time. It contains a fine town hall, built by taxation, several fine residences, stores, shops, etc., with elevator, station house, mill, churches and postoffice. It is the principal shipping point for the Township, and annually sends to market large quantities of grain, stock and produce. The country surrounding it has no superior in the County.

The town was first christened Montrose, then changed to Romance, and subsequently to La Rose.

The village boasts a very beautiful church building, not elaborately elegant, but of modest, fresh and inviting appearance,—that of Trinity Society. This organization was effected in 1867, with about twenty-five members. The church edifice was built in 1872, at a cost of \$1,500, and in the following year a parsonage was purchased for \$1,100.

The first preacher was Rev. Mr. Johannes, who delivered a discourse June 14, 1872 in the new church.

In 1876 the Society built a neat school house.

PATTONSBURG.

Pattonsburg is the name of a small hamlet laid out March 13, 1856,

and named after its proprietor. It contains a good school house, post office, blacksmith shop, churches, etc.

Thomas Bennington came to the grove in the fall of 1831, buying his claim of Samuel Hawkins. He brought his family in the fall of 1832, and his widow still lives upon the old homestead. Hawkins was addicted to strong drink, and one cold night when half delirious from the effects of liquor he wandered from home and was found dead in the snow near Washington, Ill.

Settlements were begun in the western part of the Township in 1833, when Robert F. Bell built a cabin on Crow Creek. He had nine children, several of whom made claims in the vicinity—one, George F., still living there. Colonel Bell's military title was won in the war of 1812, when he served under General Harrison.

Other settlers in the vicinity were Wm. Mills, who came in 1840; John Wilson at Cherry Grove, in 1835; Wm. Hendricks, 1838, on the John Brown place, now owned by Wm. James; Samuel Rogers, in 1840; Thomas S. Dobson, on the Feazle claim, about the same date; Allen Gray and Jesse Perkins, both north of Crow Creek, in 1840 or '41; Jacob Fetter, on the south side of Crow Creek in 1842; John Brevoort, 1845.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

This Society was organized in 1857 by Rev. Mr. Ellis. The leading members were Rolan Davidson, Milton Davidson, John P. Davidson and their wives, Robert Raines, and later John and Lewis Wineteer, Mrs. Mary Perry, John Bell, Mr. Bocock, Thos C. Spencer and Sarah Spencer. Elder Wm. Brooks, who took part in the organization also, was the first minister who regularly visited the flock. Among the other ministers were Elder E. D. Merritt, Wm. Parker, Mr. Sampson and Elder Sands.

A good meeting house, large but not ostentatious, was built in 1858, about a half mile west of Pattonsburg.

PATTONSBURG M. E. CHURCH.

This Society, the first organization of this denomination at Pattonsburg and in Belle Plain, held a quarterly meeting at the place named, in Daniel Hollenback's barn, in July, 1839. S. W. D. Chase, Presiding Elder of the Lacon District, attended, and the preachers were Rev. Zadock Hall and Rev. R. H. Moffit.

The organizers and leading members were John Wilson, Martha Hollenback, Charles Gulick, Dr. Levi Wilcox, Mrs. Nancy Wilcox and John Rogers. Services had previously been held at the old school house, and in barns as was found convenient, as was the case afterward, until 1859, when the first meeting house, a small frame structure, was put up. This lasted until the winter of 1867-8, when it was burned down. It stood about one-fourth of a mile north of the village. The new one is in Pattonsburg, and is a neat frame structure, capable of seating 300 persons, has a good organ, comfortable pews and tasty church furniture.

Among the early ministers who held forth here was one named Wheat, succeeded by another named Stubbles, from which peculiar circumstance the good people were wont to say: "First came Wheat and then Stubbles." Among other noted preachers of the Gospel who visited this Society at different times were Revs. David Blackwell, Daniel Dickinson, Mr. Babcock, "Father Cumming," G. M. Irwin and A. C. Price.

Two miles east of Pattonsburg is a small body of timber known to the settlers as Wildcat Grove. It received its name from the number of wildcats captured there one winter by a Mr. Lucas, of the vicinity.

The first cabin at the Grove is supposed to have been built by James Martin, and the first sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Palmer, in a log cabin at the head of the Grove in 1832.

The first school house was built in 1836, and stood near the residence of Geo. Hodge.

Jas. Dickey preached here in 1836, at the house of Nathan Patton. The Christian Church was organized about 1845.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

The first birth in Belle Plain Township is believed to have been that of Nancy Jane Bennington, now Mrs. William M. Hatton. She made her first appearance March 22, 1833. Robert Bennington's daughter Eunice, died about the same time, and her's is supposed to have been the first funeral.

The first wedding in the vicinity was probably that of Daniel Hester and Miss Hallam, when James Martin tied his first official matrimonial knot as Justice of the Peace. He says he will never forget the occasion, as there were present nearly all of his neighbors large and small, beside a number of strangers dressed in "store clothes," and he was so terribly

“frustrated” that he hardly knows what he said or how he got through with it. He was at first somewhat encouraged when he observed that the bride and groom were both very nervous too, but when he came to hear the tremulous tones of his own voice in the awful stillness, he felt weak and faint-like and devoutly wished he had never in his life consented to be an Esquire. But he adds with commendable pride, “The job was sufficiently good, as the marriage proved a happy one and no divorce court ever overhauled my work or picked flaws in it.”

THE INDIANS.

Indians occasionally came about the Grove, but their homes were nearer the river where fish abounded, and they seldom disturbed the settlers. Once three or four strapping fellows came to a settler's cabin and wanted food and lodging. His meal chest was pretty low, but his wife cooked and set before them enough for double the number of white men, which they ate, and then, like *Oliver Twist*, wanted more. In the morning they asked for breakfast, but the good wife declared another such a raid would produce a famine, and they were refused, whereupon they got very angry, but mounted their ponies and rode away.

During the war Samuel Hawkins and a man named Black were plowing when the report of a gun set them frantic with fear. Quick as their legs could carry them they made for shelter, leaving their teams in the field. The man for whom they worked came soon, and though he halloed and yelled and shouted their names, he could not bring them back. They plainly heard him but mistook the voice for that of an Indian, and stuck close until hunger and mosquitos drove them out.

A HORSE PLAYS DETECTIVE.

On the 26th of February, 1847, a man named Thos. Dobson, who lived near Hollenback's Grove, came to Lacon one afternoon, and probably became somewhat intoxicated. Dobson was noted as a fast driver. He had a splendid span of well-matched horses, and made it a point to race with or run past every team he encountered upon the road. He drove a spring wagon, one of the first used in the section. On the day referred to he was returning, and when near Colonel Strawn's residence he saw ahead of him Mr. Harrison Hollenback, a respectable young farmer, his neighbor, and with whom, so far as known, he was on the most

friendly terms. Dobson, as was his custom when approaching a team, gave the rein to his horses when they had approached close to Hollenback's wagon, and tried to pass him. The result was that a collision ensued, his wheels catching Hollenback's wagon and overturning it, the doomed man falling under the box, the edge of which crushed his skull. Hollenback was carried back a short distance to Colonel Strawn's house, and in a short time expired.

Dobson was arrested and bound over to appear at court on a criminal charge. He gave as sureties Daniel Hollenback, Jackson Parker, and another person, and was released from custody. Some time after, the term of court approaching, Dobson's conduct did not please his bail, and he receiving word that they were about to deliver him up, concluded to escape and "leave them in the lurch." Taking one of his horses he fled across the prairie, but encountered a man who recognized him and informed his bondsmen of his flight.

They immediately started in pursuit, and in the vicinity of Bloomington were passing a dense thicket, when the neigh of a horse was heard, which was immediately replied to by the horse Dobson had left behind and upon which one of the party rode. By some unknown equine telegraphy it had recognized its mate, and in this manner betrayed its master, who was stopping at a house in the vicinity. Perceiving their approach he started for a slough close at hand and endeavored to escape, but seeing them gaining upon him, drew a razor and cut his throat, dying three days after.

DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.

A most sad and pathetic incident occurred, at Bennington's Grove, in the fall of 1838. John Bennington, a son of Thomas Bennington, a young man just entering upon the threshold of active manhood, had attended a singing school not far from his father's farm, one evening, and was returning home, when a dog, belonging to a neighbor, sprang upon him without warning and bit him through the hand. He was alone, and the brute would not let go, nor could he release himself, and it was not until two comrades came with guns and shot it dead that he got away.

The young man was in a sad condition, his hand fearfully lacerated and bleeding, but such treatment as could be was given, and by the advice of friends, he was taken to Lincoln, Ill., to have a "mad stone" applied. It seemingly worked well, and the party returned in light

spirits, but in a short time grave symptoms appeared and the feeling of security gave way to dreadful apprehensions. He became uncontrollably nervous, and subject to short spells of insanity, increasing in severity with each attack.

At intervals there was a season of rest, when he would speak of his approaching end and give such directions as seemed necessary. Again he was taken to Lincoln, but without avail. The paroxysms returned with greater severity, and while they lasted he would froth at the mouth and try to bite his attendants. During these attacks he had to be chained to the bedstead, and that to the wall. The sight of water turned him into convulsions, which lasted until all spent and worn out, when a few moments of brief rest was obtained.

Not long before his demise he asked for water, remarking as he drank that it tasted as natural as ever; but soon there came another terrible spasm, followed by a gentle sleep, and his life went out forever.

It is a little remarkable that the same dog bit his master the morning in which Bennington was attacked, and no harm whatever resulted from it, the wound rapidly healing.

CHASING A HORSE THIEF.

One of the Reeves gang once bought a horse of a citizen of the township, paying for it in counterfeit money. Its spurious character was soon discovered, and John Myers, assisted by a man named Patterson, started in pursuit. At Hollenback's they heard of their man, and Pierce Perry joined in the pursuit.

Not far from Mackinaw they overhauled the rascal, and to prevent escape he was chained to Myers and both put to bed together. Myers slept the sleep of the just, but awoke to see his comrade escaping through the window. Chase was given again and they came upon him once more, when his friends interfered and compelled them to wait and take out papers of arrest. This gave him another start, but ultimately he was caught and turned over to the authorities of Pekin, from where he again escaped and left the country.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS.

The people of the Grove were at one time greatly excited by the mysterious disappearance of Mr. William Wineteer, a well known citizen,

who took it into his head to run away. He left his family, and nothing having been heard of him for several weeks, general anxiety pervaded the community. Some one coming across the prairie from the south-east reported that he had seen a new-made grave out ten or twelve miles from the Grove. On the following Sunday, it being pretty well settled that his grave had at last been discovered, a large delegation of volunteers, mounted and on foot, scoured the prairie all day, but found no grave, and the fate of Wineteer remained as much a mystery as before. In the following fall, to the joy of his family and the surprise of the public the long lost gentleman came walking in as though he had merely been out for a morning walk. He made no explanation of his absence, and those who knew him best never asked, while those who made so bold as to interrogate him upon the subject received no satisfactory response.

In 1850 Mr. Elijah Van Dement's dwelling house caught fire and burned down during his absence from home. His own household goods and those of two other families stored for safe keeping were destroyed. Mr. Robert S. Hester, who lived a half mile away, ran to the scene, and reached there so exhausted that he could do nothing for some time. He left saddled and bridled at his door his fleetest horse, but in the excitement forgot all about his steed, and went on foot.

Milford Gray, a lad about fourteen or fifteen years of age, was killed by an accident in 1840. He was on a sled going for a load of hay. The handle dropped through the rack while the sled was moving, and the tines being uppermost were plunged into the boy's left side to his heart.

His brother once had a narrow escape from death from the tines of a fork. He had been looking at a new pitch-fork, and having stood the handle upon the ground with the tines up, was carelessly leaning with his whole weight upon it, when the handle slipped and he fell forward, one tine of the steel instrument running up through his lower jaw into his mouth, and to add to his suffering the prong broke off. It was with great difficulty that the piece of steel was extracted.

In 1863 Young Davis, a brother of Mrs. George Hollenback, having been a prisoner at Andersonville, was released and taken to Annapolis, Maryland, where he died from the effects of starvation.

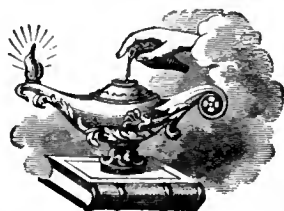
Game was exceedingly numerous in the vicinity, a noted hunter one day killing five deer, and another day capturing three wolves. Once he had a narrow escape from being killed by a deer. He had run it nearly down on horseback and was about to strike it with a club, when the dog let go his hold, whereupon the deer sprang toward the hunter, who, in trying to escape by stepping backward, tripped and fell, but before the deer reached its victim the dog came to the rescue, catching the deer and holding him until despatched.

He saw no bears in the vicinity, and no opossums until several years after his arrival here. Rabbits appeared in 1833 or 1834. It is likely that up to this time the wolves kept them cleaned out, but as white men began to make farms rabbits found hiding places from their destructive foe and increased in numbers.

Coons were always plenty and fat, and formed a staple article of diet with the Indians.

In 1848 a Mr. Van Scoyt undertook to ascertain whether his gun was loaded. Not being able to make the examination satisfactorily by looking down the muzzle, he blew into it, raising the hammer with his foot, which of course slipped off. The gun was discharged, and the ball passed through his head, killing him instantly.

Robert Hester was the first to brave the terrors of a prairie home, and in 1848 built a residence a mile east of Pattonsburg, where he lived for more than thirty years, when it gave way to the finest house in the township.



BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLII.

ORGANIZATION AND TOPOGRAPHY.



THIS is one of the younger Townships of Marshall County, named from a numerous family of early settlers here. It was once a portion of Belle Plain, but after the prairies east and north-east of Martin's Grove had begun to fill up, it desired independence, and was set apart as a sovereign Township. Bennington is a full Congressional Township, containing thirty-six full sections. The territory is mostly prairie, and not very well supplied with streams, though beneath the surface everywhere there is an abundance of pure water to be had by digging from ten to thirty feet.

The only water courses in the Township are the East and North Forks of Crow Creek, the former of which rises on Section 33, runs north a couple of miles, then west, then south and west upon Section 3, with some smaller streams feeding it. Originally this prairie region was covered with chains of ponds or narrow sloughs. These ponds have since disappeared and the connections dried up or dwindled into little depressions, and the extensive use of drain tile of late years will soon transform them into solid, dry ground. The North Fork or Branch of Crow Creek commences in Section 25, and runs north-westerly to Section 7, where it enters the adjoining Township. Along this Creek are a few branches, but neither the principal stream nor its tributaries are of much importance.

Bennington Township lies in the south-east corner of Marshall County, bordering on Woodford on the south and La Salle on the east. The Illinois Central Railroad, which passes close to the eastern line, enters it at Rutland, passing to the north upon Sections 1, 12 and 13, affording direct communication with Chicago. On the north the Western Division of the Chicago & Alton Railroad passes at a convenient distance, afford-

ing them the advantage of competing lines. The Township stands upon an extensive coal basis, which future ages may find profitable to tap and work.

RUTLAND.

A small fraction of the village of Rutland lies within the limits of Marshall County. This is comprised in Burns' addition, laid out on parts of Sections 12 and 13, Town 29, Range 1, East, Third principal meridian, with a dozen or so of houses upon it.

The village is pleasantly located on a somewhat level prairie, but in the midst of a highly cultivated and exceedingly productive farming region.

The place was called into existence through the necessity of a station for the Illinois Central Railroad, and has achieved a reputation as one of the best shipping points along the road.

On the prairie westward vast quantities of corn, cattle and hogs are raised for shipment, and enterprising men at an early day built extensive warehouses to accommodate the trade.

It contains five churches, viz: Christian, or Campbellite, Adventist, Methodist, Congregationalist and Catholic. Each of these societies has a good, substantial building and a residence for a pastor, Also stores, shops, a grist mill, elevator, etc. The population of the place is about six hundred.

The first house in the town was put up by John Wadleigh, November 1, 1855. He hauled the lumber from Wenona Station. For several years there was no house but this, and the railroad "grub" or boarding house.

Some years later a building was put up here for a saloon, and the business carried on successfully until the excited people turned out and demolished the establishment. Prosecutions followed and several persons who were identified as being among the mob were fined.

As some indication of the business done during the year ending December 1, 1879, there were shipped from this point sixty-one car loads of cattle and hogs, and 464 car loads of grain! Allowing 400 bushels of grain to a car this would make 181,600 bushels — a splendid testimony of the richness of the country around.

Until the survey and location of the Illinois Central Railway, Bennington Township was a *terra incognita*, considered of little value except

for grazing. A few venturesome settlers made improvements, and the large returns that rewarded them proved the extraordinary richness of the soil, and their experience demonstrated that the prairies for residences were actually preferable to the timber. Lands were rapidly entered, and in a very short time there was not an acre of Government land to be had. Here was begun the custom of open fields, the farmers finding it cheaper to herd their cattle than fence their farms—a system that still prevails to a greater or less extent. The country, originally low and flat, is being drained, the first built cabins are being replaced with better houses, and the Township is coming to the front as one of the finest in the county.

ANTIOCH CHURCH.—CHURCH OF CHRIST.

This church was organized June 4, 1864. Previous to this date there had been a small congregation of disciples of this sect in the north-eastern part of the town of Bennington for several years. They met occasionally for religious worship at the houses of the brethren, but had been unable to sustain regular services and had no stated preacher.

On the day named a large congregation, including many who held membership in the church at Pattonsburg, met at the Palmer school house and organized, by choosing A. H. Trowbridge and John Q. A. Houston as Elders; Joel Skelton, Everett Pomeroy and L. A. Watt, Deacons. Sixty-six names were enrolled in the original membership, and 211 members have since been added.

GEOLOGICAL PUZZLES.

Mr. Swayze, in digging a well near the northern line of the Township, in 1854, on Section 3, at the depth of twenty feet, in a stratum of blue clay, came upon a cube of coal of superior quality, the sides of which were about fifteen inches square. How it got there is a mystery which we can only solve on some far-fetched theory.

In another well further south, in the same town, a few years ago, at a depth of thirty-two feet, imbedded in common clay, were found numerous specimens of petrified grass, such as blue-joint and the coarse growth of the prairie. They were decomposed into fine ashes, growing upright through the clay, thus preserving their forms, stalks, leaves and the natural position and perfect drooping of the blades, as they grew, even leaving distinct the delicate tracery of the veins in the leaves!

Some years ago a person was digging a well in the vicinity, and forty feet below the surface came upon a rushing stream of water, tending westward, of sufficient volume to carry away pebbles of considerable size. He could not dam the stream and had to dig elsewhere.

Under the entire country, from the Vermillion to the Mississippi, coal exists in one or two, and in some localities three, veins. It was a wise provision of nature to thus spread under this treeless soil, a bountiful supply of fuel for the coming man.

A TORNADO.

Terrific whirlwinds, often exceedingly destructive, swept across these prairies in the olden times, and frequently left ruin and desolation in their track.

In the fall of 1846 a cyclone suddenly swept across the country, starting near Roberts' Point and sweeping a broad straight swath to a point near Minonk, where it spent its force and disappeared. Its track was from ten to twenty rods in width, the margins clearly marked by fences carried away, grass twisted into ropes, and tree tops mown through as if by a scythe. It blew wheat shocks to pieces and carried the bundles from field to field, rendering identification impossible.

A settler was breaking prairie a few rods from his dwelling, when he saw a funnel-shaped cloud coming from the north-west, and could discern objects whirling about in the air. It made a noise like the rumbling of a heavy train of cars crossing a long high bridge. Apprehending danger, he ran to the house to see to the safety of his wife and infant child. As he neared his frail domicile he saw her coming out with the baby, her long hair literally standing on end, while the house was just raising for a flight in the air. It was carried about four feet in the direction of the wind and set down on a gopher hill, which sprung the floor so that the doors could not be closed, rendering the building untenable. His hat, too, went gyrating off among the clouds in company with an incongruous mass of movable rubbish. The family were taken to a neighbor's, the men of the neighborhood summoned to a "raising bee," and the house was soon "set on its pins."

A NOTED DEER HUNT.

The deep snow of 1854 was very destructive to game. Quail and pra-

irie chickens were nearly exterminated, and deer perished in large numbers. The severity of the storms drove them to the farm-yards for food, and they were often seen feeding along with the farmers' cattle. They congregated in groves, where a certain space was tramped down, but beyond this it was death to venture, for their sharp hoofs cut through the crust, upon which wolves could run with impunity, and with their sharp fangs drag them down to death. One day in the latter part of February a drove of nine were descried in the vicinity of the Trowbridge and Skelton cabins in Bennington, and all hands were piped for a hunt. A warm day followed by a sharp freeze had left a crust upon the surface, through which the deer broke at every step, lacerating their limbs, and making locomotion tedious and painful. Soon as the deer were seen everybody was on the alert, and preparations were quickly made. Footmen were armed with guns and horsemen with stout clubs, the legs of the horses being bound with sacks as a protection against the cutting crust. The deer, when alarmed, separated and started at a gallop, but were run down by the horsemen in detail and despatched. The exciting game went on for hours, and afforded an immense amount of sport. In the open prairie a deer at bay is a dangerous animal, but in the deep snow they were at the mercy of the hunters, who rode up to their sides and despatched them with clubs. Not a single one of the herd escaped.

LOSING A MID-WIFE.

On a certain occasion one of those events was about to occur by which the census is increased, and the prospective father was dispatched in great haste to secure the services of Mrs. John Strawn, the good genius of "ladies who love their lords," whose fame as a mid-wife extended far and near.

Her home was several miles across the prairie, with scarcely a resident on the road, and as carriages were unknown he drove in an ordinary two-horse wagon. Mrs. S., by certain means known to the initiated, expected the call, and was therefore in a measure prepared, so that a short time sufficed to see them returning, she occupying a seat behind him in a common kitchen chair.

Now, to a better understanding of what follows, it needs be said the man was slightly deaf, and intent only on the business in hand, urged forward his team regardless of his charge.

The road was rough and the case urgent, so the driver plied his whip industriously, while the wagon rattled and bumped along until crossing a rut the chair in which the "Howdy" sat upset and she landed in the road happily without any harm. The driver, thinking mayhap of his suffering wife alone in the lonely cabin, was in blissful ignorance of what had occurred, and drove on, totally unconscious of his loss until his home was reached and he alighted. Great was his consternation at sight of the empty chair, but divining the cause, he drove hurriedly back and met his charge making her way on foot. Owing to his infirmity he had not heard her calls, but she had escaped unhurt and was making the best time circumstances admitted, hoping to arrive before her services were required.

The little juvenile who heedlessly insisted upon his advent into the world at this unseemly and inconvenient season is now a useful citizen of Kansas, whose name we refrain from mentioning.



EVANS TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLIII.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



EVANS TOWNSHIP, named from its first settler, has few equals in beauty, fertility and general adaptedness to the husbandman's requirements. It embraces thirty-six sections, nearly every acre of which is susceptible of and under a high state of cultivation. With the exception of the region bordering on Sandy Creek, the settlements are comparatively new, yet in substantial improvements, costly residences, fine barns, orchards and well kept hedges it were hard to find its superior. It is drained by the creek above named and its tributaries, and the soil is admirably adapted to raising stock or cereals. Along its eastern borders the Illinois Central Railroad extends, crossed by the Chicago & Alton Railroad, giving the settlers two outlets to market.

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

The pioneer settlers on upper Sandy appear to have been Thomas Brooks, who built a cabin on the eastern end of the timber in 1824; Patrick Cunningham, who claimed and built a cabin on the Edward Clifford place; Benjamin Darnell, whose house stood upon the ground now within the enclosure of Cumberland Church Cemetery; James Larkin, living with the Darnell family; Joseph Smith, Horace Gaylord, Alva Humphry, Abel Estabrook, William Hart, Samuel Hawkins and George B. Hollenback.

Mr. Darnell's family consisted of himself and wife, and Enoch and Benjamin, Jr., his sons, and his daughter Lucy, who sickened and died that season, and was the first interment in Cumberland Church Cemetery.

In the spring of 1830 came Joshua Evans, who made his claim on the north side of Sandy Creek, near the head thereof, and hired Patrick Cunningham to build him a log cabin thereon for a mare worth one hundred

dollars. The old house was occupied by Mr. Evans for many years, and until recently was a well-known landmark of the Township.

During the season, also, came James Reynolds, Thomas Dixon, John S. Hunt, John Darnell, Lemuel Gaylord, John Griffith, Stewart Ward, Kirby and Jeremiah Hartenbower.

In 1831, Justus Jones, Ira Jones, Barton Jones, Abram Jones, Thomas Judd, Mr. Ransberger, Mr. Simpson and Abram Darnell.

James Reynolds died and was buried in the cemetery, the second interment, and his family moved away.

These constituted the settlers up to the spring of 1832, when the Black Hawk came with its terrors and rumors of massacre and murder. One dark and rainy night the residents of the locality gathered with their wives and children, and met at log house in Roberts Township, on the place now owned by Mrs. Hutchinson Croft, and resolved to build a fort for mutual protection. The next day each able-bodied man, with guns, axes and spades, repaired to the farm of Benjamin Darnell, now owned by Robert Mann, and dug a deep trench, enclosing sufficient space, into which were inserted split logs ten feet high, with port-holes where required for riflemen. A well was dug in the enclosure, and into this the settlers brought their families for mutual protection. They were as follows:

Benjamin Darnell, Joshua Evans, Thomas Brooks, Patrick Cunningham, George Basore, Mr. Holderman, from La Salle County, Thomas Judd, John Ward, G. B. Hollenbaek, Thomas Hollenbaek, Alvah Humphrey, Jeremiah Hartenboner, Stewart Ward, Abram Darnell, John Darnell, George Martin, Justus Jones, and the wife of Thomas Dixon, her husband having gone as a teamster with the volunteers. John Darnell and George Martin promptly enlisted in Capt. Wm. Hawes' Rangers, and afterward John S. Hunt. In a few weeks peace was restored, and the settlers gladly returned to their homes.

In 1833 we find Justus Jones and family on the Edward Clifford farm; Joshua Evans on the homestead where he first began and ever after resided; Thos. Judd comfortably started on the place of late years occupied by Alfred Judd; Benjamin Darnell "holding the fort" or stockade farm; John S. Hunt just across the Putnam County line, then in Evans, now the Beckwith land; Geo. Martin where his surviving widow and children still live. Martin married Miss Luey, daughter of Samuel Gaylord, an old settler. Their family were Aaron G. and Sylvia Martin, well known residents of Sandy. The widow after the death of her husband

married James Gibson, and he too died in 1855. She is the last surviving citizen of Sandy Creek, who arrived after the age of maturity, and still remains a dweller there, the others having all moved away or are dead. Alvah Humphrey was then on the farm now owned by David F. Griffin; Horace Gaylord on the McCall place, and Thomas Dixon on that of Mr. Adams.

SURVEY OF THE LANDS.

In 1834 the general Government caused the lands of this region to be surveyed, but the lines, as run, did not conform to the boundaries which the settlers had staked out around their claims, and much trouble might have been anticipated in consequence. To avoid all disputes, a public meeting was held August 7, 1837, of which Justus Jones was chairman, and George Martin secretary, and a resolution was adopted to the effect that each settler should have the lands he had selected, and that upon the entry of the same the settlers should deed to one another according to their original claims. Thomas Judd, Joshua Evans and James Caldwell were appointed a committee on the subject, who met August 26, at the house of Thomas Judd, where they reported a series of resolutions, declaring that the original claims should be respected, and this was satisfactorily managed after the sales of 1838, so that beyond innumerable conveyances to one another so as to conform to the ancient land-marks, no disputes arose or difficulties followed.

This will account for the labyrinth of curious lines, which divide the timber lots on Sandy Creek to this day.

OTHER SETTLERS.

In 1834 Alvah Humphrey and Benjamin Darnell sold their respective claims to David F. Griffin, who had just moved thither from Pennsylvania. He afterward sold the Darnell land to Joseph D. McCarty, who came in the spring of 1835. Mr. Griffin has owned and lived on the Humphrey place ever since. Benjamin Darnell moved to Kendall County, Illinois, where his sons Enoch and Abram also made homes, all others of the family being dead. Mr. Humphrey moved to Rock River, Ills.

June 19, 1834, Congress passed a law, giving the right of pre-emption to each actual settler of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and provided that he should live on the same until it was brought into market, which

would give him the right of entry thereof at \$1.25 per acre; or, if two persons jointly pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land they should be entitled to a "float" of eighty acres each.

In many instances the early settlers had neglected to set out an orchard as soon as they might, an orchard being considered almost conclusive evidence of actual settlement. When this was not done fears of speculators outbidding the occupant at the land sales were felt, but no such occurrence is remembered among the settlers on Sandy Creek.

In August, 1835, the new-comers since the former election, as shown by the poll books, were David Burch, Archibald Owens, William Brown, George Beatty, James Beatty and William Galloway. Wm. Brown made a claim on the David Moore farm, at the head of the creek; George Beatty, on the Albert Evans land; Achibald 'Owens commenced on the western portion of Albert Judds' farm, and Martin Kennedy on the D. Morse place.

The lands having been surveyed, an almost interminable time seemed to elapse before they were brought into market, as the impatient and anxious settlers thought. They had made valuable improvements upon their claims, and the long continued delay caused them much uneasiness. They feared that the speculators were plotting to steal their homes, and perhaps were responsible for withholding the lands from public sale.

In the spring of 1838 the Government ordered all the lands east of the Third principal meridian and south of the north line of the present town of Evans, to be offered at public sale to the highest bidder in the month of September, of that year, at Danville, Illinois. Then every available dollar was brought forth from its hiding place, for the time of all others had arrived.

As it was not possible for all the settlers to attend in person, nor even necessary, since a few clear headed persons could better do the work at the state capital, yet, to see fair play, and back up their claims by witnesses, a goodly delegation attended, provided with ample provisions and suitable outfit for camping out by the way.

William Brown entered the Daniel Moore place.

Justus Jones " " Clifford "

Joshua Evans " " Evans "

Geo. Beatty " " Albert Evans "

James Caldwell " " Love "

Vincent Bowman entered the Hamilton Griffin place.
 Samuel Cox " " Adams "
 John S. Hunt " " Beckwith "
 Jos. D. McCarty " " Robert Moore "
 Thos. Judd " " Old Judd farm.

Geo. Martin having died in July, 1838, this farm was entered by his widow, for his heirs, he having made his pre-emption claim in his lifetime.

No difficulty was experienced in securing these lands; no speculator interfered and the settlers came home in a most happy frame of mind. They had secured homes for their wives and children. They began their labors with renewed energy and joyful hearts. Every improvement made was their own beyond the peradventure of a doubt. They planted out orchards, erected small additions to their cabins, some of their sons and daughters intermarrying and setting up for themselves.

The young people had grown quite numerous around the settlement, and little social gatherings and visitings to and fro were much in order.

VALUABLE IMPROVEMENTS.

The want of a saw-mill had been sorely felt by the early settlers, and in 1838 Joshua Evans put one up near the M. E. Church, and John S. Hunt built another the same season on the afterward Beckwith farm, both being actively employed for years.

John Evans had set up a turning lathe, a new enterprise here in 1834, which proved of great utility, as he made chairs with split bottoms, a few of which may yet be found in the neighborhood. He also turned table legs and a variety of household articles.

Benjamin Darnell had a blacksmith shop at the Fort in 1832, which for years was the only one near, and of indispensable worth to the farmer.

The first settlers tried sod fences around their patches or fields. A ditch about three feet wide and deep was dug, the dirt piled up as an embankment from the inside and the sod carefully laid up at a proper angle on the outside. It was expected these embankments would turn stock, but nothing delighted the cows better than to "horn" them down. To this day traces of these old fences can be found around the neighborhood.

LATER SETTLERS — THOROUGHBRED CATTLE.

In 1840 or 41, Thomas Alexander came from Kentucky and bought

the old Darnell or fort farm, from Jos. D. McCarty, also the now David Moore place from Wm. Brown, and the following year sent hither his sons Hiram and Hugh who took possession, and the next season came with his family consisting of himself, wife and son Thomas, Jr. and daughters, and William C. Alexander, a son-in-law. Mr. Alexander and Mr. Clarkson, each brought with them a herd of thorough-bred cattle, as fine short-horns as could be found in the celebrated blue grass region. This stock was a valuable acquisition to the region, and from it has descended numerous specimens of superior graded stock. To Mr. Alexander also the community is indebted for fine blooded horses.

Mr. Alexander transferred to an unmarried daughter and to Mr. Clarkson the south end of the fort farm, and the latter built the first house on what is now known as the Wilson estate in 1845. This was the first house built on the prairie, south of Sandy Creek timber. He was the lone pioneer in that direction for years. C. W. Barnes had settled upon and improved the first farm north of the timber some years previous. He afterward moved to Whitefield, where he now resides a prosperous and prominent citizen.

James Miller and D. F. Griffin both, have engaged extensively in raising short-horn cattle, Mr. Griffin continuing to this day, and to him there is much due for success in introducing and keeping up a breed of pure-blooded stock.

The first school house was built three miles down the creek, on the land now owned by Geo. Martin. It was built in the fall of 1831, and Ira Jones taught school therein, the winter of 1831-2, four months.

The first sermon preached in this Township was by William Royal, a Methodist minister and missionary, in the spring of 1832, at the cabin of Thomas Brooks. This pioneer "Man of God" then lived at "Roberts town," in Enoch Dent's house.

Among the first white children of Sandy Creek settlement, who were born here, were Jarvice and Lucy Evans, whose births were in December, 1834.

SANDY PRECINCT.

This was once an important political division of Marshall County. In 1833 it belonged to the jurisdiction of La Salle County, and on the 30th day of March of that year an election was held for justices of the peace and Constables. The exact spot whereon this important event trans-

pired is not certain, but the best sources of information point out as the probable one a large log near the center of the settlement.

The poll books, in possession of Thomas Judd, Esq., do not mention more than that the voters were: Dudley Humphrey, John S. Hunt, John Darnell, Thomas Dixon, Benjamin Darnell, Thomas Judd, Abram Darnell, Barton Jones, Justus Jones, George Martin, Josiah W. Martin, Joshua Evans, Alvah Humphrey, Horace Gaylord and Lemuel Gaylord.

Justus Jones and Richard Hunt were elected Justices of the Peace, and Barton Jones and George Martin, Constables. The officers of the election were: Alvah Humphrey, Joshua Evans and Horace Gaylord, Judges, and Thomas Judd and George Martin, Clerks.

The Justices are said to have exercised their judicial functions with credit, and the Constables were sufficiently alert and active. There was but little legislation in those days. The law of kindness and mutual forbearance governed, and few sought to take advantages of a neighbor. Business transactions were conducted on the principles of right and perfect justice, and crime was unknown in this orderly community, so the officers and minions of the law had nothing to do. When misunderstandings arose friendly arbitration was invoked by both sides, and no appeal was sought.

On the 4th day of August, 1834, the electors met at the new log school house and voted for State officers. Joseph Duncan had fourteen votes for Governor, and William Kinney two; Benjamin Mills, ten for Representative in Congress; William Stadden, twelve for Sheriff; William Richey and Isaac Dimmick had a majority of all the votes cast for County Commissioners of La Salle County. There were in all sixteen votes cast at this election, being the same persons with one or two exceptions who voted at the first meeting.

In August, 1835, Thomas Judd and Justus Jones were elected Justices, and William Brown and Horace Gaylord, Constables.

In August, 1836, Stephen A. Douglas and John T. Stewart were candidates for Congress.

The former, on the Democratic side, received nine votes, and the latter, the Whig, ten votes. Up to this date politics had been little discussed in public. The settlers had come from the east and south, and each had brought with him some party predilections, but party agitation had caused the voters of Sandy to take sides, with the result as indicated.

William Stadden and William Reddick, prominent citizens of Ottawa,

were well known to the voters of this Precinct, and at this election the former was elected State Senator and the latter Sheriff.

At the Presidential election, November 7, 1836, party lines were drawn, and eight citizens of Sandy voted the Democratic ticket. The electors voted openly for the candidate of his choice.

In those days political papers had not begun to circulate and stir up that bitterness of feeling so characteristic of their efforts, and while men voted on different sides but little was said, and no violent language or work at the polls disturbed the good nature and serenity of the people.

The only newspapers in the West were at Galena, Springfield, Chicago or Vandalia, or at Terre Haute, Indiana, and when one happened to stray into the settlement it was a month or two in coming. Election tickets, a necessity of the secret ballot, had not been invented. The voter merely thrust his head in at the window of the polling place, and announced his preference of candidates, the clerks recording his name and tallying the vote opposite that of the candidate.

After a county election it was two or three weeks before the poll books were all in and the vote counted, and often a month or more would elapse before the result was definitely known throughout the county, and it required as many months to disseminate the result of a Presidential contest.

The general election of 1840 brought out the most of the voters of Sandy Precinct, as it did all over the country, and thirty-three votes were polled, sixteen Democratic and seventeen Whig, and this was the first time that Abraham Lincoln's name was conspicuously brought before the public. He was on the Whig ticket as one of the Presidential electors.

One of the voters at that election was Joseph Warner, who was then one hundred years old, and another was Lemuel Gaylord, also a very aged man, both soldiers of the revolution.

In April, 1843, the question of being attached to Marshall County was submitted to the legal voters of Sandy Precinct. The great distance from the County seat, Ottawa, seemed to be the only argument in favor of the proposition. But it was sufficient, and every vote was cast for the change. Bennington did the same. There was not then a single inhabitant in the present towns of Osage or Groveland, in La Salle County.

The next election, after this region had been attached to Marshall County, in August of that year, was held at the house of Enoch Dent,

the name, "Sandy Precinct," being still retained, and including then the territory of what is now Evans and Roberts Townships.

Thomas Judd and William B. Green were elected Justices of the Peace, and W. T. Dimen and Albert Myers Constables. Among the well known citizens who voted were John O. Dent, R. E. Dent, Enoch Dent, Livingston Roberts, Andrew Burns, Thomas Patterson, Joshua Myers, C. S. Edward, Jervis Gaylord, Albert Myers, David Stateler, David Myers, George H. Shaw and James Hoyt—in all forty-eight votes.

Sandy Precinct remained intact, consisting of the present towns of Evans and Roberts, till the adoption of Township organization in April, 1852. As some evidence of the rapid increase of population of Illinois, it might be mentioned here that in 1836 we had five electoral votes; in 1844 nine, in 1852 eleven.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN EVANS.

One of the oldest Methodist Societies in the County is at Cherry Point. Early in the fall of 1831 John Dixon, a local preacher of Dry Grove, came to Cherry Point to visit his son. While here he held a two-days meeting in the cabin of Thomas Brooks, situated on the east bank of the little creek on the west side of the Adams farm.

A Methodist class was organized, consisting of Thomas Brooks and wife, Justus Jones and wife, Abram Jones and wife, Joshua Evans and wife, Thomas Dixon and wife, and probably Barton Jones. The Jones' had just come into the neighborhood. This was the first religious society organized in the Township, and has continued with various degrees of prosperity until the present time.

In the fall of 1831 Wm. Royal was appointed to the Peoria mission which embraced the territory from Peoria northward without any special limitation. The mission actually embraced a part of the Fox River country. He arranged for services at Cherry Point, but the Black Hawk war seriously embarrassed him in his work. His family occupied a cabin near where Enoch Dent lived for many years, and considering it unsafe here, he removed further south to a place of safety, but returned at the close of the war and filled out the year.

In the fall of 1832, Jesse Hale, an eccentric old bachelor, was appointed to the Pekin mission. Some of his brethren thought he ought to get married, and arranged for him to visit a lady they had selected, and

she willing to make the best impression possible arrayed herself in goodly raiment set off with flowers and ribbons in that day quite un-Methodistic. The parties were introduced by a mutual friend and results waited. The preacher viewed carefully the dress of the lady candidate for matrimony and then said, "Sister, are you not afraid the devil will get you?" The sequel was not a wedding.

The following statement of appointments may be valuable for reference, as giving the order in which the M. E. Church in this Township has been served by Methodist ministers since its organization, in 1831:

1831,	Peoria charge,	William Royal.
1832,	Pekin charge,	Jesse Hale.
1833,	" "	Z. Hall, John McHenry.
1834,	" "	Joel Arrington, Charles Parker,
1835,	" "	Asahel E. Phelps, J. Arrington.
1836,	" "	A. E. Phelps, John McMurtry.
1837,	Hennepin charge,	William Cundiff.
1838,	" "	Z. Hall, R. H. Moffett.
1839,	" "	John Maris.
1840,	" "	William Justice.
1841,	" "	Mifflin Harker.
1842,	" "	W. Justice.
1843,	" "	J. H. Devore, L. A. Chapin (supply).
1844,	" "	S. P. Burr.
1845,	" "	S. Stover.
1846,	" "	C. Babcock, T. F. Royal.
1847,	" "	William C. Cumming.
1848,	" "	W. C. Cumming, A. D. Field.
1849,	" "	R. N. Morse, N. Curtiss (supply).
1850,	" "	J. C. Pinckard, J. W. Stogdill.
1851,	" "	H. J. Humphrey, G. W. Mowrey (supply).
1852,	Magnolia charge,	R. N. Morse, W. H. Harvey.
1853,	" "	A. M. Earley, J. B. Craig.
1854,	" "	J. Matthews, J. C. Long.
1855,	" "	A. Keller, B. E. Kaufman.
1856,	" "	A. Keller, C. A. Stine.
1857,	" "	B. P. Wheat, T. F. Smyth.
1858,	" "	B. P. Wheat, E. Summers.

- 1859, Tonica charge, J. G. Evans, A. E. Day.
 1860, Wenona charge, R. A. Cowen.
 1861, " " S. B. Smith.
 1862, Wenona, R. Smithson; resigned the charge in April, 1863, and his time filled out by A. K. Tullis.
 1863, Wenona, A. Bower.
 1864, Wenona, A. Bower.
 1865, Wenona, W. C. Knapp; Wenona Circuit, G. B. Snedaker.
 1866, Wenona, D. D. H. Young; Wenona Circuit, G. B. Snedaker.
 1867, Wenona, C. C. Knowlton; Wenona Circuit, C. Springer.
 1868, Wenona, Geo. Montgomery; Wenona Circuit, C. Springer.
 1869, Wenona, P. A. Crist; Wenona Circuit, R. A. Cowen.
 1870, Wenona, R. G. Pearce; Wenona Circuit, R. N. Morse.
 1871, Wenona, R. G. Pearce; Wenona Circuit, O. Jenne.
 1872, Wenona, M. C. Bowlin; Wenona Circuit, J. P. Mitchell.
 1873, Wenona, M. C. Bowlin; Wenona Circuit, T. Head.
 1874, Wenona, W. A. Spencer; Wenona Circuit, T. Head.
 1875, Wenona, A. Fisher; Wenona Circuit, E. B. England.
 1876, Wenona, T. R. McNair; Wenona Circuit, E. B. England.
 1877, Wenona, C. H. Brace; Wenona Circuit, T. M. Durham.
 1878, Wenona, C. H. Brace; Wenona Circuit, T. M. Durham.
 1879, Wenona, J. G. Evans; Wenona Circuit, H. C. Birch.

Asahel Elihu Phelps, whose name occurs in the above list, and who was subsequently Presiding Elder, was one of the most profound and brilliant men of Western Methodism. He was not only an orator, but a controversialist of unusual ability, and is remembered all over Central Illinois by the early Methodists as the great defender of their faith.

The little class organized by John Dixon and taken into the Peoria Mission by W. Royal was soon depleted by the removal of Thomas Brooks, Thomas Dixon and Abram Jones and their wives.

The oldest class book in existence is dated August 29, 1834. John Sinclair was Presiding Elder, Z. Hall, preacher in charge, and John McHenry assistant preacher. Justus Jones was class leader, and the additional members were Sally Jones, Joshua Evans, Elizabeth Evans and Barton Jones. Justus Jones remained leader of the class until his death in October, 1849, when he was succeeded by his son Daniel W. Jones, who retained that position until his death, in 1853.

In the early part of 1835 the name of Barton Jones disappears, leaving only four members, namely: Justus Jones and wife, and Joshua Evans and wife. In the latter part of that year the names of Vincent Bowman and Martin Kennedy appear on the class book. In 1836 Hannah Radcliff joined the Society, and in 1837 the class was strengthened by the addition of Wm. Evans, Sarah Evans, Daniel W. Jones, Joseph Long, Eliza Long and Robert Brown. In 1838 Mary A. Brown, Almira Evans and Truman B. Hall were added to the class. In 1839 first appear upon the records the names of George Beatty, Effie Bowman, Louisa Jones, Parnelia Bowman, William Bowman, John C. Bowman and Joseph Warner. The additions in 1840 were Rachel Caldwell, Chauncy W. Barnes, Sarah Barnes and Wm. Swarts.

In 1841 the Society was strengthened by the Alexander family, who moved into the neighborhood from Kentucky. The first death in the Society was that of Joseph Warner, who died September 5, 1842, at the advanced age of 104 years. In October of the same year Rachel Caldwell was buried. July 12, 1843, Elizabeth Evans died with the smallpox and Jane, wife of Wm. Evans, on the 26th of the same month, and with the same disease. Between 1845 and 1850 the Society was very much reduced, and even threatened with extinction. The Methodist Protestant Church had organized a Society, and for a while seemed to have a prospect of taking the community. But in the early part of December, 1849, R. N. Morse held a series of meetings in the Evans School House, which resulted favorably for the M. E. Church. He was assisted part of the time by Rev. — Johnson of the M. P. Church, but the meeting was in charge R. N. Morse, and the M. E. Church was most largely benefitted. Thirteen joined the church (also a few from the M. P. Church), at the close of the meeting, and out of the thirteen, five became ministers, viz: C. Springer, L. Springer, M. C. Springer, J. G. Evans and Z. R. Jones. A new impetus was given to the Society, and in 1852, under the administration of H. J. Humphrey, the erection of a church edifice was projected. It was completed in the spring of 1854, and dedicated in April 24, by Silas Bowles, of Chicago, Revs. A. M. Early and J. B. Craig being pastors at that time.

The Sandy M. E. Church cost \$1,200, Daniel W. Jones, Joshua Evans and William Evans being the largest contributors. Since the erection of

the Church building the Society has been upon a permanent basis, and is now one of the strongest and most flourishing churches in the country.

THE FIRST SCHOOLS.

In the winter of 1832 a man named Anson Bryant was engaged to teach school, and a part of the "fort" was put in order for that purpose. The names upon his rolls were: John O. Dent, Minerva Dent, R. E. Dent, Enoch Darnell, Larkins Darnell, Benjamin Darnell, Jr., Alfred Judd and William Evans. Five of the pupils of that pioneer school were living in 1879, and some of them have become distinguished citizens of this and other counties.

In the fall of 1833 the necessity of a more ample and convenient school room was agitated, and the citizens decided to build a school house. The site chosen was near the present residence of Mrs. Lucy Gibson. The size was agreed upon, and each of the heads of families was asked to furnish his proportion of logs for the building and deliver them upon the ground, which was promptly done, and a raising bee followed. The house had a puncheon floor, stick chimney and slab seats and desks. Fuel was contributed by each patron in proportion to the number of children sent. The teacher boarded around with them, and was paid by subscription.

In the winter of 1840 Francis S. Damon, a young man from Amherst, N. H., taught school there and gave general satisfaction. Mr. Damon taught two winters, and in the spring of 1841, just after the close of his school, he became ill and died, and was buried in Cumberland Church Cemetery, regretted sincerely alike by patrons and pupils. No slab marks his resting place. His brother, William Damon, came here the following season to settle up his affairs, and he too sickened and died, and the brothers sleep side by side.

In the winter of 1842-3 Thomas Gallaher taught this school, with about the same attendance as that of the previous winter. The season was noted for very deep snow, and was also memorable as the time when the great comet appeared which caused much excitement among the Millerites.

Of Anson Bryant the following incident is related: It was customary in those days for the teacher to "board round" and make his own fires. In a field contiguous to the school house an old ram was

pastured who from long possession was inclined to resent the approach of visitors as an intrusion. One day Bryant went into the field to gather fuel, and was bending over in the act of picking it up, when the ram, who had warily watched his entrance with ill-concealed displeasure, advanced for battle. The teacher was unconscious of any hostile intentions, and, as stated, was stooping to the ground, which the ram interpreted as a wager of battle, and gave him a "boost" in the rear with the force of a thunderbolt, throwing him, as the phrase goes, "heels over head." The poor man gathered himself up and felt greatly like resenting the ill-concealed merriment of his pupils, but finally joined in the laugh himself, the ram meanwhile marching off with the lofty air of a conqueror. The pedagogue ever after avoided that locality when gathering fuel.

WENONA.

The town of Wenona was laid out May 15, 1855, on Section 24, Town 30, north of Range 1, west of the third principal meridian, by the Illinois Central Railroad. It stands in the center of a wide expanse of prairie, underlaid with rich deposits of coal not yet developed.

The land upon which the town was built was entered by John O. Dent, in 1849. In 1853 the railroad company erected a small station, and likewise a dwelling for the agent; and in the succeeding year William Brown purchased the corner lot opposite the freight depot and erected a building, which he occupied as a store and boarding house. He came from the head of Sandy.

Another merchant was a Mr. Gilbert, who opened a store in the station house. He subsequently erected a store and dwelling near Fowlers' corner, but was not successful and soon left.

Charles Brown built the first hotel—the Wenona House—which burned down in the big fire. The house built by Gilbert was sold to Silas Gray, who converted it into a saloon and boarding house. John L. VanAllen succeeded Mr. Goodall as station agent.

About 1855 John B. Newburn opened a store. Other prominent citizens and business men were W. and J. Todd, who came from the Vermillion. James Barton had charge of their business the first year. About this time Hon. N. Moore came to the place and entered into a partnership with J. B. Newburn. The next year Mr. Moore sold his interest to S. J.

Taylor, going to his farm, two miles west of town. The firm of Newburn & Taylor did a large business for some time, but was finally dissolved, both members retiring from the business.

In 1855 the village grew rapidly, and in 1857 organized a municipal government, with F. H. Bond, Solomon Wise, George Brockway, John B. Newburn and Emanuel Welty as Trustees, and John Brown as Police Magistrate.

Mr. Bryant taught the first public school in Wenona.

Rev. J. R. Dunn was the first minister to locate in the new town. Under his supervision the Presbyterian Church was begun in the fall of 1855. Mr. Dunn was the pastor for many years, the church under his care was prosperous, and from a few members increased to a large congregation in a few years.

The town is regularly laid out, its principal street being built up with substantial, well filled stores, occupied by energetic business men doing a very extensive trade with the country surrounding. It has numerous elegant private dwellings surrounded with trees that tame the fierce heats of summer and add greatly to the beauty of the place.

In 1872 the population was 1,135, which has since largely increased.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The public school building of this village is a fine frame structure, 34x80 feet, two stories high, and with an addition of nearly equal size affords ample room from its numerous attendants. The main portion was commenced in 1863 and the wing in 1866. The entire cost was about \$9,000.

Evans Township is divided into nine public school districts, with a respectable school house in each.

MASONS.

Wenona Lodge No. 344, of A. F. & A.M., was organized August 22, 1860, Wilson Ong W. M.; S. A. Gray, S. W.; O. S. Davidson, J. W.

The charter members were W. Ong, S. A. Gray, J. N. Taylor, W. R. Phillips, L. Luddington, C. C. Radmore and O. S. Davidson.

ODD FELLOWS.

The I. O. O. F. of Wenona Lodge No. 283, was established October

11, 1860, the charter members being Geo. F. Brunick, Arthur Orr, John B. Newburn, O. L. Davidson and Chester H. Helm. Their first elected officers were: Arthur Orr, N. G.; O. L. Davidson, V. G.; Chester Helme, Secretary, and J. B. Newburn, Treasurer. The charter bears date March 5, 1860, and the Society is in a very flourishing condition.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The Catholic people of this vicinity had no regular services at Wenona until about 1865, when steps were taken to build a church. The people of this faith in the town and country around were few and their means limited, but a little personal effort convinced the leaders in the enterprise that the people wanted a church, and were willing, even at great personal sacrifice, to furnish the necessary means.

Sufficient funds were raised or guaranteed to warrant building, and the church was soon completed, being dedicated to public worship by Father Murphy within the same year. It is 40x50 feet, with fourteen-foot ceiling, has convenient seating capacity, and with altars, ornaments and decorations of all sorts, cost about \$5,000. The present membership is about three hundred.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

On the 26th of June, 1852, the Presbyterians of Wenona met to organize a church of that denomination. Those present were Newton Erwin and wife, Ira F. Lowrey, Henry W. Lowrey, C. B. Rushmore and wife, Samuel Horner and wife and Wm. H. Lowrey. The Confession of Faith of the Peoria Synod, was read and taken as the basis of the organization. The name selected was: "The Hebron Presbyterian Church of Marshall County."

July 10, 1852, they met again, when Rev. Joseph Fowler, of Lacon, preached. Newton S. Erwin and Samuel Horner were elected Elders, and Evans Township school house was chosen as the place of worship.

The building of a house of worship, coming up at the next meeting, C. B. Rushmore, Newton S. Erwin, and Henry and William Lowery were chosen a committee to raise money for that purpose.

May 7, 1853, a Sunday School was organized, and C. B. Rushmore was appointed Superintendent, and Mrs. Lindley, assistant, the place of meeting being the station house of the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

This Company afterward donated to the Society a lot on which they built a house of worship, finishing it in 1856.

M. E. CHURCH IN WENONA.

In 1856 Ahab Keller visited Wenona and made arrangements for regular preaching in the village. He organized a class of six, of which Solomon Wise was appointed leader. For about two years the Methodists, by the courtesy of the Presbyterian brethren, were permitted to hold their services in the Presbyterian Church.

In the spring of 1859, under the administration of B. P. Wheat, the erection of a church was planned. The enterprise was difficult, as the Society was small and weak financially. During the summer the building was enclosed. In the fall the Society was connected with Tonica. J. G. Evans was in charge of the work. The building was plastered in the fall, used in an unfinished state during the winter, completed in the spring and dedicated in April by O. S. Munsell, D. D., President of the Illinois Wesleyan University.

In 1865 Wenona was made a station, and the Sandy M. E. Church became the center of a new charge, under the name of Wenona circuit. Since then the two charges have been maintained separately, each supporting its own pastor. There is an aggregate membership connected with the two churches of about two hundred, being perhaps more than double the membership of any other denomination represented in the Township. The congregations at both churches are large, the Sunday Schools good, and the societies prospering under the administration of the present pastors.

THE WENONA UNION FAIR.

This enterprise, of which its citizens are so justly proud, owes its existence to a few public spirited farmers, who used to meet at the Evans Central School House and discuss matters pertaining to their interests. The Club had been merely a local affair, attracting to it only such farmers as lived in the vicinity, but it being desired to extend its operations and add to its influence, a special meeting was called for the purpose April 8, 1871.

The idea was favorably received, and the interest spreading it was

decided best to make it a District organization, including the Townships of Evans, Roberts, Groveland and Hopewell. A committee was appointed to see what could be done, and another meeting called for the 22d of April, at which report was made that J. A. McCall & Co. would donate the free use of their hall, the Wenona Stock Yards suitable grounds for cattle, and George Monser his machine sheds and ground for the prospective fair. The meeting unanimously adopted the following:

Resolved, That the Evans Farmers' Club will heartily co-operate with the people of Wenona and surrounding Townships, to aid in getting up a Union Township Fair, to be held in Wenona the fall of 1871.

The plan upon which the organization was effected being found defective, several clear-headed practical men, of whom the Hon. John O. Dent was one, outlined a plan which has carried the Society to a magnificent success and placed it upon its present substantial basis, thus: To make the shares \$25 each, which every subscriber must be legally bound to pay in amounts as needed, and no person to own more than a single share; the Society to purchase fifty acres of land in the suburbs of Wenona, erect suitable buildings thereon, fence the grounds and make other needed improvements.

A new constitution embodying these features was adopted and the name changed, and from this date the association started on the remarkable career of prosperity it has attained. Its first officers were: President, Marshall McCall; Vice President, James Freeman; Recording Secretary, Thomas Judd; Corresponding Secretary, Cadet Taylor; Treasurer, John A. McCall.

The committee appointed to solicit subscriptions reported 220 members and \$5,500 subscribed, sufficient to purchase the required real estate and have a handsome surplus over. The Society at once began preparations for their first exhibition by offering \$20,000 in premiums, and the Fair held October 3 to 6 (inclusive), 1871, was a surprising success.

The fifty-five acres of land were purchased in the south-western limits of the town, and convenient buildings—large and permanent, were erected, also a fine track made, with other desired conveniences. The cost of grounds and improvements up to 1880 amounts to \$20,000.

Since then, annual Fairs have been held, each one seemingly an improvement on its predecessors. In premiums, number of exhibitors and

attendance it fairly rivals the State Fair, and its success promises to be as lasting as it is satisfactory.

EVANS STATION.

Between Varna and Wenona, on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railroad, is located Evans Station. The oldest settler in the Township, dating from his occupancy, is Dr. Cornelius Perry, who came in 1853.

The next to settle in the vicinity were Joseph Frazer, one-half mile south, and David Baker the same distance north of the Station, in the same year. L. A. Watt came in 1855, making his home one and a fourth mile from Evans. John Algoe came in 1856.

The first school house was in District No. 8, built in 1859. Their nearest church was at Sandy, five and three-quarters miles distant, or, later, at Wenona, a trifle further away.

In this vicinity, it is said, is the greatest elevation between the Illinois and Wabash Rivers, though the statement needs verification. Standing here on a clear day a good pair of eyes can see the towns of Wenona, Lostant, Minonk, Rutland, Pattonsburg, Varna and the spires of the churches at Mt. Palatine.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH IN EVANS.

In 1844 or 1845 Rev. Mr. Woolston, a minister of the M. P. Church visited the head of Sandy and established a regular appointment. He was succeeded by J. P. Strong, who organized a class, which was quite prosperous for a few years. George Beatty, James Caldwell, Vincent Bowman, William Swarts, and — Talbert were among the leading members.

The ministers who traveled the circuit to which the appointment at Cherry Point belonged, were Woolston, Strong, Fowler, Roy, Johnson and Young.

The Society has long since entirely disappeared.

INCIDENTS AND ITEMS.

In Cherry Point Cemetery, on the farm of Albert Evans, in an unmarked grave, lies the honored remains of Joseph Warner, a soldier of the war

of the Revolution, and in Cumberland cemetery repose those of Lemuel Gaylord, whose brief history as repeated by himself has been told elsewhere. Mr. Warner was born on the shore of Chesapeake Bay, of Irish parentage, in 1738. He was left an orphan and underwent many hardships, until he attained his majority. When the Colonies revolted he became a soldier and fought at the battle of Germantown, the particulars of which he was fond of relating, it being his greatest pleasure in later years to gather the children about him—

“ Tell o’er his deeds and tales of valor done,
Shoulder his crutch and show how fields were won.”

After the war he settled near Mount Vernon, Va., where his old commander resided, and lived there until his removal to Madison County, Ohio. He cleared a farm here, and lived until 1838. He was now one hundred years old, and many of his immediate relatives had paid the debt of nature. His property had been given to his children except “Libbie,” a faithful old horse twenty-seven years old, his companion for many years. A grandson,—Justus Jones, had settled in Illinois, and with the perverse restlessness of old age he determined to search out and visit him. His family strongly opposed this, but one day when they were absent he mounted his nag and stole away unobserved, turning westward. He had no money, but his simple story made friends everywhere, and the kindest care was his until he reached Chicago. He knew nothing concerning his friends whereabouts, but struck south-westwardly, and fortunately rode right into the neighborhood while prosecuting his inquiries. He found here kind friends, and remained with them until his death, September 5, 1842; aged 104 years.

Among the exciting and ever popular amusements of the long ago, were the corn-shucking bees of young and old, at each others houses.

The corn, plucked off and hauled home, was thrown upon the ground, or on the barn floor when large enough, in long piles or ricks. The men and boys of the neighborhood were bidden to the “bee,” sides were chosen, the corn divided and “then came the tug of war,” the contest sometimes lasting two or three hours. At its conclusion the victorious side bore their captain on the shoulders of three or four stalwarts in triumph to the house to receive the plaudits and congratulations of the ladies, the vanquished following in their wake in mournful procession. Then all partake of a bountiful supper prepared by the ladies, who

invited to contribute their part to the festivities of the occasion, would come in their prettiest outfits, and after the tables were cleared an old-fashioned party would follow, lasting usually till the "we sma' hours" of morning.

Alarms were frequent during the Indian troubles, and one of them was rather serious. Mr. Evans was a man of considerable nerve, and while others were forted up he remained on his farm. One day while at work with his son William and a Mr. Basore, guns were heard and a couple of men were seen running over the hill, as if pursued. William was quickly mounted and directed to ride swiftly to the house and carry the family to the fort, while Evans senior and Basore remained to retard pursuit, and if need be, sell their lives dearly. The alarm was a false one, however, as no Indians were seen.

One night as Benjamin Darnell was standing guard, he saw something in the moonlight, which he took to be an Indian. His firing alarmed the inmates, when it was discovered to be the family cow.

NEWSPAPERS.

The village of Wenona has supported a newspaper since February 23, 1865, at which time Grable & Crosby, two young printers, established the *News Index*. Mr. Grable had experience in newspaper management for a time during the war, at Hennepin, while Mr. Crosby was in the service, coming here upon the close of the war. The *News Index* was a seven column folio, creditable alike to its publishers and the village, and was well patronized by the community.

August 17, 1865, Mr. Crosby sold out to his partner, but the next week bought out Grable and became sole publisher and proprietor, continuing control until February 15, 1867, when he sold to William Parker. He had long been a sufferer from consumption, and died in the June following at Clinton, Iowa. He was a noble young man and a spicy writer.

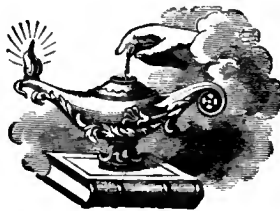
Mr. Parker continued alone in the management until June 26, 1868, when Cadet Taylor bought a half interest, the partnership lasting until June 2, 1870, when Mr. Taylor bought the whole establishment.

Mr. Parker was a genial gentleman, with whom it was a pleasure to have dealings, and during the continuance of this partnership both the *Index* and its proprietors prospered.

After the accession of Mr. Taylor to the sole management he invested the proceeds of his business from time to time in new material and dropped the word "*News*" from the name of his paper. In politics the *Index* is independent within Republican limits. From the time it was established it has deserved and received a very liberal support.

During the last year of the war Mr. L. B. Barnes, a telegraph operator, printed a small sheet, entitled the *Sentinel*, which was well received as an amateur publication.

In 1875 a Mr. Burroughs started the *Wenona Tribune*, but suspended after a three month's struggle.



RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLIV.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.



THIS Township was named by John Strawn from the place from whence he came in Ohio. It is six miles square, made up of prairie and timber and is unusually fertile and productive. Crow Creek passes through its southern border with intersecting streams that cut the surface into rugged bluffs and deep ravines, with well cultivated fields in the valleys. Other minor streams are Pidgeon Creek and Strawn's Run. Although possessing much broken land, its numerous advantages, fine soil and timber, made it the choice of the early settlers in all this region.

ROUND PRAIRIE.

The fertile prairie east of Lacon, in the Townships of Hopewell and Richland, now covered with highly cultivated farms and princely residences, was named by the early settlers "Round Prairie," indicative of its general appearance. It is semi-circular in form, about six miles long by four wide, surrounded by thrifty groves and ranges of timber, skirting which the first settlers made their claims. It was first visited, so far as we have any record, by John Strawn, who came here on a prospecting tour in 1828.

While to John Strawn belongs the credit of being the earliest permanent settler, the patriarch of Round Prairie was Robert Barnes, who, along with his family and a brother-in-law named James Dever, settled here in November, 1829. They first visited Hennepin, and after a short stop moved into a vacant cabin near Jesse Roberts', when leaving their families, they started upon a prospecting tour to Colonel Strawn's, from whom they bought a claim near the Babb place, to which they brought

their families; but the sight of the large swamp in front discouraged the female portion, and deterred them from remaining.

A few days were spent in searching a new locality, when they selected a claim on Section fifteen, to which they drove their wagons and began to get out logs for a cabin, which was raised November 18, 1830. Their cabin was raised and roofed the same day and they slept in it that night. Next day they put up a stick and mud chimney, and as soon after as possible a puncheon floor. The chimney had only been finished up to the rafters when a storm come on and prevented its completion.

The winter was a hard one, deep snow covering the ground, and to add to their labors the cattle had to be subsisted on the tender tops of trees cut down for the purpose. In the little cabin food, such as it was, was penitiful, but it consisted mainly of corn. A kind neighbor, who came in that fall, had a supply of pork, which was kindly proffered and accepted with thanks. Deer abounded in the woods, but they were poor and their flesh of little value.

In this condition the two families passed the winter known as that of the great snow. They were shut in from the outer world, but peace and contentment reigned, and they looked forward with confidence and hope that never faltered to the coming of spring, which would clothe the now bleak prairies with "living green." Although their low cabin seemed cut off from the world, they were not wholly separated from friends and neighbors. On the southern edge of the prairie Robert Bird had built a cabin, and a Mr. Burt and Mr. Phillips were in the vicinity, also a family named Waughob lived on the "Tommy Jones" farm, and Daniel Bland had built a cabin on what afterward became the Thompson place. He came from Indiana and designed moving here in the spring, but sickness came, long delaying the execution of his plans. Before fully recovered, he loaded his goods and started on their long overland journey, arriving late in the fall. A cabin was put up, but the labor was too great, and his overtaxed system gave way. For a long time he hovered between life and death, and then his weary spirit took its flight.

H. B. Barnes came in the fall of 1834 with his mother and little daughter, he then being a widower. They found a home with his sister, Mrs. Nancy Dever, until June, 1836, when he began to improve his present homestead, and built a log house, which in the spring of 1839 took fire, and was burned to the ground with all his household effects. The

family had left it in the morning and gone away with everything safe from fire as was supposed, but on returning at nine P. M. found it all ablaze. The fire was attributed to accident. He at once rebuilt, and his new residence was probably the first frame house in the settlement. Another early settler was Col. Samuel M. Kilgore, who removed here in 1834.

John Dever came in the fall of 1833, and located near the farm of James Dever, who died on Christmas day, 1834, and John died a week later in January, 1835. Both were buried at the corner of Section 15, but have been taken up and interred in the Barnes cemetery. The widow of John Dever still lives with her son in Lacon.

Robert Iliff located near the Barnes place at an early day, and Joseph Burt made a claim near what was afterward the farm of Harvey Scott, about 1831.

John, William and Allen Gray made claims where the present Drake farm is, about 1834.

Archibald Johnson made a claim near Owen's place during the fall of the same year.

Benjamin Fort and family came to Richland in the spring of 1834, and opened a farm near the homes of John and James Dever, brothers of Mrs. Fort. Mr. Fort's family consisted of himself and wife and daughters; Sarah, afterward Mrs. Chas. Gapen; Mary Ann, who became Mrs. Joseph Titus; Washington W. and Greenbury L. Fort, Member of Congress.

The old homestead of the Fort family, after the death of Benjamin, became the property of Greenbury L. Fort, and by him was conveyed to William Spangler.

H. B. Barnes was married in 1839 to Jane M. Kilgore. They have had six children born to them, and still live on the old homestead. Their children were, Isabella K., living at home; Louisa (Mrs. William Kilgore, of Livingston County); Dr. Samuel M. M. and Dr. H. E. W., both at Fairbury; Alvira S., at home, and Erastus T., dead.

Abraham Keedy came in 1834, settling on what has since been known as the Joseph Sharp place. He had six children, and three were born after his arrival. He lived in a rail pen for several weeks until he could construct a suitable cabin.

Another settler was Hoel Doddy, who improved the Hoover place.

Virgil Lancaster in 1835 owned a claim which he sold to Wm. Murphy. Murphy came in 1836. John Foster arrived here the latter year,

and John C. Foster in the spring of 1840, the latter the father of Mrs. Allen J. Keedy. Mrs. Keedy has a bureau and chair brought by Mr. Foster to this country. Mrs. H. B. Barnes has also an interesting heirloom, being a knife box made in 1814, by Thomas Barnes, the father of the Barnes family, who moved thither from Scioto, Ohio.

J. Allen Keedy came here with his father, Abram Keedy, and in a few years settled on his present place.

The Remley's—father and son, came about the same time. They were cabinet makers, and worked occasionally at their trade.

Woodford Fisher "took up" the Pichereau place in 1835.

Wm. Spangler came here in 1835, James Work also.

John Gray, in 1836, bought the Robert Barnes homestead, lived there two years and sold to John Ramsay.

John Ramsay settled on the Barnes farm in 1838. Joseph Titus came in the fall of 1839. His brother Jesse Titus followed, and, having died, his widow married John Titus.

Joseph Brown located on the prairie, near J. A. Keedy's, in 1842. Wm. B. Thomas, near Strawn's about the same time.

Andrew Jackson arrived here in 1835, and settled on the Hoover place, which he bought from Colonel Latta, of Webster.

Another settler on the prairie was James Thompson, who married a daughter of John Strawn, and raised a numerous family of enterprising business men. Densil Holland came, too, many years ago, as did Jesse Bane. The former died about 1866, and his son still lives upon the family homestead.

Another early settler was Robert Bird. He came to Walnut Grove, Tazewell County, in the fall of 1827, and lived there until 1830, when he bought a claim of one of the Waughobs, where he lived until 1849, when he emigrated to Oregon and subsequently died. His family consisted of Robert Bird, Jr., now a citizen of Rutland; John, William and Elijah, who accompanied their father to Oregon, and two daughters. Elijah was killed in a fight with the Indians.

When the Bird family came to Round Prairie, in 1830, the only white people Robert Bird, Jr., then seventeen years old, remembers were those of Col. John Strawn, James Dever, Robert Barnes, Daniel Bland, Joseph M. Burt, Colonel Bell, on Crow Creek, a family of Waughobs, Allen, John and William Gray, Capt. Abram Keedy, the Perkins family, living on Crow Creek, and James Kain.

Until McNeill started a blacksmith shop in the bottoms, near Columbia, or Lacon, the farmers generally had to go to Walnut Grove, in Woodford County, for whatever work in this line they required. Later, Captain Keedy opened a shop on Round Prairie, in 1832 or '33.

The nearest saw mill for several years was on Sandy Creek, and a corn cracker mill was located on Big Spring Branch, near Peoria, where the farmers got their milling done, until Owens started a better mill at the mouth of Crow Creek.

COL. JOHN STRAWN.

The first permanent settler in this part of Marshall County was John Strawn, who in company with a man named Haver, visited this County in 1828, and removed here with his family in the fall of 1829.

He was a noted lover of fine horses, taking great pride in the outfit of his teams, which along the route created a decided sensation, his wagon being twenty-nine feet six inches long, of the "regulation" prairie schooner pattern, resembling a Japanese war junk, and drawn by six horses, the heaviest he could find. Along with this were additional teams, horses, cattle and cows, the proprietor riding at the head like some ancient patriarch leading his family into the wilderness. They consisted of his wife, two sons, William and Enoch; Rachel, afterward married to Jesse Bane; Mary Ann, to James Thompson; Caroline, to William B. Thomas; Emily, to Densil Holland; Salome, to William Orr; Susan, to Enoch Owen, and Levicy to A. Pichereau.

Arrived here, a temporary shelter, closed at the sides and rear and open in front, was made, in which they lived until a substantial double cabin was put up in time for the winter. He lived here many years, bringing up his large family and bestowing on each a comfortable farm, and finally dying July 4, 1872, aged eighty-one.

Mrs. Strawn, consort of the above, was in many respects a remarkable woman. In those days there were no physicians, and of necessity she became a mid-wife, going long distances on her errands of mercy and never refusing to turn out at the most inclement seasons.

One bitter cold night in the severe winter of 1830-31 there came a call from the family of Daniel Bland, a new comer, living some three miles across the prairie, whose wife desired her immediate attendance. Mrs. S. could well have refused to go. She had a young babe whom she could

not leave, and it was risking its life as well as her own to venture across the prairie.

There were no roads, and besides the imminent danger of freezing, there was positive risk of becoming engulfed beneath the treacherous snow. Over all the prairie it lay two and three feet deep, and the hollows had drifted full until it was one continuous level. A thaw which softened the surface had been followed by the present heavy freeze, and horses and cattle walked easily upon the surface; but beneath the crust in the conealed hollows many streams had washed and melted the snow, leaving places treacherously thin, into which the unsuspecting traveler was liable to be precipitated, and horse and rider go down together. This Mrs. Strawn well knew, but all her womanly sympathies were aroused, and she told the guide— young Bird, she would accompany him. Brief time was allowed for preparation, and binding her limbs in blankets she mounted her horse—riding astride for safety and departed. The weather was below zero and the wind blowed fiercely, but the moon shone bright, and Strawn, who realized the full peril of the journey, climbed to the top of his cabin to watch the travelers and go to their succor if need be. Slowly they proceeded, selecting their route with care, while the watcher maintained his post until assured of their safety. But what a scene greeted their arrival. In the little cabin with its single room lay the sick wife soon to be a mother, and on a rude pallet cold in the embrace of death her husband. There was no woman's ministering hand to soothe the last moments of the departed, or tenderly wait on the sick woman in her supreme agony. The cold was too bitter, the biting prairie winds too fierce to oppose except in a case of the direst necessity, but Robert Barnes with a heart full of sympathy, was there, and jointly the duties of caring for the living and the dead were performed by those two. The mother afterward became the wife of John Bird, and her son—born on that fatal night—accompanied her, and the only father he ever knew, to Oregon, where if living he still resides.

Another time—to be exact, on the night of July 15, 1834, Mr. James Dever was sent to call Mrs. Strawn to his cabin in hot haste. He mounted his horse and started, promising to return with her in an hour or two. The distance was about three miles, and he rode across the prairies by the directest course as he supposed, but after traveling several miles in that direction, concluded he had missed the way and changed his bearings. He passed several cabins which he thought strange, and ob-

served the houses were much alike, but his business was urgent and without inquiry he rode on till daylight, and found that he was half a mile from home, and had been wandering about Round Prairie all night, during which he must have gone past his own door a half dozen times. In the meantime little Mary Dever had opened her eyes in this world and proved to be a pretty and healthy addition to his family, with no thanks to his tedious and faultless meanderings or the absence of Mrs. Strawn. But his ill-directed journey had cost the excellent midwife \$2.00, her fee for professional services, and saved him that amount, which of itself in those times was a goodly sum of money.

During the first ten years of her residence here there were few births on Round Prairie or about Crow Creek at which she did not officiate, and her practice was always attended with success.

While to John Strawn rightly belongs the honor of being the first permanent settler, he was preceded by a family named Waughob, who, upon his arrival had the foundation of a cabin laid on the place where Samuel Ramp lives. Strawn left his family in the vicinity of Bloomington for a couple of weeks, while he made a trip of exploration and staked out his claim. In the meantime a cousin named David Letz, knowing his plans, "jumped his claim," in Western parlance, and began a cabin not far from William Strawn's place. John Strawn on his return bought out both of these parties paying Letz \$50.00, and Waughob \$20.00, the latter going some two miles below and building a cabin on the Jones farm.

The family of Waughobs consisted of William Waughob and wife, and his son Robert and wife, William, Jr., and some daughters, together with his son-in-law, George Easter, and John Shayner and wife. They subsequently sold their cabin on the Jones farm to Robert Bird, and made various claims elsewhere, one of which was on the Bland farm, and some others. They put up the merest semblance of a house, watching their opportunity to sell to the first unsophisticated new comer at a good round price.

A family that settled on Crow Creek in early times was that of Wm. McCune, who died three days after his arrival here, leaving numerous descendants. One of the daughters married Harvey Scott, another William Spangler, and a third, Jacob Hollenback. His son Samuel is a well known minister, located at Canton, in this State.

Mr. McCune and wife sleep in the cemetery at Lacon.

The farm owned by Harvey Scott, was improved by Joseph Burt. Mrs. B. died here in 1832. after which he sold out and went to Pattonsburg, where he became insane. There were no asylums at that early day in the state, and people had to take care of him as best they could. A small log house was built on Crow Creek, wherein he was confined and kept by Joseph Martin until he died.

John, William and Allen Gray were among the early settlers near Scott's.

James Work lived on the Creek, at what is still known as Work's ford. He had two sons, who became active workers in the anti-slavery cause and "conductors" upon the underground railroad. A well known citizen of those days, speaking of them many years afterward said above all others they could be depended on to assist fugitives. Others were true, provided the "conditions" were right, but these men could always be depended on.

Colonel Bell kept a "tavern" for many years, where travelers were entertained, and it was also the stopping place for the stages.

Joseph Martin settled on Crow Creek, six or seven miles south of Lacon, in the spring of 1832. His children were Isaac, who died in 1849; Harriet, James B., Joseph, Mary Ann, Robert, John D., Susan, Rhoda and Sarah.

THE EARLY SCHOOLS.

The first school house in the town of Richland was a cabin, put up by Mr. James Dever, in 1833, for a tenant, but subsequently transformed into a school house, the tenant's wife, Mrs. Gallaher, teaching during the summer and winter of 1833. Some of the children came a distance of three miles to this primitive temple of learning.

The facilities for obtaining an education in this locality at that time were exceedingly meagre. Miss Jane M. Kilgore, now Mrs. H. B. Barnes, desirous of becoming a teacher, was sent to Peoria to school, returning in 1836 with such knowledge and honors as the school there could give her. She taught at Lacon in 1837, and subsequently in her own neighborhood, at what was known as the old Bird School House.

In the winter of 1835 Archie Johnson taught school in the cabin on Nancy Dever's farm.

The old church near Martin Hoover's residence was used for school purposes for many years, and is yet so employed.

The first district school in this part of the Township was in a building which stood where D. Rediker lives, burned down in 1841.

This school house was built in the fall of 1837, a Mr. Bailey commencing a term of school in September of that year, but was taken sick and Irwin Cummings finished the term, also teaching the next summer and winter. Two or three years after the destruction of this building by fire a frame school house was erected on its site, in which Simon P. Ogle and others taught.

A school house was erected near Mr. Samuel Owen's place, in the south-east corner of Section 16, at an early day, of the prevailing material and style of architecture. The old log school house, one-half mile south-west of the present school house site, was built in 1837, and John Brown was the first teacher.

Jesse Bane taught a school in Lancaster's house in the winter of 1836, his pupils being J. A. Keedy, Emery Foster, Benjamin Foster, Eliza Foster, Elijah Bird, Sarah Dever, James Dever, Mary Keedy and Louisa Keedy.

Mr. J. A. Keedy, who, like his father, has been intimately associated with the educational interests of the Township since its organization, has in his possession the first school records, from which it appears that "the Trustees of Schools of Town 29, North Range 2, west of Third Principal Meridian, in Putnam County, met according to appointment, at the house of Nancy Dever, on the 27th of July, 1837. Present: R. Barnes, William Dodds, T. Owen, David Mitchell and James B. Work. Abram Keedy's name was presented as Treasurer and accepted.

"It was ordered by the Trustees that the Sixteenth Section, the Township's school land, be divided into four equal parts by two lines crossing the center at right angles, and numbered as follows: The north-east part, No. 1; north-west, No. 2; south-west, No. 3; south-east, No. 4."

January 8, 1838, the Trustees found the Township school funds "safe and correct."

The candidates for school certificates were examined by the Township Trustees. At this meeting John Brown, Rachel Strawn and Granville Hedrick presented themselves, were put through a course of questioning, and obtained the necessary documents authorizing them to teach.

March 12, 1838, the Board ordered that sixty-six days should consti-

tute a term, or quarter, for schools, and John Brown was allowed \$45.35 for teaching a term of three months, commencing December 6, 1837; Granville Hedricks \$29.81 for three months, and Rachel Strawn \$27.74 for the winter of 1837-8. Mary Work taught a term of three months, commencing June 9, 1838.

March 29, 1829, Allen Wilcox and Irwin Cummings were examined and passed as teachers.

Teachers were paid in proportion to the number of pupils. At first the rate was \$2.00 for each attendant. April 5, 1839, the rate was increased to \$2.50. Under this arrangement Wilcox received \$83.40 and, Cummins \$26.92½ for their respective terms that season.

A. N. Page and Amos Cutler received teachers' certificates June 28, 1839.

In October, 1839, Elizabeth T. Page, for teaching the school in the south-eastern district, was allowed \$15.31½.

In January, 1840, an enumeration of the children over four and under twenty-one was taken; total in the Township, 135.

In January, 1843, the school population had increased to 227.

By 1846 the school funds of the Town had increased to about \$1,000, which, under the law, the Trustees were required to loan to responsible parties. To establish a rate of interest acceptable to the people and as a guide for the board, a public meeting was had, which was held the first Saturday in January, and voted to fix the rate of interest on school funds at eight per cent. per annum.

In October, 1851 the school children of the several districts numbered 342.

Abram Keedy was Treasurer and Clerk from 1837 to July 24, 1858, over twenty-one years.

PIHELPS CHAPEL.

The first Methodist preaching was by Rev. William Royal, at the cabin of Mrs. Bland, in 1831.

In 1832 Rev. Jesse Hale was pastor of Pekin Circuit. He preached at the cabin of Mr. James Dever, and also at that of Mr. Timothy Owens, on Crow Creek, near the mill built by himself and his brother Roderic.

Rev. Zadoc Hall followed in 1833, on the same charge. He organized the first society, consisting of Mrs. Mary Dever, Mrs. Nancy Bird (for-

merly Bland), Mrs. Nancy Dever, John Dever, Robert Barnes, Julia Barnes, William Gallaher and Emily Gallaher. The first three were received by letter; the others on probation. Robert Barnes was appointed class leader, which position he filled many years.

In 1832 or '33 Mr. James Dever organized the first Sabbath school within the limits of Marshall County. It was a union school, supplied with union books. Uncle Robert Bird, a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the only praying man at the time, was acting Superintendent.

Under Rev. Hall's administration Mr. Timothy Owen and wife were converted, and with Roderic Owen and wife, who were members before, united with the class on Round Prairie.

When Mr. John Dever's double cabin was built, the services were generally held in it, until the erection of a school house on the farm of Timothy Owen, in 1844. Here preaching was held for several years, until the erection of Phelps Chapel, in 1852-3. The subscription paper for the church is dated March, 1851.

The following were the Trustees: Timothy Owen, John A. Keedy, James Thompson, Martin Hoover, Abram Keedy, John Wilson and Robert Barnes. Of these Timothy Owen, J. A. Keedy and Martin Hoover still survive.

Samuel Henthorn, Arcene Pichereau and H. B. Barnes were constituted the building committee. The land—two acres, was donated by Mr. James Thompson. Mr. Samuel Wilson, of Lacon, built the church.

The house was used before fully completed. It was finally finished and dedicated September 6, 1853. Rev. J. W. Flowers preached the dedicatory sermon. At the suggestion of Rev. Zadoc Hall, the pastor, it was called Phelps's Chapel, after the distinguished Asahel E. Phelps.

In the fall of 1856, under the pastorate of Rev. John Grundy, a parsonage was commenced on the same lot as the church. It was completed and fully paid for under the administration of Rev. A. C. Price.

The following Methodist ministers have preached in the Township: Wm. Royal in 1831; Jesse Hale in 1832; Zadoc Hall and John McHenry in 1833; Joel Arrington and Charles Parker in 1834; Asahel E. Phelps and Joel Arrington in 1835; Asahel E. Phelps and John McMurtry in 1836; William Cundeff in 1837; Z. Hall in 1838; Daniel Blackwell in 1839; David Dickenson in 1840; C. Atkinson and J. B. Houts in 1841;

J. C. Pinekard in 1842; John Grady in 1843; J. F. Devore in 1844; Francis Smith in 1845; C. Babcock and T. F. Royal in 1846; W. C. Cumming in 1847-8, assisted by A. D. Field in 1848; B. C. Swartz in 1849; L. R. Ellis in 1850-51; Zadoc Hall in 1852-53; W. C. Cumming in 1854; John Grundy in 1855-6; A. C. Price in 1857-8; W. A. Presson and H. M. Cornell in 1859; B. P. Wheat in 1860; W. J. Stubbles in 1861; G. M. Irwin in 1862, and six months of 1863; J. W. Haney balance of 1863 and 1864; F. R. Burgess in 1865-6; A. K. Tullis in 1867-8-9; G. B. Sneaker in 1870-1-2; S. P. Alford in 1873-4; W. P. Graves in 1875; J. W. Denning in 1876-7; A. J. Jones in 1878; and G. W. Burns in 1879—the present pastor of Phelp's Chapel.

THE BARNES AND DEVER FORT.

In May, 1832, rumors came of dreadful massacres by the savages, supplemented by the startling report that they were marching upon the defenseless residents here. Colonel Strawn, by virtue of his commission, called all able-bodied men to arms, and in obedience to the summons they promptly shouldered their muskets and started for the seat of war, leaving the women and children without protectors. Mrs. Dever, her sister-in-law Mrs. Coutlett, a hired boy and two families of little children constituted the population, and they were wholly defenceless, no defence having been prepared.

The evening after the departure of the men the women held a council of war to devise measures for self-protection. After much deliberation they decided upon a stratagem to mislead the Indians, should they come, by the idea that the people had fled. Enough of the bedding and cooking utensils for immediate use were hoisted up stairs by means of a ladder and placed upon the floor; some provisions were also taken up, and the trembling ladies then scattered the remaining furniture in wild confusion over the floor below, and the door-yard, to give the scene the appearance of a hasty flight. The children were hustled above, the ladder pulled up, and then they huddled down in fear and trembling to await results.

Not far off lived the families of Mr. Phillips and Mr. Burt. They had heard of the reported Indian raids in the morning, and concluded it would be safer to go to Mr. Devers', where they would have the consolation of each other's company, and collectively make a better fight than singly. They met at the gate of the Dever cabin, where the confusion and appar-

ent massacre of the entire family caused the women to scream in terror, while those in the loft, believing the racket to be caused by Indians, gave vent to their fears in loud and agonizing shrieks.

For a short time such echoes were awakened as that region had never heard before, but the women within looking out through a crack and perceiving no Indians, discovering instead their neighbors, at once divined the true state of affairs and hastened to admit them.

Soon after they had another scare. This time it came from the direction from whence they expected the savages. The dogs at first barked loudly and then ceased, and all was still. From this it was evident to the excited garrison that their faithful canine sentinels had met the Indians and been tomahawked or shot with arrows. The inmates of the loft now gave up in despair, fully believing their time had come. The savages would in a moment appear, force their way up the ladder (which they had forgotten to remove after the previous alarm), and then the horrors would begin. But happily the approaching party were the husbands of the affrighted ladies, who, on reaching the house and discovering the evidences of savage visitation, were greatly alarmed themselves. They had learned that most of the rumored murders of settlers by Indians were false, especially as to localities near by, but might not some of the accursed red miscreants have slyly crept in among their defenceless wives and little ones in their absence? Rushing into the house the ladder was discovered, and the closed hole above explained the mystery, and with a jolly good shout and a general laugh, the prisoners surrendered and promptly and gladly descended and got supper, which was heartily enjoyed by all.

The next day all hands fell to work, and in a brief time a log stockade was built around Mr. Dever's cabin, which enabled the families in a measure to bid defiance to the enemy.

The Dever fort was designed by Robert Bird, Sr., the only man of the settlement who had ever seen a block house or stockade. Being left-handed he constructed the bastions for a left-handed man, but there being no Benjaminites in the garrison, this was a serious fault. As the enemy never came, however, the error caused no inconvenience. The stockade enclosed about an acre of ground.

The people at night—men, women and children—all occupied the cabin within the slab and picket enclosure, but each family had some little shed outside where separate cooking and eating conveniences were provided. Some of the men were absent during the day at work, while the

greater number were with the Rangers engaged in active duty. The families who fortified were those of Thomas H. Phillips, T. J. Burt, Robert Bird, Nathan Owen, Howell Doddy, William Davis, Mr. Boyleston, and Mrs. Bland.

Colonel Strawn was asked to join those in the fort, but with characteristic independence, refused, ridiculing the idea and declaring that if the Indians should come he and his wife and children would be safe enough in a hog pen.

The old fort was afterward moved out upon the farm of Mr. Spangler and occupied as a residence for many years, and still remains standing.

In 1831 Robert Barnes, as stated, sold his interest in the Dever cabin and took up a claim on what is now the William Ramsay place. He was elected Justice of the Peace, and when the war broke out was chosen Captain of a company of Rangers, organized among the settlers for frontier service.

In 1835 Mr. Barnes sold his homestead to John Gray for \$900, and purchased of a Mr. Lewis the place south of Crow Creek on which he ever after lived, for \$600. Mr. Lewis removed to the vicinity of Magnolia, where there was already established a large Society of Friends, of which he became an influential member, noted for his anti-slavery opinions.

The heavy grove of timber now seen west of the house, was then a smooth prairie with a few hazel brush in scattered bunches. His nearest neighbor was Henry D. Palmer, a noted Campbellite preacher, while in the vicinity of Washburn dwelt a man named Phillips. He filled many offices of trust and profit acceptably, saw his children grow up to manhood and most of them settle about him, and was finally gathered to his fathers, dying of cancer in the face in 1879.

JOHN WIER.

Among those identified with the early history and development of Marshall County there is none more prominent, none more deserving of special mention than John Wier. Born in the State of Maine May 18, 1797, of Scotch-Yankee ancestry, the first twenty years of his life (with the exception of one year's service during the war of 1812), were spent in the vicinity of his birth, his life similar in all respects to that of all boys in a new country.

In 1817, enthused by the glowing accounts of the marvelous beauty

and fertility of the great West, he cast his fortune with two others, and embarking together with a rickety one-horse wagon, they started for the land of promise. Upon reaching Washington County, Pennsylvania, young Wier accepted employment in a stone quarry, remaining there about eighteen months, and then went to Western Virginia, locating near Wheeling, where he remained fourteen years. In 1825 he married Catherine Byrne, who proved herself a worthy helpmate and counselor throughout all the long years of their wedded life. Three children were born to them while here,—Henry, Benjamin (died when nine years old), and an infant that lived but a few days.

An incident which occurred during Mr. Wier's residence here may in some degree account for his hatred of slavery and his hearty support of the Republican party in its struggle with that "sum of all villainies." A neighbor owned a likely slave with whom Wier often labored in the fields and who one night walked off with the north star for his guide, forgetting to return. His owner attributed his escapade to the teachings of Mr. Wier, and commenced suit for recovery of the negroe's value, and although Wier persistently declared his entire innocence of complicity or knowledge of the slave's intentions the jury decided against him, and he surrendered every dollar he possessed—the hard-earned accumulations of years, in payment.

After fourteen years residence in this locality, with two thousand dollars as the result of his accumulations, he embarked on a steamer with his family and household goods, journeyed down the Ohio River to Cairo, and thence up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Pekin, where he landed in 1832. Remaining there one day, he started out on an exploring tour, going as far north as the Vermillion, and returning, passed the night with Colonel Strawn, who had settled here two years before. Hearing of a claim in the vicinity for sale, he next morning went to the place, afterward occupied by him until his death, and in a few moments became the purchaser of 240 acres, on which was a cabin but no other improvements, for \$500. He returned to Pekin, proceeded at once to Springfield, and entered an additional claim of 240 acres, and soon after a keel^{*} boat landed himself, his family and effects at Columbia, now Lacon, and he was shortly established in his new home, with the families of Colonel Strawn, Hall, Babb, Harris, Cassell, Forbes and Barnes as neighbors.

The Black Hawk war was raging at this time, and within ten days after his arrival he was enrolled in the militia and chosen Captain, but

modestly waived that honor and accepted a Lieutenancy. But with little faith in the flying rumors of Indian outrages, and his mind occupied with projects for the improvement of his farm, Mr. Wier made little mark as a soldier. It is related of him that he stood guard with unloaded gun, and on the march gave more care to his horse than to his arms.

The families of most of the settlers were “forted up” during the absence of the men folks in the army, but those of Strawn, Wier, Babb and Cassell remained outside the stockade, the latter two leaving their cabins and taking up their residence with Mrs. Wier until the supposed danger was over.

After the annihilation of Black Hawk’s band and the disbandment of the volunteers Mr. Wier set vigorously to work upon the improvement of his farm. Arriving here on the 10th of May, by the 10th of August following he had eighty acres fenced and forty acres broken, his only help being one man and a team, and a portion of his time being spent in the volunteer service, as stated. Early dawn found him at work, and dewy eve fell upon his stalwart form engaged with undiminished zeal in the labors of the field.

The third fall after his arrival he cultivated eighty acres of wheat alone. In his subsequent extensive farming operations Mr. Wier made no specialty, but raised all kinds of grain, hogs, cattle, horses and mules. Game was abundant, but to him time was too valuable to be spent in hunting, and he was singularly ignorant of the use of fire-arms for those times.

In 1844 his second and best loved child, Benjamin, was accidentally killed by being caught in a threshing machine while playing in the barn. It was a severe blow, as the boy had given promise of unusual ability, and inherited many of his father’s traits.

In 1836 Mr. Wier made his second purchase of land, a tract on the Sandy, and from this time until his death, made frequent and extensive purchases, one of the last being the “Lacon Farm” of 210 acres, from Jabez Fisher, for \$10,000.

Mr. Wier was a giant in stature, six feet two inches high, compactly built, with sinews strengthened by toil and a frame unimpaired by disease. In character he was honest, upright, hospitable and charitable to a fault. In those early times when every house was a place of entertainment few nights passed without the presence of strangers beneath his roof, yet none were turned away, and no pay would be received. He was temperate in

all things, never indulged in liquor or tobacco, and avoided the luxuries of high living. Without education or aid other than industry, frugality and temperance, he rose from poverty to the possession of a fortune estimated at not less than \$50,000, and upon his death was sincerely mourned by all. His tombstone bears the inscription, "The poor man's friend."

THE MURDER OF M'NEIL.

William McNeil was an old man whose years had almost reached the limit assigned by the law-giver of Israel. He emigrated from Ohio in 1829 or 1830, journeying with a Mr. Johnson, who settled at Washington. Mr. Johnson was a blacksmith, and the father-in-law of James Hall, the latter purchasing a set of tools and forge from him and set up a shop near his residence, where McNeil worked for several years.

During the Black Hawk troubles he was elected lieutenant of the company of Rangers raised for the protection of the infant settlement, and possessed all the qualities constituting a good soldier. Some time after he married a daughter of Edward Harris, and became possessor of eighty acres of land five miles north-east of Lacon, where he built a cabin and reared a numerous family.

He was industrious and active, a kind neighbor with but a single fault, a love for spirituous liquors, indulged in at long intervals. In the course of time his wife died, and after a season of widowhood he led to the altar a Mrs. Sarah Myers, a woman who had been twice wedded before. She was a person of strong will and sharp temper, and had several children by a former husband, and the bringing of the two families together led to dissensions and bitter quarrels. Two children were born to them, one of which died when quite young; the other, at the time of McNeil's death, was twelve years old. An Irish lad of similar age was an inmate of the family, and usually slept with McNeil below, while his son occupied a bed in the attic.

Mrs. McNeil had a daughter named Melissa, a rather comely girl who had learned the millinery and dress-making business, and desired her mother to join her in setting up a shop in Lacon. The old lady proposed to divide the property, take her share and follow her daughter, and leave her husband on the farm to shift for himself. This was strenuously opposed and led to long and bitter disputes.

The old man seemed much cast down and dispirited, and frequently shed tears when conversing with friends. While affairs were in this condition he was foully murdered,—shot in his sleep, two balls entering his face, making a ghastly wound and causing instant death. The bed wheron he lay occupied one corner of the poorly furnished room, and through a window three feet distant the murderer fired the fatal shot. It was not evident at the time, but afterward shown that the weapon used was an old musket McNeil carried when a soldier, and being destitute of a lock was touched off with a coal of fire. Death must have come instantaneously. The countenance wore the peaceful expression of painless dissolution, the gray locks were matted with blood, and the crimson current had ran through the bedding to the floor and gathered itself into a pool.

Suspicion finally settled upon Mrs. McNeil and she was placed under arrest. The Irish boy who lived with the family and usually shared the old man's bed, was ordered that night by Mrs. McNeil to sleep in the chamber above. During the night he heard a loud noise, and covering his head did not waken again until morning, when he was called by the old lady and told what had transpired. The weapon with which the crime was committed could not be found, but a singular dream of John Jason, a near neighbor, pointed to its concealment and it was found hidden between the outer wall of the building and the plastering.

Mrs. McNeil was placed on trial and ably defended by Burns, Bangs and Winslow, the jury bringing in a verdict of "not guilty."

THE FIRST FUNERAL IN MARSHALL COUNTY.

It was the winter of the great snow. Hill and valley were covered with the winding sheet of nature's decay. The world was in a shroud of immaculate purity. Hushed was the song of birds, the hum of bees, the low of cattle. Underneath the mantle of white, the germs of flowers, the tiny ministers of God, were frozen past the resurrecting powers of sunny skies and balmy atmospheres.

The settlers sat within their cabins, and listened to the whistling, the sobbing and the moaning or the wind through the "puncheon" doors, and waited drearily for the cessation of the storm, the opening of the Heavens and the return of warmer days and blither hours.

Over the little settlement the Death Angel had been hovering for

some time, and as the storm grew more fierce and the winds howled more dismally, the settlers often thought of him who was lying in the grasp of the King of Terrors. They knew that ere the skies should smile again they would miss from among their band a familiar face, the face of one who with them, had journeyed from afar into the new country.

In the solitude of that trackless region bathed in the Alpine covering of the winter's snow, Daniel Bland was passing into the life beyond. Attended by the loving wife who had braved the dangers of the long pilgrimage to the new country, surrounded by the sobbing children so soon to be bereft of a father's care and counsel, the strong heart of the brave pioneer ceased to beat—Daniel Bland had found the great snow a winding sheet for himself as well as for his mother earth. He had finished the life struggle, and ere the weeping loved ones beside his couch could realize the fact, his soul was standing before the Great Judge, to be dealt with as the mercy of the Father should direct.

It is a solemn thing in a crowded city to see a fellow being carried to his last home; it was indescribably so to the little community shut out from all the world by deep snows and pathless wastes.

When the news of his death spread abroad, the settlers wended their way to the house of death to perform the last sad rites; and now a difficulty arose. There was not sufficient lumber in the settlement with which to construct a coffin. The nearest saw mill was forty miles distant, and it was death to make the journey. Even the doors of houses and the window frames were made of "puncheons," or planks riven from the black walnut, ash or bass-wood trees. In this predicament a tree was cut down in the forest, split into slabs, and a rough box fastened with wooden pins was made to answer the part of a coffin, which, when completed, was hauled by "old George," Colonel Strawn's well known horse, through the snow to where the dead man lay, near what is now Phelps' Chapel.

"Few and short were the prayers that were said,"

and no sermon was preached beside that lonely grave, but the body was laid silently away under the snow to await the angel's summons on the Resurrection morn. Through sickness and sufferings and hardships Daniel Bland had gone to his Redeemer's rest. The forests which had echoed the sturdy ring of his axe should hear the sound no more; the paths he once had trod would still be walked upon by others, but by him, nevermore!

No memorial stone marks this the first grave in Marshall County, and all traces of the little mound have long since been obliterated by the onward march of improvement, but yet, on that last day, when the sea and the earth shall give up their dead, the soul of the pioneer, Daniel Bland, will lead into the world beyond the regiment of Marshall County's dead.

RAPID GROWTH OF TIMBER.

Those unacquainted with the growth of timber might doubt that any perceptible growth would be made in so short a time as that embraced within the memory of the old settlers; yet they all bear testimony to remarkable changes in the timber within a comparatively brief period. The first settlers around the timbered sections of Richland Township could see over the tops of the undergrowth around the borders of the woods, then confined to the brows of the hills and ravines. Then, deer and cattle could be seen browsing in the thickets where are now trees from thirty to seventy-five feet in height. Scrubby oak openings have given way to bodies of tall timber, hazle brush thickets to groves of thrifty young walnut and hickory trees, and the boundaries of timber in places have extended far into what were then marshy prairies, covered with weeds, grass and clumps of willows. The improvement of the prairies put a stop to the yearly destruction of the woods by fire, young trees began to grow, and rapidly spread and matured into fine new forests; and now the general outlines of the timbered localities bear no resemblance to those of forty or even twenty-five years ago.

Within the memory of Mr. Barnes, and probably many other of the pioneer settlers, the splendid oaks and other trees which constitute the grove south of Lacon were small bushes, many of them, in fact, just peeping through the surface.

What are now large shade trees of walnut and cottonwood were set out by Mr. and Mrs. Barnes in 1840. From one of these, in 1861 twelve joists, 2 x 6 inches, were split. Some of these trees are now two feet in diameter, and many apple trees set out even later are from three to three and a half feet in circumference.

NATHAN OWEN'S GRAVE YARD.

On a slight elevation in the valley west of Mr. Hoover's dwelling is "Nathan Owen's Grave Yard." It lies on the west line of Richland

Township. In the fall of 1834, Miss Mary Conley, aged eighteen years, a daughter of Preston Conley, was interred here, and two children of Mr. Owen, who donated the ground to the public for burial purposes, are also buried here. It has since become the general repository of the dead for the neighborhood.

INCIDENTS.

John Strawn was very practical in his business relations and assumed no risks. It is told of him that a merchant of Lacon once came out to obtain his signature to a note, and he hit upon a novel plan to avoid it, falling down in a fit and simulating insanity. As soon as the non-plussed merchant had got out of sight Strawn's reason returned, and he laughed immoderately at the satisfactory results, to himself, of his strategem. When asked by one of his family what ailed him, he exploded with mirth as he replied: "I did n't claw the air and howl and beller for nothing; I was working to save five hundred dollars!"

The Colonel was sharp at a bargain, and not a few anecdotes are told of his success in this particular. Once he hired William Orr to chop down trees at ten cents each, Strawn to select the trees to be felled. The shrewd old fellow went through the woods and marked the biggest he could find. Orr had his eye longingly on one of Strawn's daughters, therefore to have backed out of the job was not to be thought of; it was "no chop, no girl," and he manfully chopped away.

In 1831 John Strawn and three others went hunting hogs across Crow Creek, and while absent the waters rose rapidly, making it impossible to cross. Strawn swam his horse over, but the men were obliged to remain all night without fire or provisions. The next morning the citizens came and threw some provisions over, but they were forced to remain several days before rescued.

The Strawn's were "all business," and drove sharp trades with whom-ever they dealt. John had an elder brother named Jacob, living about Jacksonville, who was wealthy, and when lands came into market here John took several fine horses along on his way to Springfield, assured he could find a customer for them in the person of his brother. In the course of the evening's conversation the latter found out about how much John

was "short," and made that the value of the horses, nor would he give any more. It vexed John not a little, for they were really fine horses and worth more money, but as he wanted to secure some land and must have the additional funds to do so, he accepted the amount with the best grace he could and departed.

It happened the season was cold and backward, and very little good corn was raised, though John had forty acres in good condition and a hundred or more that was not. Jacob was a large stock dealer, and was getting up a herd specially for the Galena market, and as crops in his vicinity were poor he wrote to his brother asking how the yield was with him. John replied, saying he had a hundred and fifty acres of the best possible quality, and wanted him to come and inspect it in person, so Jacob saddled his horse and made his appearance. The corn stood in a body, and John, while pretending to show him the entire field adroitly managed to bring him back to the same place at each turn they made, so that he supposed that it was of one uniform good quality. A purchase was made at a high figure, and Jacob sent up his herd in charge of a trusty assistant. It did not take long to go through the forty acres of good corn and then they began to fall off and grow poor. The attendant wrote his employer the cattle were doing poorly, who came up and at once saw he had been taken in, but when he upbraided John on the subject, the latter admitted it and added, "It's all right, brother; it's all right. We're even now, and after this we'll trade fair."

Strawn never believed in banks nor patronized them, and this known trait in his character exposed him to many risks from desperate men, who believed he kept large sums of money on the premises. One dark and stormy night a few years previous to his death, he was awakened by calls outside, and going to the window, a request was made to let some travelers come in for shelter. He directed them to an outhouse, but while parleying the door of his sleeping apartment opened and in stalked a stranger, pistol in hand, followed by another. Strawn was greatly frightened, and made no attempt at resistance while the robbers tied his hands behind his back. They would have served Mrs. S. in the same way, but she promised to lie still. They next conducted Strawn down stairs, relieved him of about \$300, and helped themselves freely to eatables. Previous to leaving they charged him to never to divulge their visit under penalty of being murdered and having his property burned down. Strawn

promised to obey and did so, and the occurrence did not leak out until many months afterward. It has since transpired who the robbers were, but two of them had left the country and the evidence was too insufficient to convict the third.

The abundance of game here in early times is well attested. William Strawn reports killing four deer in one day, and he killed thirty-six prairie chickens at thirty-four consecutive shots, killing four chickens at two shots.

Enoch Strawn when a lad was hunting with his father, when the latter shot a deer, the bullet grazing his back and only stunning him, but which nevertheless dropped as though dead. Enoch was on horseback and quickly rode to its side, when seeing the animal was about to rise, pluckily sprung upon its back, and clasping his arms round its neck hung on for dear life. The animal rose to its feet, and then began a contest for mastery not often seen. The boy was in real peril, for the deer's sharp hoofs would cut like knives, and the thrust of its antlers is seldom cured. The struggles were such that Strawn could not shoot without endangering his son, nor could the boy loosen his grasp to get a knife, but after a few desperate bounds the dogs pulled it down, and a shot at short range finished it. In the winter of 1830-31 he caught twenty-six wolves in traps.

Lynxes and wildcats were numerous and very destructive to barnyard fowls, pigs and lambs. Once a lynx was treed in the timber near the present Strawn graveyard. Eight bullets were fired into the tough animal before it fell, and then, in its dying struggles the ferocious and powerful feline fearfully clawed several of the dogs.

A gray wolf captured by them measured seven feet from the nose to the end of the tail. A lynx once killed a half-grown hog in the daytime within a few rods of the house, and was driven off by the inmates, but the half dozen dogs set in pursuit could not be induced to follow it.

Camp-meetings were pleasurable incidents in the often monotonous lives of the settlers, and were attended by young and old, grave and gay. Some came for spiritual enlightenment, some for amusement, some out of mere curiosity, and others for sinister purposes, they being sometimes frequented by roughs and even robbers, as in the well remembered instance of robbery by the Reeves gang. Members who were able brought their

tents, and aside from their own families were expected to accommodate their friends. Robert Bird tells how he attended a meeting in Strawn's woods and was invited by a friend to share with his children a couch of straw in one corner. He retired early, going off into a sound sleep, and was surprised in the morning to find half a dozen buxom young ladies in undress uniform calmly snoring by his side. They had been taken in during the night and shown to their resting place by the "woman of the house," utterly forgetful of the already occupant of the "bunk." Great was their consternation and greater his fright, but the hostess explained all and the matter ended with a jolly laugh all round.

A stylish wedding took place in Richland Township in the winter of 1833-4, at the house of Mr. Burt, in Round Prairie, it being that of Mr. Robert Bird to Miss Sarah A. Burt; Esquire Barnes tied the nuptial knot. The young men who attended doffed their buckskin breeches in honor of the occasion, and arrayed themselves in store clothes (chiefly blue jeans,) and tow shirts, while the girls threw off home-spun for "kalliker," and everything was exceedingly lovely. After the ceremony the guests, about twenty couples, partook of a mammoth pot-pie, from the discussion of which they were aroused by the squeak of the violin, a prelude to the merry dance which followed.

An old settler speaking of the cool season that followed the great snow says there were no house flies, nor none of the plagues which torment cattle and horses. No cellars were needed to preserve milk and butter. There were neither fleas nor bed bugs, and not a musquito put in its exasperating song to disturb the pioneer in his sleep, though the cabin was in the edge of the woods, among tall grass and rank weeds. Neither ague nor fevers appeared during that season, nor malarial diseases. But little corn or wheat was raised, but the crop of grass was enormous.

One of the exciting sports of the day was horse-racing, and a race was once arranged between Eli Strawn and a young man named Wright, from Shaw's Point. It was towards spring, and while the track was hard packed in the road, there was a treacherous unknown depth of snow in the ravines it were best to avoid. This Strawn well knew, but Wright did not. They started together and ran neck and neck until, reaching a ravine, Strawn's horse crowded the other off the track, and over they went out of

sight in the depths below. Both were extricated without harm, and the race was won by Strawn.

The Waughobs were a lazy, improvident set, who spent their time hunting bees. Once a swarm was found near Strawn's house, and wishing to get it without alarming the latter they proceeded to cut it down silently with augers. Manfully they worked through a long autumn day and had nearly succeeded when they were discovered. Strawn used to say it was the sweetest honey he ever ate and the cheapest.

September 12, 1836, William Maxwell concluded that as prospective cities were springing up around him in every direction, it would be well for Richland to have one, and accordingly laid out and platted "Auburn," on Section 25, Town 29, Range 2 west. Getting tired of waiting for his city to grow he plowed up its numerous streets and alleys and turned it to account as a corn and potato field.

While Colonel Bell kept the station house at the ford he frequently had considerable money on hand, and kept his "bank" in his clock. One day after the stage had departed he found his hoard was missing. Mounting his horse, he rode swiftly until the vehicle was overtaken, and found his money safe in the bottom, where the thief had placed it.



LA PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLV.

DESCRIPTION.



THIS Township, lying in the south-west corner of Marshall County, is six miles square, and contains very little waste land in its borders. The soil is a rich dark loam, and in fertility and productiveness has no superior in the State. While it has no large streams, it has an abundance of "spring branches," as they are termed, and no Township in the County is better watered or better adapted to agricultural uses than is this. It lies within the limits of the "Military bounty tract," a portion of territory set apart by the Government for bounties to soldiers of the war of 1812, and specially selected for its many advantages. It was surveyed in 1815-16, and patents allotted, but the holders transferred them in many cases to others, and out of it grew conflicts of ownership and litigation extending down to the present time. This retarded settlements until about 1850-55, since when the country has rapidly developed.

La Prairie is by many considered the banner township of the County. As compared with others its farms are smaller, and in a majority of cases owned by the occupants upon them, and as a natural sequence they are under a more intelligent cultivation, their buildings better, the hedges in finer condition, and there is a general air of thriftiness. The inhabitants are mainly to the "manor born," though there is a large colony of Scotch within its borders — good citizens and thrifty farmers, who have stamped the impress of their industry and individuality upon the Township.

To Chas. Stone it is said belongs the honor of giving the very pretty and suggestively appropriate name it bears, which came about in this wise. The name of Fairfield was the first choice of the majority, and La Prairie their second. This report was made to Silas Ramsey, County Judge, who, finding there were already several places bearing the first

name, and none the second, arbitrarily but very properly substituted that name on the records.

SCHOOLS.

The first school in the neighborhood of Root's farm was by Miss Lucia Root, in a hewn log house near Simon Reed's place, in Hallock, during a part of 1831.

In 1837 or '38 Robert Will built a school house in this locality, which building has since been known by his name.

About 1855 a school house was built near E. P. Roots. It is a frame the lower story built for schools, and a large public hall above.

The first school house in the southeast corner of the Township was a log building erected in 1843, and school kept there during the winter of 1843-44, by John Lindsay.

The first school house in the vicinity of Lawn Ridge was put up on Stone's land.

Prior to this time school had been taught in Mr. Hurd's house by Mrs. Joseph Atwood, in about 1847.

The first school was taught in Hurd's dwelling, near Mr. Chas. Stone's house. The people living about that neighborhood in 1852, undertook to build a school house at the expense of the entire Township, but the citizens generally objected and quite a feeling was aroused in the community. A compromise was finally made, and the house built, the first in this part of the Township. It was eighty rods from Stone's residence, near the "corners."

FIRST SETTLERS.

Beginning at the south-eastern corner of La Prairie we find that the first settler in the locality was William Coulson, who came here from Peoria in September, 1832, and established himself in a double log cabin on Section twenty-three, where for several years he kept a house of entertainment. It stood about half a mile south of the Archibald Riddle farm, on the Galena road.

In 1838 he built a new house, about half a mile away from the first, and lived there several years, keeping a hotel as before. He died in about 1843, and his place was bought by Archibald Riddle and brother, where the former now resides. Mrs. Coulson moved to Peoria and

married a Mr. King, and the daughter also took a mate and moved to Iowa.

The second settler in the town was Solomon Brewer, who settled on Section twenty-five, one mile south of Coulson, in 1834. Brewer was a Carolinian and his wife was born in Virginia. They continued to reside here until 1844, when they moved to Peoria County and thence to Iowa.

The third to make a home in this Township was James Kenyon, who settled on the northeast quarter of Section twenty-six in August, 1836. He was a native of Lancastershire, England. When he came to this country he located in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and labored as a weaver until he had earned enough money to send back for his family, who joined him in due time. On his arrival in this Township the first night he encamped under a tree, and leaving his family hastened to Quincy and entered the land, and lived on it, a prosperous farmer, until 1847, when he moved to Peoria County, and there died, as did his wife and daughter and only son, James.

In about 1832 Mr. Elisha Stowell and wife, formerly Miss Ellen Will, settled on Section Thirty-three, on the land now occupied in part by Lucas P. Root, two miles east of Lawn Ridge. Mr. Stowell continued to reside thereon until 1842, when he moved to Stark County, where he died.

James Caldwell came in 1838 from Erie, Pa., with his wife, whose maiden name was Sallie Hay, and settled on Section Twenty-five, on land which he had entered in 1836. He built a cabin and went to work with a will, and soon opened a fine farm, where his family grew to three sons and eight daughters. Here he lived until 1878, when he sold to Alexander Russell, and moved to Chillicothe.

In 1838 Richard Scholes bought and settled on the south-west quarter of Section 3, about two miles west of Drake's Grove, and built a substantial log cabin, where he lived a couple of years, when he sold to Nathaniel Weed. It is now the property of the McCoy heirs. Scholes moved to North Hampton, where his wife died, and thence to Chillicothe, where he too paid the debt of Nature.

The next prominent settlers of this locality were Archibald and Robert Riddle, two Scotchmen who bought the Coulson farm in 1843-4 and for several years kept "bach." there. In 1851 or 1852 Robert sold his interest to "Archie" and went to California, where he was unfortun-

ate and returned broken down in health, but recovered, and in a few years after bought a place at Weed's corner, when he opened a fine farm and grew wealthy.

Another leading citizen of the Township in the same vicinity, is Mr. Edwin S. Jones, long known to the old settlers as Esquire Jones. He was an early settler of Peoria County, and bought the Solomon Brewer farm in the summer of 1844, and has ever since resided there.

Among the early settlers in the southern part of the Township is Erastus C. Root, who came to the County in October, 1830. Although his farm is mostly in Marshall County his dwelling lies across the line, so that he is in reality a citizen of Peoria County. His father, Jehiel Root, and family, accompanied by Samuel Reed and others, making ten wagons in all, came here from Ohio and settled in Hallock Township. Mr. Root lived for some time in Chillicothe, and began improvements on his present farm in 1836. His cabin was an exceedingly airy and open one. There was no floor, nor door, nor chinks between the logs, and Mrs. Root was in mortal terror lest the Indians might crawl in through these roomy crevices and steal her children, and finally getting indignant at the delay of fixing the cabin, told her husband the holes in the wall must be stopped or they would lose some of their children.

The stage road then ran through North Hampton, from Peoria to Galena. It came down from Boyd's Grove, east of the timber, and changed horses at Esq. Jones' place.

Roswell Nurs, another neighbor, came in 1837, and Jacob Booth one year later, and settled near what was known as the "Buffalo wallow," from a springy place, wherein large numbers of buffalo bones have been found.

Robert Will, Sr., came in 1837 and settled near Root's claim.

Lyman Robinson arrived here in 1843, and opened a farm.

SETTLERS AT LAWN RIDGE.

Charles Stone came on to the prairie in 1845. His house was for many years the only place of public entertainment in the Township.

The next settlers in this locality were Joshua Powell and "Deacon" Smith, the former on the south-east quarter of Section 32.

The first blacksmithing in this locality was done by Mr. Smith, in a part of Charles Stone's house

Rev. Mr. Ordway came about 1846, and the Hurds came a little later. Other settlers were William Stevenson, Mr. Stowell, Sr., the Vincents, Joseph Calder, Ransom Caldwell and Jacob Booth. The latter lived some years in the timber south before taking up his last homestead.

Henry Scott settled on Section 16, and Mr. Davidson and Wilder Scott settled upon the School Section. Stephen Wilmot came in an earlier day.

Mr. Stone brought here 1,000 head of sheep, but the wolves were so numerous and destructive that he abandoned this enterprise in 1850.

In 1848 Elisha N. Leigh and Amos F. Leigh improved portions of Section 15 and 16, and moved their families a year later.

North of Chas. Stone's, Joel Atwood settled a year or two later.

Francis Grady was the pioneer of Camp Grove, coming about 1842.

William Smith and his sons Andrew and William and James, who settled on Section 16, came soon after.

Mr. Scott, with his sons Henry and William, came about 1851. They first settled in the timber, and afterward moved on to Section 16. Henry died in the fall of 1876, and William was drowned at Lacon in 1869.

Stephen Wilmot settled on Section 3, and moved to Section 16 two years after, about 1847. His sons B. C. and X. C. are now both residents of Section 16.

Levi Holmes located on Section 2, James Doran on Section 12.

Father Kellogg came in 1850, starting his farm in the western part of Section 7.

Charlotte Reynolds came here about 1855, and improved the southwest quarter of Section 8.

Wm. Ricker improved the quarter section in 1854 or '55, which is now owned by David Shearer.

Wm. Cornell, now living near Loda, Ill., settled north of Malachi Grove's farm about 1854 or '55. He was a broom-maker and sold his goods all over the country.

Adam Crawford settled upon his present place in 1854.

Alden Hull came here about 1845. He started in life as a shoemaker, was a Justice of the Peace many years, a member of the State Legislature, and was Treasurer of the School Fund for his District. December 12, 1879, he celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday.

James Davidson opened his farm in 1855, and Robert Pringle about that date. James Leigh improved near them on Section 24; about 1852,

buying from Geo. Scholes, who had fenced the land but not broken it. James Leigh and his wife died of typhoid fever 1859.

Thomas Keller settled west of Archie Riddles, in the edge of the timber, in 1850. He was a Methodist exhorter, and becoming insane, was sent to Jacksonville, where he died.

George Hasty improved near Caldwell's place, on the north, about 1850.

Richard Frary opened his farm in 1850, and Paul Frary near him about the same season, both on Sections nineteen and twenty.

James Bates settled north of them in 1850 and afterward sold to Wm. McCoy.

Arthur Ricker improved a farm, now occupied by Mr. Lucas Root's sons, in 1850. Mrs. R. was a poetess and Universalist, and celebrated her religious views and her loyalty by composing patriotic odes.

Thomas Wood opened his claim on Section 18 about 1852. He met with a sad bereavement in the loss of a little son, who, while attempting to drink from an open well, fell in and was drowned.

Nathan Manock made a farm north of Hasty's on Section 21.

Nathaniel Green made his farm on Section 24, about 1855.

Ann C. Calder, whose husband, James Calder, died soon after she came here, opened a large farm and proved herself to be an excellent farmer and business woman.

John Martin came here in 1853, buying part of his place from John Halstead.

Barte Halstead opened his farm south of Martin's about 1860.

Jacob Booth came here in 1850, improved his farm on Section 24, and subsequently died there.

Elijah Stowell settled north of the above in about 1850.

Solomon Stowell began on his place in Section 27 in about 1852, and afterward moved to near Chillcothe.

Calvin Stowell's farm was improved by Ebenezer Stowell, his father, in 1865.

Ransom Caldwell came to this locality, settling first in the timber, in 1855, and afterward moved out upon his present farm, in Section 23.

Byron Hill started a place east of him in 1859, and sold to Mr. Coonly, who injured himself while playing ball and died in 1860.

Byron Hill also improved the north-east quarter of Section 29 in 1854.

John Currie made a farm north-east of the Town Hall, on Section 15,

in 1854, lived here for many years and then removed with his family to Ford County.

Milton Webber came in 1854, and made improvements east of the Smith farm.

Dr. Levi Vincent came to his place in 1855.

Lyman Bates came to the Township in 1835, and worked for Richard Scholes on his farm. He broke the first prairie in the Township and planted the first osage orange hedge west of the river. They came from J. B. Turner, of Jacksonville.

Joel D. Forbush settled near the north-east corner of La Prairie in 1851. He had been a resident of Lacon, coming to that place in 1846.

EDWIN S. JONES.

None of the early settlers of Marshall County are better known than "Squire Jones," a title he is justly entitled to, having been Justice of the Peace for about forty years. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1805, but was brought up in Ohio. He came to Chillicothe November 9, 1831.

He recollects the winter of 1831 as being very cold and long. It began in November, about the 17th, and remained intensely cold, with but a slight "let up" in January, until the latter part of March or first week in April.

Another ancient settler is Lucas Root, who came from New York in 1830, and was one of the first settlers on La Salle Prairie. He has seen greater changes in his lifetime than is often given to man to witness, and bears the burden of his years well. He came to La Prairie in 1841 and performed his full share in developing the country and making the wilderness to blossom as a rose. We are indebted to him for many of the incidents here related.

THE U. P. CHURCH.

The United Presbyterian Church of this Township was organized in about 1845, but for the first thirteen years of its existence the records it seems are lost, the oldest sessional records known being dated April 1, 1840. Up to this year there were no church organizations of any kind in La Prairie, nor nearer to the south than Peoria. The Scotch Presbyterians, among whom were the Scotts, Smiths and Davidsons, soon began to

come in, but they were without pastors and their flocks were tended by wandering shepherds. Among those were Father Weed, John Wallace, J. C. Porter and John McMasters, D. D.

In March, 1844, Rev. John L. Freetly was appointed by the Presbytery to preach here, and on the first Sabbath of June, 1844, the Society was duly constituted. He was accompanied by Thomas Smith, from Peoria. The services were held in a barn belonging to Samuel McCoy, one-half mile west of Samuel McLaughlin's. James Ross and George Davidson were the first Ruling elders. These, together with George Scott and wife, John Davidson and wife, Mrs. George Davidson and Mrs. Wilhelmina Smith, eight in all, constituted the organization.

The second communion was had at the barn of George Scott, where services were conducted by Rev. John Pinkerton.

They had no house of worship in those days, meeting at the houses of the brothers, and their spiritual wants attended to by different ministers. A prominent place of meeting was at Archie Riddle's barn. On one occasion the people had gathered there, when a snow storm prevented the expected arrival of a minister, and Mr. William Bryden read a discourse from a volume of sermons.

About the 1st of April, 1849, Rev. N. C. Weed moved into the bounds of the congregation from Indiana County, Pa.

The Society was first designated as the Chillicothe congregation, then as the Senachwine Congregation, and lastly it assumed the name it now bears, the "Fairfield Congregation of the United Presbyterian Church." This was adopted in the expectancy that Fairfield would become the name of the town.

Father Weed was the first stated or located minister, continuing his ministrations twelve years.

The roll of his congregation in 1849, was as follows: Thomas Scott, Jenet Scott, Henry Scott, Wilhelmina Smith, William Smith, John Wylie, Jennie Wylie, John Davidson, Jennie Davidson, George Hastings, Helen Hastings and Jenet Riddle.

The Ruling Elders were: James Ross and George Davidson.

Father Weed was the regular supply here until the spring of 1850, when he divided his time between his flock here and a church on Spoon River until August 8, 1853.

Previous to the date when Father Weed became the pastor, the congregation had worshiped in an old school house near the north-eastern limits

of the town, and sometimes at Northampton or at Yankee Street school house, but their most usual place of meeting was at the school house first named. Here they suffered from cold in winter, the wind howling through the crevices of the house, and in summer wicked boys would disturb the people within by pitching quoits, throwing stones down the wide mouthed chimney &c.

Once after Mr. Smith's family had taken their places in the wagon to go home, the keen eyes of "Grandmother" Smith detected something wrong. It was discovered that one of the linch pins had been removed. The good old pastor was sometimes moved to remonstrate with the scamps, and once when interrupted by a ball of mud thrown through an open window at his venerable head, threatened the penalties of the law upon the offenders.

The place of worship followed the progress of the settlers out upon the prairies and for a time they met at the Hull school house.

Father Weed after twelve years labor surrendered his charge of Fairfield Church, April 4, 1864, and on that day preached his farewell sermon from Cor. xiii, 2, "Finally brethren farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

During his ministry here eighty-eight persons were received into the fellowship of the church—thirty-three on profession of faith and fifty-five on certificates.

During the closing year of his pastorate, arrangements had been made to build a house of worship, and a sight selected and accepted, for which the Society was placed under obligations to Mr. John Currie who donated the ground. Two acres were devoted to the purposes of the church, and the contract of putting up the building awarded to Robert Turnbull.

During the next two years and two months the Society had no stated minister, Rev. D. C. Cochran once in that period visiting the congregation and administering the rights of communion, at which time five persons were added to the church on certificates.

Rev. John F. Graham became thesecond pastor. The church building was completed in September, and cost \$1,600. The first services were held within its walls on the first Sabbath of October, 1863, when it was delivered to the Society free from debt.

Brother Graham labored two years adding twenty-four to their numbers. His health having failed he was compelled to resign.

For the next six months the Society had no minister. In January, 1866, Rev. Martin Morrison was called as their regular pastor and had charge of the church five years during which time forty-three people were added to the rolls of membership. Seventeen children were also baptised and thirteen marriages were consummated.

During the succeeding four years the Society had no stated minister, though many preachers came at irregular times and conducted services.

The Board of Home Mission appointed Rev. H. H. Houston as pastor who began his services in this congregation in January, and was ordained and installed March 2, 1875, and has been in charge of the church since that date.

A good Sabbath School has been conducted in connection with the church ever since the Society was able to muster a sufficient attendance of pupils, and is now in a flourishing condition.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This Society was organized at Blue Ridge January 16, 1846, by the Rev. L. N. Parker, of Galesburg, through the joint exertions of Nathaniel Smith, Ebenezer Stowell and Dr. Wilmot. The first sermon was preached by Rev. R. C. Bristol. The preamble to the articles of faith adopted recited as follows:

“Whereas, Amid the light now shining, the manufacture, use and sale of intoxicating liquors, as well as the holding of slaves or apologizing for slavery by enacting pro-slavery laws, are sins against God and these covenant vows, etc.”

As this was a time when slavery had not been largely agitated, and the majority of men preferring peace and quietness to turmoil were averse to raising questions involving peril, and an abolitionist was looked upon as little better than a horse thief, it will be seen it required no small degree of courage to thus put one's self upon the record, yet the brave little band were prepared to assume the responsibility of their actions, and this advance ground has been maintained by the congregation to this day. No member was admitted without assenting to this article, and no one refused to join on its account, but a good old Elder from abroad, publicly reading the articles of faith once on a time, came to this clause—hemmed hawed, and jumped it. But, as was quietly remarked, his race has long since passed away.

The Society grew and flourished, and in 1856 constructed a very neat

church for the times, which two years later was demolished in a wind storm and soon after re-constructed. The present fine edifice—one of the best in the county—was built in 1876.

THE M. E. CHURCH AT LA PRAIRIE.

A Methodist Society was organized in 1850 by Rev. Samuel Smith. Thomas Huff was the first class leader. He suffered from consumption, and after a time was succeeded by Amos F. Leigh. About eight or nine persons constituted the class. They were: Amos F. Leigh, Thomas Huff and wife, Mrs. Hay, Mrs. William Hart, William Hancock and wife, and Nancy Hull. The result of this Society was the building of La Prairie Center Church in 1859, costing \$1,825 when complete, of which amount the Leigh family contributed the sum of \$900.

In 1860 a famous revival took place in the church, Rev. Samuel Smith officiating, and one hundred converts were added to the membership. The church was dedicated in the spring of 1861, by Elder Ritchie.

Rev. George Irwin was the last minister in charge.

THE TOWN HALL.

In the center of the Township stands a large public hall built by taxation, for public purposes, at a cost of \$1,800. Here the elections are held, public meetings lectures, etc., and all business of a public nature transacted.

THE STAGES.

The first stage line through La Prairie Township, and the western portion of Marshall County, was established in about 1830. John P. Winters had the mail contract over the route from Peoria to Galena up to 1831 or later, and ran his stages from Northampton through the south-eastern corner of the Township, thence to Boyd's Grove. A man named Crane drove stage for the contractor, going clear through to Galena, in the summer in a light two horse wagou and in winter in a sled.

The mail ran from Peoria to Meredith's cabin, a distance of twenty miles, where the horses were changed, and thence to Boyd's Grove, twenty miles further. Afterward, in 1832, the stages stopped at Coulson's, near Jones' farm.

Later the conveyances increased to a four-horse turn out, and the coaches aspired to considerable style, and as a consequence more in keep-

ing with the growing aristocracy of the travelers. They were hauled off in about 1840 or 1841.

LAWN RIDGE.

This pretty little village is located in the extreme south-west corner of the Township, as well as of Marshall County, on the dividing ridge between Spoon River on the west and the Illinois on the east, the water flowing in opposite directions from this elevation. Its streets are straight, laid out at right angles, and land being plenty and cheap, the lots are roomy. As this was a broad prairie, and shade a necessity, the people at an early day turned their attention to shrubbery, and now shade trees everywhere line the walks and tall hedges border the fields. The town was laid out by Mr. Gilman, but never platted, the lots having been sold by metes and bounds.

Mr. Ordway, the first postmaster, named the post office, and the name was adopted for that of the village. The first mails were carried by a small boy on a pony, to and from Northampton.

In 1880 its business consisted of a post office, two drug stores, one grocery store, one general store, a harness shop, three blacksmith shops, two restaurants, shoe shops, two wagon shops, a cabinet ware store, a barber, two hotels, etc., etc.

The place has a public hall, which, though small will accommodate all demands upon it for some time. The public school building is 35 by 70 feet, and has room for many pupils more than its present attendance, which is 125. It is conducted on the graded plan, and a creditable institution. The building cost \$5,000. The village also has two churches, the Methodist and Union Presbyterian, both creditable frame structures of neat appearance and ample capacity.

The Masons of the vicinity obtained their charter, October 5, 1864, and were installed at once as Lawn Ridge Lodge No. 415. The charter members were H. A. Barry, Amos F. Leigh, John B. Phillips, Stephen Trial, Robert Will, Wm. E. Smith, Richard Davidson, Loring C. Rogers, Isaac F. Bailey, W. H. Wilmot. Their first officers were H. A. Barry, M.; Amos F. Leigh, S. W., and J. B. Phillips, J. W. They have a neat Lodge room in the upper portion of Powell's building, and a good membership of active, influential men.

The village not being located upon or very near any stream, is sup-

plied with water for all purposes, by wells, digging from fifteen to twenty feet below the surface, where an abundance is found.

CHAMBERSBURG.

The long lost town of Chambersburg, in La Prairie Township, covering a half section of land, being the south-west and north-west quarter of Section 12, Town 8 east of the 4th principal meridian, was laid out by John T. Shepherd and Jesse J. Cox, August 13, 1836. For several years it occupied a conspicuous place on the records, and made much work for the assessor and collector. The owners finding its prospects as a city to be of an entirely unpromising character, plowed the city under in disgust, and put it to raising corn. It was situated on the farms of R. Scoon and James Doran.

TROY CITY.

Another extensive paper town was laid out by Sanford Klock, September 30, 1836, on Section 22, and called Troy City. Years ago it was transformed into a couple of good farms, and dropped out of municipal existence.

MEN LOST AND FROZEN IN THE SNOW.

During the winter of 1830-1 two men, a Mr. McMillan and a Mr. Franklin came to Simon Reed's, on La Salle Prairie, with two sled loads of goods, chiefly "Mackinaw blankets," *en route* to Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin. To each of these sleds were attached three yoke of oxen. They had encountered the deep snow of that remarkable season at North Hampton, and were obliged to wait a few days for it to pack. While waiting they concluded to expedite their journey by making another sled and dividing the two loads into three, putting two yoke of oxen to each conveyance and hiring Mr. Cooper, a resident of the locality, to drive one of the teams. This arrangement perfected they renewed their journey, aiming to cross the prairie and reach Boyd's Grove, twenty miles distant, the first day. Hour after hour they plodded their weary way across the trackless snow-covered plain, and at about three o'clock in the afternoon the jaded cattle were unable longer to face the inclemency of the storm, and the men, benumbed with cold, finding their lives in danger, thought it better to unhitch the oxen and leave them to combat the elements

untrameled by yoke or chain, while they themselves walked on as best they could.

Franklin appears to have left before the loads were abandoned and gone in advance. His companions saw him struggling onward, but before they came up he had fallen in the snow never to rise again.

After a half mile or so Cooper gave out, being unable to proceed further, and McMillan made a hole in the snow, covered him up with blankets and started alone. Looking back he saw Cooper coming forward, rising and falling in the snow, making a last struggle for his life. Not daring to risk his little remaining strength by going back, he pushed on, and after an hour's travel, during which he remembers little, he staggered against a cabin door at the long looked for Grove, and fell down completely exhausted.

The house was full of weather bound travelers, who rubbed him with snow, administered stimulants and finally succeeded in restoring him.

A relief party was organized, who for hours scoured the trackless expanse of snow. At length Cooper's body was found. He had fallen on his hands and knees, his face buried in a drift, and completely exhausted and unable longer to battle with the blinding snow and sleet, had succumbed to the fury of the merciless storm.

It was afterward learned that Cooper's father perished in a similar manner, in 1821, among the mountains of an Eastern State.

Mr. Franklin's body was not found until the following spring, the melting of the snow leaving it exposed to view, perfect in every feature, his winding sheet of snow protecting his remains from the ravages of the wolves, the dreaded scavengers of the plain.

THE MYSTERY OF MIKE WYLEY.

In the summer of 1861 an Irishman named Mike Wyley, residing on the Weaklam place, disappeared under circumstances strongly indicative of foul play. He was an industrious, hard working farmer, who had acquired a comfortable property and was generally respected by all who knew him.

In early life he had been a laborer on the canals of Pennsylvania and in a fight was nearly killed, his jaw being broken and his face crushed in. An ordinary man would never have survived, but an iron constitution brought him through with a partial loss of his teeth and his lower jaw

slightly misplaced, there having been some defect in uniting the parts, which was concealed by the heavy beard he afterward wore. He was a man of convivial disposition and disposed when among friends to drink to excess, which single bad habit had been the occasion of frequent and bitter quarrels with his wife. He was wedded to a vindictive, passionate woman, capable of bitter revenges if provoked, who had been known to threaten him if his drunken sprees were not discontinued.

Not long before his disappearance he came to Amasa Garratt and obtained a load of oats, promising to pay for them when he hauled off his corn, saying he required a sum of money in a few days, which he should then like to borrow. Mr. Garratt knowing the man promptly said he could have it. The next day he visited Sparland, where falling in with some convivial companions he drank to excess, and left for home in the evening considerably intoxicated. That was the last seen of Mike Wiley. It was several days before his absence was noted, for from the unsociable character of the woman few visited the locality, and when inquiries were made she turned them aside like one who did not care, and made different and conflicting explanations of the matter.

About two weeks afterward Mr. Griffin, living near Wyley's farm, received what purported to be a letter from him, dated Peoria, instructing him to see Mrs. W. and assist her in selling the corn on hand, and with the proceeds build her a new house. He (Wyley) was not going to return immediately, as he had business in Omaha that would require his absence till fall. When this was shown Mrs. W. she manifested no surprise and subsequent events proved it was written in La Prairie, carried to Peoria and there mailed.

Early in the morning succeeding the disappearance of Mr. W., Mrs. W. with the team and a hired man were seen coming from the direction of the river, and the wagon was tracked to a place near the bank where it had turned round, but though close search was made no traces of the expected body was found, and replying to inquiries on the subject she answered that they had been to the bluffs to gather sassafras. We do not know that the matter was even legally investigated, but she was strongly suspected of being guilty of the murder. So soon as may be she settled up the business and administered upon the property, and then left, with public sentiment very much against her. Not long after the house was mysteriously burned down.

These events occurred in 1865, and for thirteen years the question of

Wyley's disappearance was not solved. In the spring of 1878 a person saw at the top of the bluff, where an old road running past Wyley's cabin descended to the river, some bones protruding from the side of a rut worn down by travel and washed out by rains, and investigating the matter, found an entire skeleton that seemingly had been doubled up and hastily buried. At first they were believed to be the missing remains of Washington Orr, but when viewed by Mike Wyley's friends were unmistakably identified as his. The fracture in the jaw, and its permanent displacement were plainly visible. The mystery was at last cleared up, but the circumstances of his death it is probable never will be. It is supposed that on his return a high quarrel ensued, and in a drunken sleep he was murdered by the woman, who, with the aid of confederates removed the body and buried it where found. The spot was right beside a public road, and apparently the last place to be chosen, but really the very best for concealment, for the alluvial soil being washed away, any new disturbance of the earth did not change the general appearance of the ground.

Mrs. Wylie did not long remain about the neighborhood, and was last heard from in the vicinity of Bradford.

SAD DEATH OF WIDOW EVANS.

Squire Jones relates the sad death of a lady, who with her family was moving to Wisconsin, in the fall of 1846. She came from St. Clair County, Illinois. She had a covered wagon, in which was her family—herself and six children, the eldest a boy about sixteen years old.

She arrived at Mr. Jones' house on a Thursday, quite sick. Mr. and Mrs. Jones did all in their power for her relief, and on the following Sunday morning she appeared to be better, and despite the remonstrances of her new friends insisted upon continuing her journey.

The country north was then one wide expanse of prairie, with only two or three houses in twenty-five miles. Midway across she was taken worse, and after a few hours' suffering, in that solitary wilderness alone save the presence of her sorrowing little ones, she died. The poor children, overwhelmed with grief, did nothing for a while but cry over their sad bereavement, but finally the boy not knowing what else to do drove on with his dead mother and grief stricken brothers and sisters, in hopes of finding assistance. At last, after a weary drive, a house was

reached, but alas! the people had gone to church. He went on again to miles to find another house, and that, too, was without an occupant!

In his sad distress he thought of their kind friends Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and turning his course drove back that long and weary way, arriving at Mr. J's. about two o'clock in the morning. Knocking at the door, between grief and utter prostration he broke into heart-rending sobs, exclaiming, "Oh! Mr. Jones, you have been so very kind to us, and we know you will not refuse us help now. Poor mother is dead!"

The good people arose, and admitted the sorrowing and exhausted family of little ones, and learning that all that day they had not taken a mouthful of food, a good supper was soon provided for the orphaned wanderers.

Mr. Jones notified the neighbors and the dead mother was decently buried. After a week's stay, provided with a little money and plenty of food, the brave boy took his little family under his care and resumed his journey.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF WILLIS.

In 1840, a man supposed to be named Willis came along and stopped at Brewer's cabin, on the place where Esq. Jones now lives. Jones, then a Justice of the Peace of Peoria County, had been to Coleson's on horseback and returning, was hailed by Brewer, in front of the latter's house and called in. He was taken up stairs by B., who seemed to be strangely excited, and without much preliminary explanation, the Justice was shown some things which Brewer said a traveler who came there the night previous had left and had gone off mysteriously. These things consisted of a man's pocket book, beautifully inlaid and fastened with a silver clasp, which on being opened disclosed bills, notes and accounts of various kinds, worth \$2,500 or more. Some of the papers seemed to be claims against the city of New York. Willis, for that appeared to be the name of the person who left these valuables, had come on foot, Brewer said, and he never was heard of afterwards, nor did any one come to claim the valuables, and B. kept them. Some time afterward Brewer and his boys were hunting in the neighborhood, and he sent to Jones for water, the latter then living in the same house. Jones thought it strange that any one should prefer sleeping out in a cold night, when his hospitable doors were ever open, and freely offered Brewer's boys the best they had if they chose to accept it. In declining, one of the boys remarked, with

a shrug, "You couldn't get dad to sleep in this house," pointing to the room which the missing man had occupied, "for \$1,000."

WOLF HUNTING.

On Christmas day, 1830, Mr. Lucas P. Root and twelve or fifteen neighbors, among whom he remembers the Clevelands, Silliman, Reddick, Cooper, Holmes, Miner and Reed, well known early settlers of that region, organized a wolf hunt on horseback. The party were well mounted upon their swiftest young horses, but having no dogs, the wolves were to be run down, and then despatched with clubs. They started at an early hour, "to make a full day of it." A light snow of an inch depth had fallen the night previous, enabling them to track their game very easily. Soon they struck a trail, and directly routed a wolf which after a short hot chase they killed.

Not long after they came upon another which gave them a lively run. Mr. Root's horse lead and had nearly overtaken the brute, when stepping in a gopher hole, horse and rider came to the ground without serious damage to either. The wolf was caught and killed with the stirrups of the saddle. Wolves when so caught often lie down like whipped curs, and make no resistance.

After this event the hunters took a long circuit south, thence to Senaehwine timber, and back homeward, catching two more.

Mr. Root once set a steel trap near the carcass of a cow and caught a large, heavy timber wolf, breaking one fore leg, and to save itself the animal gnawed off the leg above the jaws of the trap.

Mr. R. was one day in the timber when a couple of small dogs found the wolf and drove him down the road toward where their master was at work, when the brute took to the woods. Mr. R. wore a pair of broad bottom shoes, and with care could keep upon the crust, while the wolf went through at each jump. He was very fleet on foot, and soon coming up with it caught it by the tail. He had no weapon, and when the animal turned to bite struck him with his coon-skin cap. Thus the struggle went on, the wolf getting away and again being caught as before, until it got under the roots of a fallen tree. The dogs soon came up, and with the aid of a club it was soon slain.

During the winter of 1845 the settlers organized a wolf hunt on an extensive scale. Men were sent to all the country round to notify the

settlers, and on a given morning all were to start on foot or horseback, surrounding many miles and converging towards a common center at a place called "tow head," south of Lawn Ridge. The people gathered according to programme and the hunt began. One of the rules was that no fire arms should be carried, a measure of precaution against accidents, which proved to be a safeguard not only to the men but the deer and wolves also. The only weapons were clubs and spears, which in the hands of novices, mounted on frightened horses, were of no use whatever. The day was beautiful and everything lovely and successful, so far as the starting of game was concerned. Occasionally a herd of deer was aroused, and with their white flags raised they would charge the advancing lines until met and turned back by others, and this was often repeated.

Deacon Smith, an active participant in the sport, was mounted on an ancient and trusty animal borrowed for the occasion from Lucas Root, warranted for sober and discreet deportment. In early days he had led the hounds in many a chase, but age had tamed his youthful fire, and left him a serious, solemn old nag, who had seen too much of the world to be scared at trifles, nor be urged to a less dignified gait than a sort of complicated movement between a trot, amble and walk, in which the latter predominated.

However, when the game was started and men and horses began to feel the excitement, Old Dobbin caught some of the spirit of the hour, and made his old joints crack in hot pursuit. Soon the latent fires of youth were stirred and the old beast pricked up his ears, elevated his tail, and seizing the bits in his teeth dashed on with surprising vehemence, unmindful of his riders' efforts to the contrary; in fact he ran away, clear beyond the line, and coming upon a drove of sixteen bucks charged directly upon them, to the great consternation of the unwilling "Deacon," who in relating the circumstance, says he was thereby reminded of the condition of the Irishman, who in a similar fix was asked why he did not get off, and responded: "An' how could I, when it was all I could do to sthick on!" The Deacon just then wished for his gun and some one to hold the horse, when he thinks he might have brought down some of the game.

As it was, the gap made by his horse made an opening in the circle, through which the deer safely escaped. As for his spear, it was worse than useless, for between keeping it from "jabbing" his unmanageable steed

or his own legs and holding on, he had all he could do. Upward of a hundred deer and wolves were at one time within the lines, but the results were wholly disproportionate to the display, only one deer having been killed, and all the wolves escaping.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

Lawn Ridge has always been noted for its advanced ideas upon the subject of human freedom. Indeed, with such men for its leading citizens, and in such a community of intelligent reading and thinking men, it could not be otherwise. Men like Nathaniel Smith, Charles Stone, the Wilmots and others, could not fail leaving their impress on the community and tinge its life to a less or greater extent with their opinions. It was a season of revolution. Ideas, like mighty armies, were sweeping resistlessly onward; public sentiment was undergoing a change, and these men kept abreast the car of progress, moving step by step, and never looking backward. They were the pioneers, the evangelists of the advancing army of freedom, whose mission it was to break the bonds of four million human chattels. Silently but earnestly they worked, and happily they lived to see the fruition of their labors. Verily they shall have their reward.

The first fugitive that passed through here was brought by Dr. Cutler, of Princeville, under a feather bed. The next was a colored man who had been pressed so closely by pursuers that to escape their clutches he had to dodge under a bridge at Farmington, where he remained hidden a day and a night. A friend of the cause then brought him to Lawn Ridge, one of the few places where a fugitive slave was safe.

The next business of the "station" here was to receive two escaping chattels, one a Baptist preacher and the other a member of his church. One of these was accompanied by his wife and children, who, with the other man, were boxed up. Deacon Smith took them to Providence, twenty-five miles away.

Escaping slaves were usually brought at night, but went forward by daylight, as there was little danger beyond this.

The "agents" here had become so used to being awakened in the night that when aroused by a knock at the door after hours, they knew what it meant, and always kept ample preparations in the way of food and lodgings for these ever welcome guests.

Of course no pecuniary recompense was asked or received by Mr. Smith and his co-workers for handling this human freight, but they considered themselves richly repaid for all trouble by the gratitude of the poor fugitives, and their fervent "God bless you." On one occasion two middle-aged men came along, who were so nearly white that they readily passed for white men.

On another occasion seven colored people were delivered in one load to the Deacon. One, the wife of a Methodist minister and a cripple from rheumatism, had to be carried.

Deacon Smith had a brother, who besides being a Democrat of the old school was an inveterate wag. He had his own ideas upon the subject, and while perhaps condemning the system, believed in obeying the laws of his country as interpreted by the statutes. Yet above all political bias he had a heart that throbbed with the instincts of true philanthropy and regulated his conduct toward the fugitives.

One day a party arrived at the Deacon's, and William E., who could never resist an opportunity to perpetrate a practical joke, arrayed himself in the traditional slave drivers' costume, and entering the room where the chattels were, pulled from his pocket a formidable roll of papers and began to read: "In the name of the people," but before the sentence was completed each one had emptied himself or herself out of the windows and back doors and were "streaking" it for the corn field! His brother spent much of the forenoon hunting up the frightened negroes.

On a certain occasion the Deacon's carryall had broken down, and as a fresh invoice of chattels had arrived it was necessary to send forward that night, he hitched on to a rusty vehicle belonging to his Democratic brother without asking any questions. When the latter found it out his wrath at the wagon knew no bounds, and he relieved his loyal feelings by then and there smashing it into kindling wood, saying as he did so, it should never carry niggers again.

A SCOTCHWOMAN'S VIEW OF IT.

At an early day the Presbyterians held meetings at Archie Riddle's barn, and occasionally at the old log school house. The dominie had grown old and tedious and his sermons were long and dull. On one occasion one of his flock known as "Geordie," had listened to this style of preaching until his patience was exhausted and as the parson, warming to

the work, had reached his sixteenthly and cleared his throat for another long pull, the dissatisfied member arose and remarked with characteristic Scottish accent: "It is better to be gospel hungry than gospel weary," strode out of the congregation. Not long after the absent brother joined the Baptist Church, and was duly initiated into that Society. An old Scotch woman hearing of the event drawled out: "An' noo there's auld Geordie, he's jined anither kirk and been took down to the burn an' had a' his sins swashed awa'."

TWO PATRIOTIC CITIZENS.

When our liberties were in danger and the perpetuity of the Union demanded the sacrifice of her bravest and best, La Prairie contributed her full quota. Melchi Grove sent three stalwart sons, and when the call came for six hundred thousand more, though too old to endure the hardships of a campaign, he felt himself young enough to stop a bullet and save another's life, perchance for his country, so leaving his plow in the furrow and the farm to the care of those too young to fight he shouldered a musket and went into the fray. And so did his neighbor, E. S. Jones, the hero of two wars. Brave and patriotic men! To such as them we owe the preservation of the Union, and their deeds shall not be forgotten.

A FATAL ACCIDENT.

In 1835 a man named John Kirkpatrick met his death in a horrible manner near Drake's Grove. He was mounted on a spirited horse and had shot a deer, and dismounting to cut its throat, he fastened the reins around his wrist. The smell of the blood and sight of the dead animal frightened the horse, which giving a sudden jump threw down its master, and started to run, kicking viciously until the man was dead and all semblance of humanity gone. The horse ran until tired out, dragging the dead man by its side, and was discovered the next day, still fastened to its unnatural burden.

INCIDENTS.

Although prairie fires were numerous and destructive it was seldom or never they were fatal to citizens or travelers. They raged in certain localities with incredible fury, but on high lands the grass was shorter and it

burned slowly and feebly. A person not knowing this might get caught and be in considerable danger, as was the case with Adam Crawford, who came to the County in 1854, and had occasion to go to Spoon River for a load of coal. The track ran across the prairie, and it was in the fall when everything was dry as tinder. Returning with his load, he saw ahead an advancing line of fire, through which his road lay, and knowing no way of avoiding it he pushed on, meeting it in a low valley, where the grass had grown with unusual rankness. A fierce wind was blowing, and an advancing wave of flame struck his horses, which dropped to the ground as though they had been shot. A woolen blanket partially shielded his face and prevented his inhaling the fierce flames, which only lasted but an instant and passed on. After a while his horses were persuaded to get up and he reached home, but the driver was considerably burned, the hair was nearly singed off from his horses and great pieces of skin came off before they recovered. Had Mr. C. remained on the high ground until the fiery cyclone swept by no harm or danger would have resulted.

During the absence of the men in the ill-starred Stillman expedition, the women went to Reed's fort. The days and nights were passed in gloomy forebodings by the inmates, none of whom but had some near and dear relative among the Rangers. In these days there were no telegraphs, and the mails only came semi-occasionally. About a week after the disaster to Stillman's command, news came to the fort that nearly every man of the force had been killed or captured by the Indians. This was agony and suspense almost beyond endurance for the poor women. Who had been killed? Who had been made prisoners and suffered the fiendish tortures which only Indian devils incarnate knew how to inflict? These were the soul-harrowing questions that drove the women almost to madness. In about ten days, Mr. Jones, reported killed, walked in to the camp alive and well, to the joy of every one, as he brought good news for all his friends, and while his wife cried for joy, Jones observed, "Its all right, my dear; you must learn not to believe all the foolish yarns people may start about me!" "You see I'm here, alive and well; and the man who says I've been killed and scalped, I wouldn't believe under oath!"

In 1837 a stranger named Lawrence came from Boston to view the country and to hunt and fish. He went out in a boat on Senachwine Creek, when that stream was high, accompanied by his dog. The boat

was a dugout, a most treacherous craft and wholly unmanageable save by an expert. Getting within shooting distance of some ducks, he was taking aim. when the dog suddenly jumped up throwing his weight upon one side of the boat and upsetting it. The man was drowned although the whole occurrence was in plain sight of his distressed companions, who, powerless to save, gazed helplessly and horror stricken upon his struggles.

In 1852 a party of gentlemen from Peoria were out in the edge of Marshall and Stark counties hunting deer and prairie chickens. There had fallen a considerable snow during the previous night which had drifted. It was late in the season, and though not thawing the sun shone with unusual brilliancy and its dazzling effects soon told upon the eyes of the hunters. Of the thirteen men three managed to get to a house, while the others, rendered totally blind, were left perfectly helpless in the snow, and would have perished had not relief come quickly. Some of them were blind for weeks afterward and their eyes rendered permanently sensitive to brilliant light.

In 1861 Nathaniel Smith's son, aged 14 years, while out hunting prairie chickens, in drawing a loaded gun from a wagon, discharged it, the shot taking effect in his stomach. He was instantly killed.

It is said of Nathaniel Smith that he made the first corn planter built in the State. It was invented by Job Brown, a citizen of the place. He also built the first dwelling in the village, and it still exists.



SARATOGA TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLVI.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.



SARATOGA TOWNSHIP lies in the north-west corner of Marshall County, contains thirty-six sections, and takes its name, as well as the lake within its borders from Saratoga, in New York, said to have been suggested by Geo. Scholes, an early settler within its boundaries. It has a rich soil of dark loam upon the prairies, with alluvial deposits on the bottoms, and brings forth heavy crops to reward the husbandman. Senachwine Creek, with numerous tributary rivulets runs through its borders, irrigating the land and making it valuable for stock growing and agricultural pursuits. Although comparatively new, it contains a great deal of wealth, and is settled by an unusually intelligent class of citizens. Along its northern border lies the body of water before referred to, occupying the highest ground in the Township and fed exclusively by springs. It was long a noted resort for migratory aquatic birds, and a paradise for hunters, until systematic draining reduced its borders and decreased its depth.

In 1879 owners of the adjoining lands combined, and digging a canal for some distance, led off its surplus waters, and it now promises to become the most productive part of the Township. Saratoga is peopled by an energetic community, who pride themselves on their good buildings, well fed stock and nicely trimmed hedges. Especially is it productive of "hogs and corn," in which its wealth mainly lies. The rapid settlement of the Township and its equally rapid development are one of the many marvels of our rich and fertile State.

FIRST SETTLERS.

The first house erected in the Township was by Malachi Hill in about 1836. It stood on Section 27, by the side of the old Galena road, on

Senachwine Creek, near where a bridge spanned that stream. The stages ran past here several years. The farm was sold to George Scholes in 1849.

The first settler on the north side of the Township is believed to have been a man named Ford, who made some improvement on Section 2, on land since owned by the widow of J. Cooney, in about 1840.

The next place opened was near by, on Section 3, now the property of J. D. Hatfield.

Next in order came Jonathan Day's farm, on Section 3, about 1845.

J. and S. Divilbliss came in 1849 or '50, settling on Section 24, at the east line of the Township.

William D. Louder improved the south-west quarter of Section 22 in 1850.

Archibald McVieker and his son David improved the south half of Section 14 in 1851.

The school section (16) was improved by Mr. Stout, Stephen Fry and Arch. H. Elson.

John C. Townsend, Isaac Torrey and Peter Smith came on the same Section about 1856.

S. Cartmell made his farm on Section 10, and Richard Tyrrell on Section 3 between 1853 and '55.

Thomas Jameson bought an improved place from J. Clark on the now Hatfield farm, about 1851.

The settlers who came into the west side of the Township were John Boland, who located about 1852, near his brother, G. Boland, who subsequently sold to Lombard.

All the west side of the Township was then Congress land and unentered.

Artemas Whitman, in 1852 or '53, improved near Andrew Kline's, on Section 18, and George W. Kline on Section 27.

John McNamara commenced his labors on Section 15 in 1854, and Patrick about the same date.

O. Martland, afterward of Lacon, lived on Section 15, near the School Section, in 1853, and Mason Seelye opened a farm on the same Section about the same time.

C. Camery stuck his stakes on the north-west quarter of Section 14, in 1854.

James Carse on Section 11, in 1853.

Miner T. Jay on Section 28, and William Letton near the former, both in 1852.

Hugh McVicker arrived here in 1854.

P. Deyo opened a farm on Section 6 about 1855.

B. L. Lombard and F. Bovinger's places were improved by J. and G. Boland.

A. Seichter bought his farm, on Section 2, from Mr. Carse.

J. and R. Hallock came here in 1859, and improved part of Section 5.

W. Schofield opened his place, on Section 6, in 1858-9.

William Owens improved Section 7 about 1860.

B. G. Howes, " " 7 " 1855.

J. H. Merrill, " " 8 " 1854.

J. E. Noyes, " " 8 " 1852.

G. T. Coleman, " " 10 " 1857.

H. Hulce, " " 10 " 1857.

D. D. Bond, " " 15 " 1854.

F. and D. Yaeger, " " 11 " 1860.

C. Huffman, " " 12 " 1857.

F. J. Higgins, " " 12 " 1860.

M. Hartley, " " 12 " 1860.

R. and D. McDonough, " 9 " 1855.

William Jones, " 21 " 1853.

R. Harrison, " " 8 " 1854.

Josh. Castle, " " 17 " 1855.

J. S. Essex, " " 16 " 1854-5.

J. Buchanan, " " 13 " 1857-8.

J. Greenlee, " " 14 " 1858.

W. Lawless, " " 20 " 1855.

D. Holmes, " " 24 " 1855.

Fred. Reinback, " " 24 " 1855.

M. P. Sims, " " 20 " 1855.

P. Lawless, " " 29 " 1855.

A. P. Webber, " " 28 " 1855.

Thomas Doyle, " " 27 " 1856.

Joseph Ray, " " 26 " 1855-6.

H. G. Breese, " " 25 " 1855-6.

James Beaks, " " 25 " 1855.

J. H. Bell, " " 25 " 1860.

The farm of the latter was improved by Thomas Henderson, in 1855.

Julia Jacobs improved Section 26 about 1855. She was formerly Mrs. Martin, and her husband run the ferry at Lacon many years ago.

J. G. Carson improved Section 34 about 1857-8.

H. R. Trim, " " 34 " 1856-7.

William M. Rickey " " 36 " 1855.

William Marshall, " " 35 " 1860.

The latter's farm was previously improved by James Gordon, in 1852.

PATRIOTISM.

Saratoga has a war record few townships equal. Her brave sons freely volunteered, and their blood was poured out on many a Southern battle-field. Among those deserving of mention are J. C. Townsend, who, enlisting as a private, returned a Captain. His son, who likewise began a private, was promoted to a Captaincy. Major Townsend's company was attached to the Forty-Seventh Regiment, and was mainly recruited in the Township. Another brave soldier was Royal Olmstead, who won the rank of Major by good conduct in the field. Alanson P. Webber was chief musician of the Eighty-Sixth Illinois Infantry, and a noted sharp-shooter, doing valuable service. He still retains the gun which he carried,—a sixteen-shooter repeating rifle.

A MIRAGE.

In the autumn of 1844 a traveler crossing the Saratoga prairie observed a sight occasionally seen in other lands, but very unusual here. He was several miles from the river, yet before him laid out as in a panorama was extended a plain view of the river seemingly but a few rods away. The indentations of the bluffs; the windings of the river; the islands, ponds, and familiar points of land, trees, etc., were reproduced with the most faithful acctracy. On the hills, cattle were grazing, a steamboat was passing up the stream, and half a dozen fishermen were landing a net. Seemingly he was near enough to converse, yet it was all a trick of the eye,—an optical illusion or mirage, in which the scenes represented were reproduced in the clouds.

A town was laid out on Section 16, and named Centreville. Sixty-

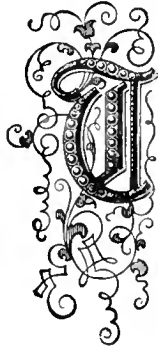
four town lots were laid out, and streets with noble names ran through the place. The proprietors were Isaac Torrey and Samuel Divelbliss, but the place never "achieved greatness nor had greatness thrust upon it," and after patiently waiting for purchasers, the owners pulled up stakes and turned it into a farm.



WHITEFIELD TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLVII.

DESCRIPTION.



THIS Township was named complimentary to John B. White its first Supervisor and a prominent public citizen. It is the usual Congressional size, made up of timber and prairie, well watered and fertile. On the East it borders on the river, and the surface is broken and hilly, with frequent ravines extending inland, running into broad, level prairies covered with farms in a high state of cultivation. The ravines are covered with dense thickets, which in early times afforded protection to freebooters, but now they resound only to the woodman's ax or the hunters's rifle.

There is no village within its borders, no costly churches or school houses. Its products are mainly agricultural and its citizens tillers of the soil. In wealth and productiveness it compares favorably with all others, and in intelligence and industry it is not excelled.

The first settlers of the Township are supposed to have been two brothers named Reeves, who removed here from Putnam County not long after the Black Hawk war. They did not long remain, transferring their claim to their brother George, whose after exploits made his name notorious, and whose memory is preserved in the creek that bears his name. His history is given elsewhere.

The patriarch of the Township was Warford Bonham, Sr., known far and near as Father Bonham, who came in 1835. He brought with him a large family, consisting of his daughters Mahala and Eliza, wedded to James Tanquary and John S. Hoskins; George, who afterward moved to Chicago; Jeriah, now living at Peoria; William, at Sparland; Warford Jr., living under the bluffs near the old homestead; Mary Ann, married to Henry Hoskins; Clayton, who died in 1870; Hanson D., who occupies the old home farm, and Emily, deceased.

Mr. Bonham was originally from Ohio, coming to Tazewell about

1833 or 1834, remaining there until his removal to Marshall County in 1835. With his sons-in-law Hoskins and Tanquary he visited the County the winter previous to their coming, each selecting a claim and building cabins of the orthodox stick and mud chimney pattern.

The place selected by Mr. Bonham was a fertile plain at the foot of the bluff, three miles north of the Lacon ferry. Between it and the river is a fine belt of timber, and in the rear are the picturesque bluffs of the Illinois, while the land is peculiarly adapted to raising fruits, vegetables and grain of all kinds. Here are the ruins of the old homestead, and near by is the family grave yard, where the "aged fathers of the hamlet sleep." Father Bonham lived to see his sons grow to manhood and his daughters comfortably settled around him, and died July 22, 1869, at the ripe age of eighty-eight. His wife preceded him some eleven years. His family connections were very large, and few men are so honored through their descendants as him.

The next comer was a man named Hatfield, who made a claim above Bonham's, which he soon after abandoned and left. It is now a part of H. D. Bonham's farm.

Jeriah Bonham made a claim on the bluffs in an early day, which he sold to a man named Gentz, and the latter transferred it to Warford Bonham. This was in 1839.

In 1837 or '38 George Reeves made a claim on the Danley farm, selling it to Mr. Danley, who became a probable settler here in 1842.

In 1836 or '37 a man named Thenius built a cabin in the hollow north of Sparland, which has since borne his name. For some time he lived in a cabin built by old Reeves. Two of Mr. Thenius' daughters are married and live in Lacon.

About 1840 a man named Hale made a claim and put up a sod house on the farm since owned by Elnathan Platter.

North of Hale's a German named Andrew Shurtz opened and improved a large farm, and a German named Jacob Amnaus settled near by in 1842.

About 1847 Charles and Lucas Martin bought the Hall claim and put up a good log house thereon.

Rezen Nighswonger settled in 1847, on the west side of Thenius Creek. He afterward sold to John Betts and three years ago went to Iowa.

Solomon Nighswonger came in 1851 and settled on the north side of Thenius Creek and made a good farm.

Albert, George and Charles Wineberger settled next, south of W. Bonham, Jr.'s in 1848. They afterward sold to Pat Monahan, who still lives upon the place.

Elnathan Platter made his farm on the prairie west of Bonham's about 1846.

Harvey B. Allen began improvements on a farm south of the Platter place in the same year.

Dan Deihl came West with the Platters, about 1848.

The Combs family came about the same time, locating south of Deihl, and Stephen Merritt located west of Combs.

The next house toward Senachwine Creek was built and occupied by a man named King.

Near the Henry line a man named Blossom located somewhere about 1840, close to the Culvers.

George Bonham settled on the bottom north of the old homestead in 1840, on the place now owned by Theodore Bickerman.

Adam Bickerman's place is north of Danley's place, and was improved by Mr. B. in 1847.

Ephraim Hoyt settled north of the above at an early day, about 1838 or '39.

In the same year Henry Snyder improved his place on the borders of the two towns.

A man named Kellogg came here in 1839 or '40, and located near the Henry line.

Captain Andrews settled west of the above at a later date.

Lewis and Edward Burson came here about 1849.

Esquire Holly located in the south-east part of the Township and began improvements about 1854.

Esquire C. W. Barnes came from Massachusetts to Illinois in 1836, and stopped for a while at Florid, Putnam County. In the following spring he removed to Sandy Creek, in Evans Township, and remained there until July, 1872, when he changed his location to Whitefield, on the north side of what is called Reeves' Run, near the head of that stream on the edge of the beautiful prairie of the section, about equal distance from Sparland and Henry.

His neighbor in this part of the Township was Richard Hunt, who had settled a few months previous on Section 15, coming hither from Ox Bow Prairie, Putnam County.

Elias Thompson lived three-fourths of a mile east of Hunt's, on the bluff. He had moved out from Henry a couple of years previous, having been a hotel keeper in that village.

William Rowe lived under the bluff, east of and not far from Thompson, having settled there at a still earlier day.

Lucian B. Hall and Samuel B. Fanning, a bachelor and brother-in-law of Hall, lived together in a sod house on the present Kifer farm, in 1840 or '41.

George Burt, Sr., and Horace Spencer came and settled near Sugar Grove in 1844 or 1845. Sugar Grove is on Section 11, at the head of a small stream connecting with Crow Creek. It contains from 320 to 400 acres and is three and a-half miles west of Henry.

Hiram Blossom lived on Section 1, coming here about 1842.

David Fanning also settled near the Grove. His place afterward passed into the hands of Clarence Burt.

Among the latter settlers of the Township were Mr. Smith, on "The Ridge;" Mr. Gaston, Mr. Ray, Adam Faris, Jacob Platter, E. Stewart, John Dunlap, P. Hale, and the Gregorys.

Samuel F. Coleman is supposed to have come about 1841.

Richard Hunt and wife, formerly a Miss Horram, came to Whitefield in 1842. They were married on Ox Bow Prairie, January 1, 1833, and lived a while on Sandy Creek, removing thence to Hennepin and afterward coming to their new home, now one of the finest in this Township.

Abijah Lyons came to the Prairie some years before. He was one of the earliest settlers of this part of the Township.

Two families named Carmichael settled at Whitefield Corners, in the north-western limits of the town, coming there about 1841.

A Mr. Underwood lived near Hickory Creek, coming there nearly the same date.

These comprise the names of most of the settlers during the first few years, aside from the disreputable gang connected with the Reeves family, but the time of arrivals cannot be given with accuracy, and, of course, is only approximately correct.

RELIGIOUS.

Long before any churches had been built in this Township the people occasionally had meetings at the house of Warford Bonham, Sr. His

family belonged to the Christian Church; but some of his neighbors were Methodists, and neither being able to muster a respectable congregation, they united, securing the services of such preachers as could be induced to venture into the wilderness, without regard to denominational belief.

Henry L. Crane, of Lacon, occasionally visited this settlement, and invariably received a cordial welcome.

Daniel McRobinson and "old Father Palmer," the former a Methodist and the latter a Christian, were also frequent and ever welcome visitors.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

At the head of Thenius' Creek steps were early taken to organize a Baptist Church. October 12, 1854, a number of persons holding to the tenets of that denomination gathered at the school house to consult upon the propriety of establishing a Society, upon which occasion it was agreed to organize a church based upon the articles of faith set forth in the "Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge," and an ecclesiastical council was called to meet November 9th, Solomon Nighswonger being appointed to answer the questions of the council. At the appointed time the council met, and organized by electing Elder B. H. Weston moderator, and after due deliberation the First Baptist Church of Christ of Whitefield was duly declared established.

A sermon was delivered at this meeting by Elder H. G. Weston, of Peoria.

Elder W. G. Gordon was chosen as their first pastor, and a subscription was started to raise funds for the support of the preacher.

July 14, 1855, an effort was made to unite with the Baptist Society in the neighboring town of Steuben, with a view to building a church edifice for the accommodation of both, but after several ineffectual efforts the project failed.

Elder Gordon remained pastor of the Church from the start, holding meetings at the school house at the head of Thenius Creek until February, 1862, when the congregation, having outgrown its narrow limits, the question of constructing an edifice of their own was broached. Mr. E. Burson tendered the Society a nicely located piece of ground, which was accepted, and the people enthusiastically voted to put up a house of worship, but the necessary funds were not so enthusiastically forthcoming, and the project failed.

A call was extended to Brother Carnes to become their pastor, but he failing to respond, Elder Gordon remained until June 7th of that year, when, weary of his long service, he asked to be relieved.

March 26, 1864, the question of building a house of worship was renewed, and on this occasion with more success. The same site was agreed upon as before, and the work pushed forward with surprising vigor, so that we find them dedicating their new meeting house October 23, 1864. It is a frame structure, capable of seating about 300 people, neatly finished and comfortable, but not especially attractive in the exterior. It cost about \$2,200.

Brother Hoyle preached in 1865, for a salary of \$650 per annum. Since then Brothers Stoddard, William Parker and others have officiated at the sacred desk. The membership of the church is not numerous, but is made up from among the wealthiest, oldest and most respectable people of this region.

A good Sabbath School has for years been maintained in connection with the church.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

May 16, 1854, the Rev. John Turbit, Robert Faris and William P. Carson, members of a committee appointed by the Presbytery of Peoria to organize a church in Whitefield Township, met agreeably in a school house one and three-fourth miles north-west of Hosic's farm. A sermon was preached, after which the organization of Mansfield Church was effected.

June 1, 1855, a public sessions was held, at which a number joined by card and certificate, materially strengthening the organization.

The organization continued to hold services at the different school houses in the vicinity as circumstances permitted, running along smoothly enough until in March, 1857, when a business meeting was held to devise measures for the erection of a house of worship. At this meeting considerable ill-feeling was developed, chiefly upon the question of location. A prominent member, and one who by reason of his wealth and position was expected to contribute liberally to the enterprise, was consulted, but his preferences as to location were ignored by the majority, whereupon he became exceeding wroth, expressing himself with much greater force than elegance. In fact, to fully ventilate his feelings and express his contempt, he found it necessary to employ numerous "cuss words,"

consigning the unreasonable majority to a mythical locality more noted for warmth than piety.

For this little breach of decorum he was promptly suspended. Notwithstanding his defection, however, and the ill-feeling engendered in consequence, the church edifice was finally built, the site being upon land donated by W. H. Brassfield. It is of brick, about 40x70 feet, is a neat and comfortable structure, and cost about \$2,000. It was dedicated November 21, 1858, by Rev. R. P. Faris, of Peoria.

The leading ministers since have been Rev. T. T. Smith, first stated preacher, Rev. William B. Faris, James Fleming and J. S. McClung.

Near the Church is a cemetery, which contains the remains of a number of the early members and their children, but as the location is not a good one the people of late years have preferred to bury their dead elsewhere.

The first Sabbath School was established September 1, 1867. It is well conducted and largely attended by the youth of the neighborhood.

CENTRAL M. E. CHURCH.

This church is a neat and tastefully finished frame building, 32x40 feet, with a very respectable height of ceiling. The interior is very nicely furnished and elegant in its ornamentations and decorations. It stands on a high piece of ground, fronting the west, and can be seen for miles from each direction.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This religious organization was created in about 1853. There are no consecutively kept records, or at least we have been unable to find any, and consequently our information is wholly derived from the recollections of the older members of the Society.

At first services were confined to occasional meetings at the school house near Bursons or at the house of some brother, but in time the necessity of a house for worship became imperative, and in 1864 a frame meeting house, 30x40, was built. It is not an imposing structure, but is comfortably seated and sufficiently large for the needs of the congregation.

In the rear, on, the same lot is the burying ground of the congregation, in which a number of pretty slabs and neat monuments evidence a loving remembrance of those who lie beneath.

The church cost about \$2,000, and occupies a delightful location.

Among the different ministers who have officiated here since the formation of the Society may be named Rev. Mr. Phelps, who came here in 1861. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Green, Rev. Mr. Reeves, and Rev. Mr. Brown, the present pastor.

SCHOOLS.

The first building in the Township for school purposes was built on the edge of the Prairie, east of Richard Hunt's farm, about the year 1844. It was made of logs after the manner of those days, and was about fourteen feet square, with one door and a single window, while the chimney-place was so large that the school marm and all her pupils could have hidden therein. Elizabeth Simpson was probably the first teacher, holding forth there in 1847 or 1848. Her pupils, from four to eight in number, were quite young. She was afterward followed by John Peck, Mahlon Peck, and a Mr. Miles, who taught the young ideas to shoot. About fifteen years ago a new frame building was put up, which affords ample accommodation for the numerous little people of the neighborhood.

Another school was built near the farm of W. Bonham, Jr., on the edge of the Illinois River bluffs. This structure was put up in 1860, is 16x26 feet, and cost about \$400. The first teacher here was Miss Eliza Bonham, a daughter of Jeriah Bonham, in the summer of the year named.

One of the first schools on the prairie, was built near the residence of the Burson's, toward the center of the town, near the southern line of this and Steuben Township. It was erected about 1856, and furnished room for school, churches and public meetings until 1870, when a new one was built in its place. It cost about \$800 and stands near the Baptist Church, in one of the pleasantest locations in this region.

REEVES THE OUTLAW.

The frontier settlements of a new country are usually the resorts of desperadoes. The law has fewer restraints, and men fleeing from the consequences of crimes go where they are unknown and unsuspected—some to grow up respectable, law-abiding citizens, oftener to ply their nefarious business and prey upon society with less fear of detection.

Among old settlers Geo. Reeves possesses an unenviable notoriety by reason of his connection with the well known Bandits of the Prairie, an association of desperate men extending over the then entire West. Previous to his removal here in 1833-4, he lived a while in Senachwine Township, where his brothers had made claims, and where so far as known he conducted himself in accordance with the strict principles of justice and right. He was a kind neighbor, scrupulously just in his dealings, ever ready to accommodate, and kind in sickness. At this time he was about forty-five or fifty years of age, suave and gentlemanly in appearance, seldom excited or thrown off his guard, and prompt to repair an injury or accommodate a neighbor. Of his previous history little was known, except that he came of a respectable family in North Carolina, where he had led a wild life and was connected with dissolute fellows of whom no good could be said. A murder had been committed by the gang, and though it could not be proven that Reeves was directly implicated, he was detained in prison a long time, and only escaped by strenuous exertions on the part of his friends, and the expenditure of much money. After his liberation he started for Illinois, and is believed for some time to have conducted himself with strict propriety, but bad habits are stronger than good intentions, and it is probable his old associates sought him out in the West and tempted him to his downfall.

The Reeves family consisted of himself, wife, four sons and one daughter, the latter a young lady of more accomplishments than might be expected under the circumstances of her education. The children, if we may believe a neighbor, were systematically trained to steal. The old lady claimed all the eggs about the premises as her personal perquisite, and the old man, under the plea of wanting them for his bitters, used to hire his son George, termed the "General," to steal them from his mother. Sophronia had many friends in Henry and was much thought of.

Mrs. Reeves was a Dowton, and connected with the Harts, a disreputable, thieving set, living in the timber across from Henry. She was the ruling spirit of the family, and its evil genius. She encouraged her sons in idleness and secreted their plunder. It is probable the point selected for their new home was chosen as a safe retreat for the nefarious end in view. It was far away from the settlements, and situated in the mouth of a deep ravine into whose dim recesses the sun seldom penetrated. Its precipitous sides and center were covered with brush, there were lateral branches extending on either side, affording admirable chances for concealment,

while the main hollow opened on the prairie a couple of miles or more westward. Reeves had several cabins or outhouses on the premises fitted up for lodging rooms, and first attracted attention by the frequent appearance of strange faces about his establishment.

For some time the gang with which he was connected worked secretly and successfully. Horses stolen on Rock River were brought here to be disposed of, while those stolen here were swiftly taken abroad. By this time (1842) the country was rapidly filling up, and a long course of successful crime had made the perpetrators reckless. Numerous burglaries and much petty thieving had been going on, directly traceable to Reeves' son. Among others who frequented the place were Burch, Fox and Long, the afterward murderers of Col. Davenport. Burch was a desperado, and the hero of more than one robbery, and, as is believed, murder. He was the intimate friend of Cam. Reeves, the eldest son of the old man, now blossoming into a first class thief and desperado. Himself and associates were detected in stealing and passing counterfeit money, and Mrs. Reeves had passed counterfeit money at the stores in Henry and Lacon, which her husband redeemed when called upon.

The gang operated at other places. Horses were stolen at Tiskilwa, at Princeton, Toulon, and in Peoria County, and when the perpetrators were caught, confederates bailed them out or aided their escape. A store at Hennepin was broken into about this time, and the robbery was traced to Reeves' son, Cameron, and a young man named Allison. The parties were arrested near Pekin, and the goods found in their possession, but through the aid of a sharp attorney, of Peoria, they managed to escape.

Frederick Rheinbeck's house in Whitefield was broken into, and a party stopping there robbed of cash and valuable papers, which circumstance so wrought upon the community that a spontaneous and universal determination was reached to rid themselves of the presence of the offenders without waiting the forms of law. At this date it cannot be told who were mainly instrumental in bringing the parties to merited punishment, through Dr. Swanzy and J. S. Taliaferro, of Bureau County, were active participants. It was one of those risings when the whole community was ripe for action, and leaders were not necessary.

A committee was sent to notify Reeves and request his attendance the next day, at a place on the prairie since called Council Grove, and found him conveying provisions to his son, known to be hiding from the officers in the bottoms above Henry. The old man took the matter quietly, but

Mrs. Reeves raved like an enraged tigress. The next day some 300 men assembled. They came riding in from twenty to thirty miles distant from Stark, Bureau and Peoria Counties, with twenty men from the vicinity of Tiskilwa, headed by Dr. Swanzy, determined to deal out Rock River fare; in other words, extermination. Prompt to the time came Reeves on horseback, with old-fashioned saddle bags packed as for a journey.

The meeting was organized by appointing Hall S. Gregory to preside. Dr. Swanzy led off with a speech, in which he recounted the crimes of Reeves and his gang, and urged the extermination of the whole tribe. He was seconded by his followers, with approving shouts, etc.

Dr. Boal replied, advising moderation, and giving Reeves time to settle up his business, etc. Several here interposed, asking if he was prepared to go Reeves security for good behavior, which he declined. The Doctor was told to sit down.

Reeves plead his own case, appealed to those who knew him best and longest to attest his uniform good conduct, and hoped they would not condemn an innocent man. While the majority were calm and determined, a few made noisy demonstrations of executing immediate justice. One person whose own record was none too good, was quite conspicuous and anxious to hang the culprit, but Reeves effectually settled him by asking the privilege of fighting him, each armed with rifles, at forty paces.

Dr. Temple, of Chillicothe, replied to Dr. Boal, advising a middle course, and the appointment of twelve persons to take Reeves in charge and send him and his family out of the country. A majority of the company endorsed this action.

When Swanzy spoke a rush was made for Reeves, and he would have been shot down like a dog, but the chairman shielded him. Mrs. Reeves and children cried and begged for mercy. Reeves assented to the decision, and when he found his life was to be spared, seemed the happiest man there.

The party, led by the committee, went to Reeves' house, where arrangements decided on were carried out. Purchasers were found for the stock, and household property of value was quickly loaded on to wagons. When ready for a start, Mrs. Reeves went to the rear of the fire-place, and removing a brick, took therefrom a purse of money, and secreting it about her person, mounted the wagon with her family and were driven

off. As the last finale of the tragedy, a coal was applied to the house and out-buildings, and the burning ruins lighted the self-appointed ministers of justice on their way.

The party was conducted to the river and kept under guard until the arrival of a steamer from above, when they were placed on board and warned never to return as they valued their lives.

Cameron Reeves was captured that night and placed in the Hennepin jail, but escaped and left the country. The party proceeded down the river, and subsequently went up the Missouri and settled a mile and a half from Cameron, where they remained a short time and then migrated to Adair County, Iowa, where the old man died in 1852. He became much dissipated in his later days and died in poverty. George Dent speaks of meeting him once while passing through the state. He came to a camp fire around which the party was gathered, and when he left a particularly fine hunting knife disappeared also.

The lesson so sternly administered had good results. Of the family history for some years we have no data, but the younger members were among the earliest settlers of Omaha, and Cameron Reeves was the first Sheriff of the County. It is on record that he made a very good officer. During his term of service three men were taken by the vigilantes from the jail and hung. He married a very good woman, who has raised a respectable family. His two failings were a love of drink and women, and he is now living with one not his wife and principally supported by her labor, having separated from his lawful spouse.

Preston Reeves lives fifteen miles from Omaha, wealthy and respected and has raised a fine family. Jesse, the third son, died six years ago. He was well-to-do and raised a respectable family, but was given to drinking. George, the youngest, died of dissipation. He was a man of bad repute and was supported by a woman of the town.

Sophronia is wedded to A. D. Jones, the founder of Omaha. He laid out the town and was its first postmaster. She is wealthy and respected, and moves in the first society. Mrs. Reeves still lives (November, 1879), and resides with her daughter. Her life is above reproach, and she is a noted mid-wife and doctress.

THE MURDER OF JAMES SHINN.

A brutal murder took place at the lower end of the Township, on the

farm of Geo. Bonham, March 18, 1854. A public sale was being held, and liquor brought by the parties attending freely drank. When the supply was exhausted a purse was made up for some more. It was soon imbibed, and its effects at once became apparent. John Organ, a brother of the murdered man, became specially noisy, and his brother William Organ, who was perfectly sober, strove to quiet him. While thus engaged, James Shinn got out from the wagon where he sat, and drawing a long sharp-bladed knife, rushed into the crowd, striking the first man he met, which proved to be William Organ, who fell to the ground dead. The murder was most unprovoked and brutal, Organ being engaged in quieting his brother. Shinn escaped, but was caught and lodged in jail, from which he broke out. He was again captured, and after a long and tedious trial was sentenced to the penitentiary for three years and six months. This may have been the first, but it was not the only time justice has been cheated of her dues in Marshall County.

INCIDENTS.

The first birth in the Township was that of John Hoskins' son Leonard, in 1835.

The first wedding of any Whitefield citizen was that of Jeriah Bonham to Miss Sarah Atwood in 1839, at the house of the bride's father, Mr. Timothy Atwood.

The land of the Bonham grave-yard was never conveyed or dedicated to the public and no lots were ever sold, but a burial place is freely given to any neighbor of the family.

While the Reeves gang infested the country, more or less counterfeit money was in circulation. A few years ago a boy while hunting cows in the vicinity discovered a bottle hidden beside a tree containing \$1,000 in new bills dated 1842 and 3. They were on the Hudson River Bank, and were undoubtedly "planted" by some member of the gang.

When Mr. Bonham and his sons-in-law located on the bottoms they went into sheep raising pretty extensively, but this venture did not prove fortunate. The wolves were numerous, and often came in broad daylight

carrying off young lambs and pigs from the very cabin doors. They would prowl around in gangs, and making an apparently concerted plan of attack, would carry it out with perfect success. One would amuse the dogs, another would threaten to break into the back door of the stable or hen house, a third would worry the old sow, while the fourth would get a pig each and start for the swamps and jungles of the river bottom, to be joined by their comrades in a few moments. The exasperated woman of the house would hear the pig squealing, loud and direfully at first, then fainter and more faint until the captors had reached some favorite retreat, beyond the reach of dogs and men. They would capture sheep by a different stratagem. This was to stampede the flock, and getting them scattered in the woods kill them to eat at their leisure. If the shepherd was not on the constant lookout for these marauders they were sure to take advantage of his negligence by sweeping down upon his helpless flock.

There was but little demand for more wool than home consumption required. Some of the farmers who did not raise sheep had looms and spinning wheels, and managed to buy wool from those who grew the article.

Snakes were plentiful and venomous. A visitor at Frank Drake's, in 1847, avers that he saw them thrust their heads through cracks in the floor, and they sometimes entered the house. In 1844 the high water drew them from the bottoms and they swarmed on high grounds. A little child whose parents name was Long, was bitten while playing in the yard, and when taken up by its mother the snake clung to the child and was lifted up with it.

The father of Warner Combs was building a house for John King, and hearing the prodigious snake stories told by certain men engaged in breaking, was induced to go and see for himself, and counted seventy-five killed in a comparatively small space, most of them of the most venomous kind.

Harmon G. Andrews was one of Whitefield's best citizens. He served in the Mexican war, and at the opening of the rebellion volunteered in the three months' service. Coming home he raised a company for the Forty-Seventh Regiment, and was chosen Captain, serving in the Missouri campaign under General Fremont; also at Island No. 10, the capture

of Forts Henry and Donaldson, Inka and Corinth, when he was wounded and taken prisoner.

After this he resigned, and coming home raised Company A, of the Fifteenth Illinois, and was elected Captain. They were ordered to Georgia, where they received the surrender of the rebel General, Walker, with 10,400 men. The war was virtually over, and they were mustered out January 24, 1846. He was twice elected Treasurer, and was universally regretted.



STEUBEN TOWNSHIP.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

HOW NAMED.



OME of the earliest settlers of this Township came from Steuben County, New York, named in honor of Baron Steuben, a distinguished Prussian soldier and intimate friend of General Washington, with whom he served in the war of the Revolution. The name commemorated their former home and a gallant soldier likewise, and at the suggestion of Timothy Atwood it was conferred upon their chosen future home. The Township lies along the Illinois River, extending westward to La Prairie, and is broken and cut up by ravines, but there is much valuable land within its borders, and numerous finely cultivated farms.

The river bottoms are low and subject to overflow in seasons of high water; the bluffs rise abruptly, affording excellent pasturage, but seldom susceptible of cultivation.

These bluffs are filled with coal, easily and extensively mined; likewise fire clay, lime and sand stone. In the vicinity of the bluffs the soil is mostly clay, which becomes black loam as you travel west, producing heavy crops easily cultivated. The bluffs and ravines are covered with timber and an undergrowth of oaks, etc., indigenous to the soil and valuable for fire wood and other purposes. The principal and only outlet for the products is the village of Sparland, lying along the Bureau Valley Branch of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad. It enjoys a healthy trade with the country west, and is one of the best shipping points along the road. Beside its extensive yield of coal, it is the outlet for a large portion of the agricultural products of La Prairie and portions of Whitefield and Saratoga.

Two and a half miles below the village attempts were once made to open up extensive coal mining operations, and a company from Chicago

expended large sums in buildings and improvements, naming the station Grantville. Subsequent investigations proved that either the coal did not exist in paying quantities or it was of too poor a quality to market successfully, so the enterprise was abandoned. Of the houses erected several have been blown down, and the rest are going to swift destruction.

Two miles above town a company from Rock Island began extensive works, and after the expenditure of several thousand dollars, suspended labor and abandoned their improvements.

The village was laid out by the Sparr family, June 13, 1855, and embraced a few lots lying along the tract, but since then numerous additions have been made giving it all the territory required. It contains a fine hotel, elevator, passenger building, etc., with several fine stores, shops and dwellings, two churches and one of the finest public school buildings in the county.

THE EARLY SETTLERS OF STEUBEN.

Franklin Ward Graves was the first known resident of Steuben, coming to Sparland in 1831. He bought of the Indians the land on which the town stands, and built a cabin at the foot of the bluff, near Dr. Tesmer's residence.

The next settler was John Ridgeway, married to Ann McGee, who came in the fall of 1832, and settled where Grantville stands. They were accompanied by Jeremiah Cooper and family, who settled beside him. Mr. Ridgeway died in 1852, and his widow, since Mrs. Pursell, still survives, (1880.) Mr. Cooper died in 1843, leaving six children. James Hammett also came to the locality that year, and died long ago. He raised John and William Ray. Beside him on the north lived William Eads, who served in the Black Hawk war. His wife died here, and he remained in the vicinity until 1862 or 3, when he went into the army as a teamster, and was killed by accident.

George Reddick came in 1833, and built a cabin not far from the Foscender warehouse, where himself and wife subsequently died.

Hiram McLaughlin is an old settler who made a farm in the Township at an early day, and raised numerous descendants.

John Cornell came to Chicago, and fell among thieves who stole his money and clothing. He worked his way to Putnam County, thence toward Sparland, and finally made a claim on the bluff back of the village in 1839, where the brick school house now stands, and also started his

home farm on the south-east quarter of Section 9, where he still lives. He moved upon it in 1850.

Wm. Armstrong settled on Big Senachwine Creek in 1839, in the vicinity of Drake's Grove, having married a Miss Welch, who lived above Sparland in Whitefield, on the river bottoms to the south of the timber. He died during the late war—a soldier in the Union army, and his family removed to Kansas.

S. E. Thompson and George B. Drake came here in the fall of 1834, and built cabins at the head of Gimlet Hollow, where Sargent's brick house now stands. Drake remained there till the next spring—1835, when Francis B. Drake, Sr., and family came, and moved to the timber since known as Drake's Grove.

Frank Drake, Sr., had five children, of whom George was the eldest. His second son and namesake lived here until 1877, when he removed to Texas and is still living. His daughter Sally married Samuel Ellis Thompson, and still survives. His daughter Cynthia died September 13, 1835; and his daughter Delia married Thomas Doran, and lives on the old homestead. George first settled in the bottoms east of the County poor farm, and lived there until 1855, when he emigrated to Texas. He was a brick mason by trade, and erected most of the early brick houses of this section.

Joseph Thompson came in 1834, accompanied by his sons Asa and Samuel Ellis Thompson. He possessed considerable ready money and made considerable improvements. The first religious meetings were held at his house, and the first Society was organized there.

When lands came into market he journeyed to Quincy to make his entries, where he was attacked with measles and died. Mrs. F. returned and resided with her son Ellis until her death, March 10, 1843, aged seventy-two years. Their eldest daughter was wedded to George B. Drake before their arrival here, and their second daughter married the Rev. John Brown. She taught the first school in the Township.

Samuel Ellis Thompson married Sally Drake on the 4th of July, 1836, going to the wedding on horseback, and immediately after they began housekeeping in a new cabin, where they live to-day.

Mrs. Drake died in February, 1847, and Mr. Drake one year later, of cancer, aged sixty-nine.

Asa Thompson married Miss Nancy Watkins, before coming here. She died February 23, 1837, and together, with their infant daughter

Mary J., who died October 3, 1836, sleep in the Sparland cemetery, the latter being the first interment.

Mr. Thompson was a wagon-maker by trade, and first settled at Chillicothe, but considerable sickness prevailing, he removed here and made his home with his brother. In February, 1844, he was married to Mrs. Smalley, daughter of James Orr, of Lacon, and moved into his cabin, where he lived happily until February 25, 1874, when he died, at the age of sixty-four years.

Their children were William E., born December 26, 1844, present County Treasurer of Marshall County; Margaret Jane, born May 24, 1846, married to Charles Boys, living in Livingstone County, Illinois; Asa, born August 23, 1849, dead; Asa Ellis and Elizabeth, twins, the former dead and the latter still living at home; Milford, now at Blandinsville, Illinois; Joseph, a farmer in Steuben.

Mr. Thompson was a man of more than average ability and acquired a large property. Mrs. T. resides upon the old homestead, enjoying the respect of all who know her.

Mrs. Mary Wathins came from Ohio and settled north-west of Sparland in 1835. She died in 1865. Her son Jehiel settled near her and David lives on the old place. Her daughter Mary Jane wedded Isaac Tanquary; Lucinda married the Rev. Mr. Blackwell, and after his death wedded James Tanquary, Jr.

James Tanquary, Sr., died many years ago, and his wife became Mrs. Abram Tanquary. After his death a land shark from the vicinity of Quincy came along with a prior claim upon her land, and to save herself from being turned out of doors she was compelled to pay him five hundred and fifty dollars. Mr. Tanquary was long a class leader in the church and a useful citizen.

John S. Hoskins came on to the prairie at an early day and made a claim, where he lived until his death.

Josiah Hoskins settled on Hard Scrabble at an early day. He had three sons, John S., Henry and Thomas. John S. is dead, and the others still live in the Township.

John Power settled upon what was long known as the Fenn place, at Drake's Grove, in the fall of 1837. He came from Virginia, and had ten children, himself, wife and son-in-law. He died upon the place.

One of his sons fell from a wagon and broke his neck, near Allen

Hunter's, on Yankee street. Subsequently the land passed into other hands, and is now owned by Mrs. Fred. Gage.

David W. Bates, with his wife and son L. M. Bates, settled upon the Bates farm, three miles north-west of Sparland, in the spring of 1837. The old man died upon his farm, and a son started to California during the time of the gold fever and died upon the way.

L. P. Bates, a younger brother, was for some time a citizen of Sparland and now lives in Iowa. A half sister lives in Chillicothe.

Benjamin Allen opened the well known place, now the County poor farm, in the fall of 1837.

Timothy Atwood came to Steuben in 1835, from the town of that name in New York. He served in the war of 1812, and acquiring several soldiers' titles to land came West to locate them. He had eight sons and daughters, four of whom accompanied him and the rest soon followed. He broke fifty acres that fall, and the next year fenced in three hundred and twenty acres of land. He was a surveyor, a prominent Mason, and a leading member of the church. He died September 6, 1837, aged sixty-five years. His son William succeeded him on the old place, which afterward was sold to Samuel McCoy.

Allen Hunter came in 1837 and occupied a cabin built by Mr. Atwood. He succeeded to the Atwood homestead. Yankee street was a nickname attached to it by the rule of "contraries." It is one of the garden spots of the County. The public road from Peoria to Galena was laid out through there in 1835. One locality in the neighborhood was called Hickory Point.

Other settlers of early days were Thomas Miner, who came in 1837, John Webster, Russell Frisbie and Joel Fosdick.

Charles and James Doran came with their mother to the vicinity of Drake's Grove in 1837, and began improvements on what is since known as the Fisher place.

George Mead came upon the Powers' farm in 1840.

Levi Fosdick settled one-half mile east of Drake's Grove, and planted what is known in Steuben as the "big orchard," in 1844 and '45.

Cornelius Tanquary settled north of Bethel Church in 1840, and still remains there.

Among the prominent settlers of this Township is Amasa Garrett. He came to Putnam County with his parents in 1836, and subsequently

moved to his farm at Thompson's "four corners," west of Spauld, before he had attained his majority.

His father at an early day settled at Cole's Grove, in Bureau County, twenty-five miles from Winnebago swamp, in the midst of the Indian country. For many years he was the only white inhabitant of that region, and his house was frequently a stopping place for the old settlers of the country south, on their way to and from the land sales at Galena. He died at the age of eighty-seven years and his wife at eighty-one.

In 1836, when Amasa came to Steuben, times were good and money plentiful, but from 1837 to 1840 they were hard indeed.

Mr. Garratt, Sr., wishing to stock his farm, went to McLean County and purchased three-year old steers for \$4.50 and \$5.00; heifers \$1.00 to \$2.00 less; two-year olds, \$3.00 and \$4.00; yearlings, \$2.50 and \$3.00, and cows, \$7.00 and \$8.00. At Chicago, during these years, beef brought when dressed only 2½ to 3 cents per pound by the quarter. Here on the prairies the best cattle brought only one cent per pound on foot.

The first laid out public thoroughfare in this Township was the State road from Peoria to Galena, used by the settlers in their travels to Galena to enter land and visit the lead mines, and by the stage line, commencing in about 1836.

The first precinct election held in the Township was at the dwelling house of Thomas Miner, who settled in 1838, on the farm now owned by William Ford, on Yankee Street. The place was known as Hickory Point, from a grove of hickory timber extending further out upon the prairie. The election precinct then embraced what is now Steuben and La Prairie. At this election it was agreed that the region should be formed into a town and named Steuben.

In early times the settlers found markets at Chicago or Galena. Long journeys were made to these places, and when it was known that any one was meditating a trip, he was besieged to do errands for neighbors, who came far and near.

Samuel B. McLaughlin is another old settler, descended from good old Scotch-Irish parentage, who was born in Kentucky in 1813, and when 19 years old came to Illinois and located on Senachwine Creek, above Peoria, in 1833, wedding Rachel L. Hammett, who bore him thirteen children, four of whom have died. He lived there four years, and then moved to where he now resides. He was always a hard worker and economical, and made money, as the saying goes, "hand over fist." When markets did

not satisfy him, he went to Chicago, driving an ox team. He has sold wheat in that market as low as $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel. Our limits will not permit a detailed sketch of what could be made a valuable article. He has a finely improved place, a well finished house, and owns 1,200 acres of land. Mrs. McLaughlin's parents were among the first settlers of Chillicothe Township.

Among the settlers not previously named were:

James Douglas, who came in 1840 and located upon the prairie in Watkins' neighborhood. His farm was two miles west, on the Samuel Blackwell place.

John Black settled on what is now the Fort farm about the same date.

George Scott came in 1839, settling in the lower end of the Township. He afterward returned to Scotland, and died in the West Indies.

James Sumner settled on "Hard Scrabble," where L. B. Thomas lives, in 1837.

Washington Bailey came at the same time, and settled in the edge of the timber. He left the country between two days for his country's good.

Patrick George and John Smith also lived in the vicinity.

The Sparr family came at an early date, but we cannot say when.

H. R. Cassell tells of buying lime of George Sparr, at Sparland, in 1834.

THE OLD SCHOOLS.

One of the first schools in the Township was taught by Miss Elizabeth Mead, in 1835, in a log building north of Asa Thompson's farm.

Joseph Thompson furnished the land, and, together with his son Elias, helped to build the first school house in the Township, in the winter of 1837-8. It was made of logs, 16x18, with two windows, each having six panes of 8x10 glass, and a stone fire place. The floor was made of split logs or puncheons. The first teacher was Miss Margaret Thompson, afterward wife of Rev. Mr. Brown, who taught in the summer of 1839.

The present brick school house, north of the four corners, near Asa Thompson's residence, was built in 1853. The old log school house stood upon a knoll on a cleared space in the timber, near the present tile factory. Among the early teachers here, besides Miss Thompson, were Lyman Drake, Franklin Bates, Robert Wills, Jason Truey and Young

Dodge, afterward Major General. Succeeding these were George Drake and Delia Drake, both spoken of as excellent teachers.

RELIGIOUS.

The house of Joseph Thompson was freely thrown open to religious meetings, and therein was organized the first meeting to form a society in the summer or fall of 1837. Zadoc Hall officiated, and he and Rev. Mr. Moffatt being on the Kickapoo Circuit, frequently preached there, Elder John Sinclair being the first Presiding Elder for this section.

Rev. Enos Thompson, a brother of Joseph Thompson, came here occasionally and held forth at the house of the latter and in the school house, in 1836.

Old Bethel Church was built near Asa Thompspon's, on his land, in 1849, by Ellis Thompson and others, and in 1875 moved out further West upon the prairie, its former location being not sufficiently central for the convenience of its congregation, which now embraces over a hundred families.

A Sabbath School was organized at Bethel Church many years ago, and prayer meetings were held there and at the old log school house.

The first Sabbath school at the log school house was held in 1838, and was comprised of children of every Protestant denomination, their parents acting as teachers, using such text books as they could procure. In the same way a small library was formed, each settler furnishing from his own collection such religious books as he happened to have, making a curious collection. Among the liberal donors to this library were the ladies of Lacon, who gave a miscellaneous collection of Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Campbellite, Episcopalian and other denominational books.

The preachers here after Zadoc Hall were Elder Moffatt, Rev. George Briggs, Rev. Mr. Jordan, and afterward again Mr. Hall.

The first Methodist class was formed in the spring of 1837, by Rev. Zadoc Hall. The members were Mrs. F. B. Drake, Sr., Sallie Thompson, Mrs. Tanquary, Mr. Henderson and wife.

Old Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. David Watkins were afterward added to the membership. The first regular preacher was Rev. Mr. Fitzpatrick,

who inaugurated the movement which resulted in the erection of Bethel Church in 1849.

INDIANS OF SPARLAND AND VICINITY.

Among the white settlers none had better facilities for observing the manners and customs of the Indians than Mr. John Hammett, who settled on Senachwine Creek, above Chillicothe, in 1830, and had frequent intercourse with the red-skins.

His first experience here was during the winter of the deep snow, and having secured but little hay, Mr. Hammett had to resort to various expedients to keep his stock from starving. He cut down maple sugar trees, the tender shoots of which afforded sustenance for his cattle. His corn, which he planted about the 10th of June, was killed by frost. The Indians, having about that time left their Chillicothe village and located at Sparland, Mr. H. turned the abandoned site into a farm.

One day he rode up to the village at Sparland, which contained a hundred or more wigwams, built in the bottom below the present site of the village. They had about thirty acres of corn and pumpkins, the finest he ever saw. The corn was planted in hills, like sweet potatoes, the hills being arranged in perfectly straight rows and squares, while the several grains in each hill were placed with like geometrical precision. These hills were circular, two feet in diameter, and one foot high, the top being flat, and they stood about six feet apart. There were thirty to forty stalks in each hill, planted in circles, the stalks being about six inches apart. It was the small eight-rowed variety, was carefully cultivated by hand, and thus tended grew to monstrous proportions and matured early, escaping the fall frosts which nipped later varieties. They also raised squashes, beans and pumpkins. All the field work was done by squaws, the lordly warrior scorning to turn his noble mind to servile labor. Sufficient corn for winter use was gathered, exposed for a time to the sun or smoke and heat of the wigwams, and then buried in caches or holes in the ground in dry, elevated localities.

The Indians had no fences around their corn field. Along one side of the field was the pasture for their ponies, being the ground now known as O'Leary's corn field. A stream of water running from the bluffs to the river divided the pasture from the corn and kept the ponies out of mischief.

Mr. Samuel Thompson, an old settler near Sparland, narrates anecdotes of his early experience.

The Indians were very friendly in early days; in fact, entirely too familiar. They would enter his house and make themselves thoroughly comfortable. They would look into every nook and corner of the premises, open and smell of the bottles of medicine, and were peculiarly fond of whisky, an article which they seemed to take to as readily as ducks to water. In those days wild game was plentiful, and the Indians could easily kill all (deer especially) that they could consume. They would eat the meat of any sort of wild animal, even that of the obnoxious pole cat, and often preferred it raw.

Mr. Thompson once visited Shaubena's camp and showed the Indians a Bible. After looking at it, with strange gestures and noises, they pointed toward the sky, indicating that they comprehended its object.

The Indians preserved meat for food by drying, suspending it in slices around a hole in the ground, in the bottom of which was a fire, and allowing it to remain until sufficiently dried. They had well fashioned copper kettles in which they prepared their soup. Corn was reduced to a coarse meal by pounding in a rude stone mortar.

Religious meetings were frequently held at Drake's Grove, usually conducted by missionaries, which the Indians invariably attended in great numbers.

SCALPED BY INDIANS.

About 1864 a young man named Magee, whose home was below Sparland, went West and engaged to cross the plains as a Government teamster. There were a dozen or so of wagons in the train, and while camped at what was known as Big Spring, in Western Kansas, they were attacked by a roving band of Indians, and all of the party murdered but young Magee. There was a Government stockade within a mile of them and the attack was seen, but before aid could come the red devils had accomplished their work and were safe from pursuit. As is usual, the attack was made at daylight, when all but the drowsy sentinel were sound asleep. The enemy came unseen until within a few rods, and then suddenly swooping down upon their ponies, slaughtered their victims before any defense could be attempted.

Young Magee was sleeping beneath a wagon when alarmed by the Indians, and started to run, but was shot in half a dozen places with

arrows, and fell to the ground, feigning death. An Indian came up, and catching him by the hair ran his sharp knife from the forehead round to the base, making a clean cut to the bone; then stooping down he placed one knee upon the boy's breast, and giving a sharp jerk, tore the scalp clean off, leaving the top of the head bare and bloody. It was sufficiently cruel, but the fiend, to make sure of his work, then reversed the knife and holding the blade in his hands, struck the bare skull with the handle as heavy a blow as he was able. This to the still conscious boy was worse than the scalping, and he relapsed into insensibility.

As soon as possible the alarm was sounded at the fort and a party of soldiers turned out, who found young Magee rolling about on the grass. From his numerous wounds and condition it was believed he could live but a few moments, and no attention was paid him, the sun, which by this time had risen, beating directly upon his bare skull. The dead men were gathered up and buried, and finding the boy still alive, though delirious, they covered the wound with molasses to shield it from the air, and conveyed him to the fort.

There was no surgeon here, but the next day a train was made up, he was placed in a Government wagon and taken to where medical aid could be had, some two days' travel distant. Here he laid for many weeks, his strong constitution carrying him through. When able to travel, transportation was furnished and he came home. The wound upon his head never healed but continued a running sore. He wore a cap or turban, which was never removed on entering a house. After remaining about here for a year or so he returned West again, and at last accounts was still living.

DOC. ALLEN.

This was a most eccentric gentleman, who lived on the west side of the Illinois River, in Steuben Township, many years ago. Being a backwoodsman of varied attainments and considerable originality, he was known far and near. Among other acquirements he had read works on the Thompsonian system of medicine and treatment of diseases, and without a diploma or any other authority than a copy of one of these books under his arm and a pint bottle of "No. 6" in one coat pocket, balanced by a bottle of whisky in the other, he frequently rode forth, or walked, conquering and to conquer. The equilibrium between these two bottles, as well as his own, was not always carefully preserved, and the contents

of the whisky bottle transferred to his mouth, resulted in causing him to proceed in a lopsided, irregular gait, and frequently upset him.

One night the "Squire" had been on a visit to Chillicothe, and started for home in the evening in a very "salubrious" condition. Going down a steep bank, his feet caught in the roots of a tree, the earth from which had been washed away by recent rains, and he fell headlong down hill, his foot held firmly in the tangled roots. There, helpless, upon his back, head down, unable to extricate himself, he cursed and shouted for help in vain. To add to his misery, his bottle of whisky was in his coat tail pocket, and that was out of reach down hill. After vainly struggling to free himself, he took out his knife to "unjoint his leg," as he expressed it, when Asa Thompson came along and set him free. A mutual drink was indulged in, the Squire remarking, as he lingeringly withdrew the flask from his mouth after a long pull, and gave vent to a sigh of satisfaction, "Good thing you came up, stranger, just in time—I'd cut off that are fool of a leg, sure!"

Mr. Allen managed to secure his election to the office of Justice of the Peace, hence his title of "Squire." His court was a model of judicial importance, but somewhat hampered as to room and what would be considered appropriate surroundings. His cabin, situated near the present county poor-house, consisted of a single room with the usual large chimney, low door, and in lieu of a window, a log chopped out on one side, the aperture being stuffed with old clothes or hay in cold weather. Three or four poles overhead answered for joists. The chickens occupied the loft, while the pigs roamed about below, running between the Squire's legs when too closely pursued by the dogs. He held court semi-occasionally, as legal business in these days was not brisk. When a suit was to be tried, he mounted a slab stool and presided with pompous dignity. When the chickens came in to roost in the evening, and the pigs began to seek their accustomed quarters, the Squire would adjourn court for the day, lay aside the stupendous importance which had enveloped him during the sittings of the court and come down to the humble footing of common mortals.

THE CAT AT THE BUTTER.

Mrs. Thompson had a jar of butter in a small hall adjoining her bed room. One morning she observed that the cloth covering had been dis-

turbed, and for several succeeding days was annoyed by repetitions of the offense, at which she was considerably "riled," as she expressed it, and vainly endeavored to detect the culprit. One night on retiring she heard a noise in the hall, and stealing out softly, with one dexterous jump she sprang upon a white object which she mistook for the family cat. She seized the offender and gave it one vigorous shake, and then retreated in disgust. It was n't a cat, but the pretty little white-faced, bushy-tailed animal that lives in retirement and supplies perfumery on an extensive scale.

AN ACTIVE DIME.

Mrs. Thompson relates the following as illustrative of the scarcity of money in pioneer times:

One day she had occasion to go to Lacon, but had no change. All she wanted was a dime, an insignificant amount, but in those days a sum of great consequence. At length she obtained the required wealth, a peculiarly marked but good and lawful dime. This she needed to pay her ferriage, taking with her butter and eggs to trade for such goods as she wanted. She went over, paid the ferryman her dime, did her shopping, and when ready to return home asked the merchant for a dime to give the man at the boat. The storekeeper looked perplexed; she had been a good customer, and he felt in duty bound to "scare up" the money; but, where? He searched every drawer, his pockets, accosted men passing by; but all in vain. Finally he went out, and in ten minutes returned with the money, remarking as he handed it to her, "Got one at last, bet there's not another in town!" Sure enough, for it was the identical dime she had given to the ferryman when she came over that morning!

INCIDENTS.

Old Sol. Brewer was once "taken desperate," and sent to invoke the medical skill of Doctor Allen. He promptly responded, made a diagnosis of the case, and prescribed a drink of whisky every hour, an external application of No. 6, and an injection of rhubarb and water, leaving it to be administered by the patient's hired man. The nurse somehow got the bottles mixed, and applied the remedies differently from directions. He met the Doctor a few days afterward, and thus reported: "I gave that

'ere whisky all right, rubbed his leg with the yaller stuff, and give him a dejection of number six, and you could have hearn old Sol beller more'n two miles. He says he 'd not have you again to doctor a sick dog!"

In 1835 John Cornell and Wm. Armstrong dug into and examined an Indian mound a short distance below Sparland, on the river bank, and found therein the remains of an Indian of very large stature. The skeleton was over six feet in height, and broad and deep of chest in proportion. Around the body was wrapped twenty yards or more of the finest broadcloth. A large knife was clutched in the bones of the right hand, and the fingers of the left seemed once to have grasped a tin cup. The cloth and cup a few moments after exposure to the air on the slightest touch crumbled into dust. Around the neck of the dead man were several ornaments, such as beads and similar trinkets peculiar to his race.

During the winter of 1835 Shaubena and his tribe camped at Drake's Grove, in the Township, and were visited by the white people occasionally. Mr. Ellis Thompson once dropped in among them. They had killed three deer, a polecat and a wolf. They had dressed the meat of all but the wolf, which for some superstitious reason they discarded as food, and offered Mr. Thompson some of the odoriferous cat, which he declined with his fingers upon his nose, but as politely as his sensations of disgust would permit! They were cooking this food with unwashed, filthy hands, just as the handling of the carcasses had left them. They eagerly enquired for whisky, and were much disappointed when assured by Mr. Thompson that he had none of that article.



THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

CHAPTER XLIX.

SLAVERY IN THE COLONIES.



It is not within the scope of this work to enter upon a discussion of the question which for many years threatened to overturn and demolish the American Union. It is, therefore, not the purpose of the author to present here any extended history of the events which gave birth to slavery; nourished and maintained it until it became of such monstrous proportions as to control and shape our national legislation; nor the efforts put forth for its final overthrow. A brief review of the birth and growth of a party which persistently, courageously and successfully combatted this gigantic wrong in our country is deemed a fitting introduction to the incidents in the counties whose history is recorded in these pages.

It is enough for us to know, and to the credit of the American people be it said, that slavery was introduced here not by themselves, but by a foreign people, who knew nothing of human liberty in theory or in fact, and whose sole end was their own personal aggrandizement.

The first slaves in this country were twenty Africans, landed upon our shores in chains by a Dutch ship, in A. D. 1700. They were sold to a few adventurers, who had come hither to amass fortunes—not to remain, but to return at some future time with their ill-gotten wealth. This was the beginning of the slave trade and the birth of slavery in the colonies.

The first anti-slavery publication ever issued in this country was a tract written by Ralph Sandiford in 1729. The next was by Benjamin Lay, and published by Dr. Franklin, who helped to organize the Pennsylvania Abolition Tract Society, of which he was president, the first organization of the enemies of African bondage in America. It was incorporated sub-

sequently by the State Legislature, and continued to exist and labor in its work until the final extirpation of the evil which gave it birth.

In 1774 a declaration was issued, signed by all the members of the North American Congress, pledging its members not to engage in the slave trade themselves nor lease their vessels to others for that purpose. This was the first step toward preventing foreign or domestic traffic by ships in "human chattels.

Slavery was extinguished by the provisions of the State Constitution, adopted in Massachusetts in 1776; in New Hampshire in 1792, and in Vermont in 1793. Laws for the gradual abolition of slavery were passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania in 1780, of Rhode Island and Connecticut in 1784, of New York in 1799, and of New Jersey in 1804. Enactments favoring voluntary emancipation by the owners of slaves were adopted in Delaware in 1787, in Maryland in 1796, in Kentucky in 1798, and in Tennessee in 1801. The National Congress in 1787, conformably to the request of Virginia in relinquishing her claims to the magnificent North-west Territory, of which our own State was a part, passed an ordinance prohibiting the introduction of slaves into that region; thus the subsequently great states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin became permanently free.

When the convention of 1788 assembled to revise the articles of confederation existing between the States, it was found that every State, except North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, was opposed to the toleration of the African slave trade.

The so-called navigation laws were then the bone of contention between some of the extreme Northern and some of the Southern States. The Northern ship owners wanted protection for their vessels and ship-building fostered by Congress. To this the Carolinas objected, as favoring one class or locality to the detriment of others. It was class legislation, which they declared should not be permitted.

As a compromise, certain Northern men united with the pro-slavery delegates, the Yankees getting their shipping laws to suit them, and in return the South obtained a clause in the constitution by which the slave trade was continued, in such States as should permit it, for twenty years longer—until 1808. This scheme was adopted in direct opposition to the vote of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

In this manner slavery was fastened upon the country as one of its institutions, recognized by the constitution, the fundamental law of the

land, sustained by the Supreme Court in repeated instances, and protected by Congress and the legislatures of the States where the institution was upheld. On its side were the might and power of the constitution, the law makers and the interpreters thereof; the strong arm of the Government itself was employed to protect slavery. Thus shielded, it grew and increased in power in one section of the Union, and in time became haughty and aggressive and threatened to break down the barriers which the founders of the Government had placed between it and the free North.

The memorable agitation in Congress from 1850 to 1852 of the slavery question, produced the Fugitive Slave Law, a time serving measure which exasperated the radical abolitionists in the North and worked nothing to allay the bitter sectionalism of the South, and was only a means of hastening the impending conflict, which was doomed to come sooner or later.

In the meantime the Free Soil party was rapidly increasing in numbers, and public sentiment at the north rapidly undergoing a change. The Kansas-Nebraska discussion intensified the feeling and welded public opinion at the North into determined hostility to the sum of all villainies, as it was called.

The despised abolitionists "went into politics," and demonstrated they were a power no longer to be ignored. Next came the formation of the Republican party, a partial disintegration of the heretofore invincible Democratic party, the election of President Lincoln, and finally the war of the Rebellion. The following up of the local causes that led to these events would be interesting, but space will not permit.

Public sentiment here was influenced by such men as Lovejoy, Coddington, Dickey and other workers, who labored in season and out of season for the cause of human freedom. They were earnest, unselfish God-fearing men, who felt it their duty to do all in their power to promote the cause. They held public meetings whenever audiences could be gathered, submitted to indignities and persecutions without number, but never swerved from the line they had marked out, and most of them lived to see the fullest fruition of their hopes.

The Underground Railroad grew out of the efforts of the Anti-Slavery party to cripple the slave power. Its members held that statutory enactments conflicting with the "higher law" were not binding and of no effect, and that they committed no sin in helping a human chattel to achieve freedom.

It is due the friends of slavery to say that their action in upholding

the "institution," etc., was strictly within the letter of the law. They were commanded to detain every slave found abroad, to prevent his escape, and return him to bondage under penalty of fine and imprisonment. They were mainly natives of the south, educated to regard the slave as a menial and inferior human being. Slavery was sanctioned by divine institution and the laws of the land; they foresaw the inevitable result of agitation and deprecated the catastrophe sure to follow.

It is not probable there was any formal organization for effecting the escape of slaves in this vicinity. The friends of the movement had often met in convention and knew on whom each could rely, so that when the first fugitive appeared the "friend" to whom he applied knew of some one living northward on whom he could depend, and to whom the escaping stranger was taken.

In this way the traffic began and was kept up. Two routes led through the County. On the east the Work brothers, living on Crow Creek, were the active agents; their consignees below being the Morse brothers, living in Woodford County, and all "packages" coming into their hands were safely delivered to William Lewis and other friends in the vicinity of Magnolia, from whence the fugitive was forwarded past Lowell to Chicago. West of the river Nathaniel Smith, at Lawn Ridge, was the active agent, who received his "goods" from Moses Pettengill, of Peoria, and others at Farmington, and delivered them with the utmost care and entire safety at Providence and Princeton.

The experience of James Work, a leader in the crusade of freedom and an active agent of the Underground Railroad, will be read with interest. He well remembers the early efforts of such successful agitators as Ichabo Coddling, Owen Lovejoy, Rev. James H. Dickey and that class of earnest, able men and finished orators, who came among the people and organized the route to freedom. The next station south of Mr. Work's dwelling was that of the well known Parker Morse, and the next north Mr. Wm. Lewis, of Magnolia.

The first appearance of slaves here who seemed to come upon the regular line or railway, was not much prior to 1840. Up to the time of the death of the father of James and Samuel Work, in 1842, but very few colored people had been seen on this route, which may not be said to have got into regular operation until about this date. "We knew little or nothing of those who were agents along the entire line," says Mr. W.,

“and were only posted as to the stations immediately next us on either side.”

Usually the negroes were transported in the night and would reach their stopping place at Work's from some place south, about bed time, and after a comfortable lunch he would drive them to Lewis's, fourteen miles away. Mr. W. states that it was nothing unusual for him to get up in the night and drive his dusky friends to the next place.

Those that reached a stopping place at or near morning, the careful “agents” had to secrete all day from the watchful eyes of some inquisitive neighbor, or a chance traveler or detective slave hunter. Mr. W. frequently hid his colored guests in the corn-field or the deep recesses of the ravines, and was compelled to exercise much caution to keep the exuberance of the darkies' spirits down, and especially was he vexed with the effervescence of juvenile joyousness, and continually feared that some “picaninny” would get them into serious trouble, and many a kinky-headed youngster came along in those days, brim full of music and mirthfulness, and not appreciating the risk its friends were taking in its behalf, was liable at any moment to give utterance to a frantic yell of African delight at its novel surroundings, and invite pursuit and capture and the visitation of the law upon its self-sacrificing white friends. Some of Mr. Work's neighbors and near relatives were strongly opposed to his course, and threatened to inform upon him, and one of them was so highly shocked at the immorality of Mr. W.'s conduct—the stealing of slaves—that he threatened to shoot the philanthropist.

The negroes told Mr. W. the most pitiful stories of their sufferings at the hands of their late masters, and exhibited to him visible and unhealed marks of the “black-snake” or “raw-hide” whip.

During his residence here and active duties in the cause of emancipation, no slave was recaptured, and he knows of but few instances where the escaping fugitive had been followed by his master or representative.

The slaves who were indebted to this particular line for aid and comfort came chiefly from Missouri and Kentucky; occasionally one from further south and one from South Carolina, who, bewildered and without the aid of guides, had wandered through to opposite Cairo before being made aware that he had lost much time and traveled a long distance out of his way.

The cause of their self emancipation was generally cruelty by their owner or overseer, though they all seemed to have a holy horror of being

sold to the planters of the far south. Rumors had reached them from that then remote region, and to them a region out of the world, where negroes were starved, flogged, beaten, flayed alive, and of disease and death in the most horrid form. Field hands, too, were in demand, and the necessities or avarice of their masters knew no bonds of blood or ties of kindred among their poor human chattels; to be sold there was to forever sever husband from wife, father from children, lover from his affianced—in short, to break up every relation that mortal holds dear! To avoid this sad fate many of them took every chance of being hunted down like flying deer from the hounds and the hunters.

Occasionally large numbers would arrive at once seeking Mr. Work's attentions. Once he had ten men and women in charge, and in driving across the prairie toward Magnolia in the night, lost his way, and was so belated thereby that he had to take his dark cargo through that village in broad day-light! But no one molested him or gave him any annoyance, though there were several prominent citizens there who were strongly opposed to this plan of freeing the negroes, and could have delivered him up to the cruel punishment of the law had they been so disposed.

During the ten years he was engaged as a "driver" on this road, he thinks he has taken on their way to Canada and freedom, on an average thirty or more a year. For some of the slaves he so helped away from their owners liberal rewards were offered, and the people themselves were worth from \$250 to \$600 or \$700 each, or even more. The many hundreds of thousand of dollars worth of these human goods which he handled he never has taken the trouble to figure upon.

Some of the fugitives were very ragged and none of them had money. They were of all shades of color, from the jet black African through all the gradations to nearly that of the pure Caucasian! Among them were husbands who had left their wives, wives who had departed from their husbands, mothers who had their children to mourn for still in bondage, and every phase of the sad picture that could be imagined was to them a full hideous reality.

He never asked them to work, for it would have been an unsafe experiment even had he so desired. The only thought he had was to hurry them away beyond all possibility of capture. The "Liberty Party," as the small political faction to which he belonged was called, was very weak in those days.

In 1844 James G. Birney, for President, received but three votes in

many miles of territory, and they were Hoyt, and James and Samuel Work, and these brave men who had done so well and risked so much for the cause of freedom, were sneered at and pointed out with derision and scorned and despised by the community, but they were sincere abolitionists and voted as they practiced.

Now and then they held meetings of the brethren, sometime at Mr. Work's and at other times at Morse's cabin, where these fearless men and women gathered and received such aid and encouragement in their labors as they could give one another, when not cheered by the presence of the great leaders, whose names have been previously mentioned. At these gatherings they were threatened with violence and saluted with rotten eggs and other equally objectionable marks of displeasure by their bitter neighbors, but they lived through it all, and most of them to see the perfect triumph and reward of their labors.

SLAVE HUNTERS FOILED.

In 1837 Alexander Ross, living near Hennepin, while on his way to Galena, when a few miles beyond Princeton encountered a couple of slave hunters returning with two young and attractive mulatto girls who had escaped from slavery. The sight of the weeping girls aroused all his manly sympathies at once. Ross was a Democrat, but not of the pro-slavery type, and he formed a resolution to rescue and save the victims if possible. So he proclaimed himself a bitter anti-abolitionist, and denounced the "slave stealers," as he called them, in fearful terms. The men were glad to meet one so much after their own heart, and asked his opinion as to how they could best get away with their chattels and escape the fury of the Abolitionists. He promptly told them of a friend of his at Princeton who was "all right," and offered to pilot them to his house. His proffered services being gladly accepted, they arrived and were duly quartered for the night, when Ross volunteered to sit up and guard the slaves from any attempt at rescue. As soon as all was quiet the cunning conspirator and the lady of the house roused the girls and took them in a cutter to James W. Willis, at Florid, where they safely arrived, and he returned to Princeton by daylight next morning. The men awoke, enquired after their property, and lo! the birds had flown. Ross was found at his post, sleeping the sleep of the just, where he appeared to have been all night, and, as he claimed, from the fatigue of watching had "fallen

asleep in spite of himself." He was really asleep, and with some difficulty was aroused, and it took some time to make him aware of what had happened—his head being unusually "thick" on this occasion. When he realized what had occurred he seemed very much chagrined, and blamed himself severely for his inability to keep awake..

He promptly volunteered to help the fellows find their property, and led them many a wild goose chase about the town and country, but all to no purpose, and finally left them and pursued his journey to the land office. In the mean time Mr. Willis and other friends of the cause started the girls on their way to a safer retreat.

THE MAGNOLIA UNDERGROUND RAILROAD DEPOT.

The managers of the Underground Railroad line for this section of country were the Lewis brothers, William and Jehu, the former, however, the chief and ever active superintendent. There were two branches of the road from the South, which united at William Lewis' house, one from Parker Morse's, in Woodford, and the other from Nathaniel Smith's, at the south-western corner of Marshall County.

From William Lewis' house the escaping negroes were usually taken to Chester Duryee's, at Lowell, in La Salle County; but occasionally some were sent to Union Grove, a few miles north of Clear Creek, where there lived several sympathizers in the cause of the slave. The Lewises, though Virginians by birth, were thorough Abolitionists, and earnest and active workers in the cause of freedom.

Once an old grey-headed negro came along, who wore a pair of spectacles one glass of which was gone and the other badly cracked. He was wrinkled, and had but little hair upon his cranium. He could give but little account of himself save that he had "runned away from marsser, on de Knaw way, in ole Virginnny," and that he had "heerd that de Norf star would lead him to a lan' ob liberty;" and he had "follered it ebber sence he left Knaw way." He had picked out the brightest star he could discover in the north-west, probably Sirius, and thus he traveled mostly by night, heading his course toward that far off luminary. Mr. Lewis gave him better advice and started him on a nearer route.

Once there came an intelligent black woman, whose back and shoulders yet showed the marks of a recent terrible flagellation at the hands of her master. It was her fourth attempt at escape, and this time she was

successful. She reached Canada in safety, and wrote a touching letter of thanks to her friends.

Another slave came to Mr. Lewis' care, who was so near white as to escape suspicion. He was a blacksmith who worked some time at his trade and received liberal wages. His master in Kentucky was *his own half brother!* He at length left here and went to Chicago, when his master wrote him a touching letter, promising all things that the young man could desire if he would return to the family. The relationship was acknowledged, and the family joined in imploring their own dear "Edward" to come home; but he had tasted of freedom, and breathed the air of liberty and equality. While not doubting the sincerity of his relatives, yet he dreaded the possible consequences which the laws then entailed upon a runaway slave and refused to return. This letter he sent to Mr. Lewis, whose family still have it in their possession.

Among the fugitives at different times were several young girls, nearly white. They did not escape because of harsh treatment or any indignity, but simply to avoid the consequences that slavery was sure to bring upon them sooner or later by being sold to go South, or become the victims of brutal men, restrained by no law, moral, social or Divine, in their treatment of the unfortunate females who added youth, beauty and gracefulness to other charms of their sex.

PARKER MORSE.

The apostle of anti-slavery in Woodford County was Parker Morse, who died in 1878, and the story of the organization of the Underground Railroad we are prompted to give from his own lips. It was as follows:

About 1839 a poor negro slave, who had been captured by his master, chained by the wrists and legs was driven past his place, on his way back to bondage. The sight made his blood boil, and Mr. Morse resolved from that time onward to be an active worker in the cause of freedom.

Not long afterward Deacon John Morse, of Mt. Hope, McLean County, Illinois, a man of the same name but not a relative, called and laid before him the outlines of a prospective method of helping escaping negro slaves on their way to Canada. The plan seemed at once so entirely feasible, and withal so philanthropic, that he had no hesitancy in enlisting in the scheme. After dinner the two proceeded to the residence of Mr. John Lewis, near Magnolia, and on the road "stuck the stakes for

a track." Lewis went forward to Lowell, La Salle County, where he established a station, and soon stopping places were fixed at regular intervals to Chicago, and thence to Canada. To the south of Morse's, depots were arranged on two or three lines: one through Springfield, Bloomington, etc., and another from Delavan and Washington, Tazewell County. A branch line ran from the latter point up west of the Illinois River. By this arrangement slaves from Kentucky or Missouri, on crossing into Illinois, were taken charge of by the first station-keeper and by him carried, almost invariably in the night, to the next depot, where they were fed and secreted till the following evening, and by the agent there carried to the next place, and so on to the end of their journey.

One of the most active workers in the anti-slavery cause was Deacon Nathaniel Smith, of Lawn Ridge, a God-fearing blacksmith and member of the church militant, who could strike hard blows in debate and back them up if need be with sledge hammer accompaniments in defense of right. He assisted many slaves on the road to freedom, and was always ready to turn out by day or night with his team. The first human chattel that passed through his hands was a closely pressed negro, who was brought from Princeville hid beneath a feather bed. He safely delivered him at the next station. The next was a poor fugitive, who lay hid under a bridge at Farmington all day, while the pursuers raged all around him. A third was concealed some time beneath a brush heap. One was a Baptist minister of the gospel. Once there came a load of seven in a covered wagon. One of the party lay beneath a log when his master on horseback jumped over it without finding him. A lady nearly white came along, who had been a slave to the Rev. Mr. Ely, of Baltimore. She was stewardess on a boat, and finding her saintly owner designed selling her planned an escape and got safely through, but her husband, who was a free man, was arrested for assisting her and served a long term in a Southern penitentiary.

A young man came through from Farmington who was hidden beneath a wagon box upon which his master, who was searching for him, sat down with an assistant and talked over their plans. They asked the "agent" if the fugitive was about, and were told they could search the premises.

Mr. Smith's house became noted, and he was once honored with a column notice in the *St. Louis Republican*, to which he replied.

Once he traveled in the stage with an irate slave-holder searching for

fugitives, and after learning all the latter's plans, disclosed himself. The man evinced a strong desire to make mince-meat of the Abolitionist, but the latter's brawny fists and resolute demeanor convinced him that discretion was the better part of valor.

A NEGRO IN THE FAMILY BED.

[NOTE BY THE EDITOR:—The incident related below is a fact, duly attested by a son of the party referred to, who gives it for publication under a promise that names be suppressed. The act is so creditable to all concerned that we regret we cannot give them.]

About 1840 there resided in Marshall County, off from the line of the Underground Railroad, a "dyed in the wool Democrat" and inveterate hater of Abolitionists, whom he regarded as the paid servants of evil. At heart he was the kindest of men, deeply sympathetic, and when strongly moved capable of doing anything his conscience approved. He believed in the sanity of legal enactments, and while, perhaps, disapproving the universally condemned "Fugitive Slave bill," gave the laws enacted for its enforcement his hearty support. He considered Abolitionists and those aiding the escape of Negroes as disorganizers of the worst class, and declaimed against them in public and private; nevertheless, in his heart of hearts he nourished a love of justice so strong as to lead him to do that for the Negro not the most enthusiastic lover of the black man would. This sentiment was probably unknown to himself—certainly not suspected by the "conductors" of the line, who gave his premises a wide berth when taking fugitives through.

One winter morning he had risen earlier than usual, and going to the door beheld the crouching form of a strange Negro. His first impulse was to roughly order him to begone, but there was something in the man's countenance and manner that led him to listen to his story.

Falling on his knees, with hands uplifted and tears streaming down his bronzed cheeks, he told his story of wrong and misery, and besought him, by the love of his wife, his children, and all he held dear, to protect him. Briefly told, he was raised by an indulgent master in Kentucky and had happily married an estimable woman—an upper servant in the household. Two children were born to them, and though a slave his fetters were light and he had no longings for greater freedom. In time his master died and the estate and servants were sold, himself and

family separated; he to go on a plantation up the Red River, and his wife became the property of a lecherous, brutal villain of the vicinity.

Together they formed a plan of escape, and leaving their little ones behind fled northward, crossing the Ohio River in a skiff loaned by a friendly black man. They were entirely unaided, and knew nothing of the country or the inhabitants, but lay hid in the woods by day and traveled only at night.

They had reached somewhere in the vicinity of Springfield, and deeming themselves safe, ventured to travel by day. In the meantime their owners had traversed the country far and wide, scattering hand-bills and offering liberal rewards for their apprehension. Through these they were recognized, apprehended and remanded to slavery. From the first they were separated, and no communication allowed. He found a way of ridding himself of his handcuffs while *en route* with his captor knocked him down, and jumping from the wagon dashed into an impenetrable swamp, where he laid until night, and then, with the north star for his guide, struck out for freedom again. By some means his pursuers had got on his track once more, and might be expected at any moment.

His story, told with all the eloquence that a man in his situation must feel, his piteous appeals for mercy and succor, wakened the deepest feelings of the farmer's heart, and he determined that at least he would not inform on him. At this moment two horsemen were discovered far off on the prairie, riding hard in the direction of his house. Telling the negro to step inside (he had not been discovered), he walked down to the gate to meet them and learned as he expected they were in pursuit of the runaway, whom they had every reason to believe was concealed somewhere about the premises. One of the party he recognized as a small pettifogger from a neighboring town (for whom, by the way, he entertained the reverse of friendly feelings), and the other was a low browed bully, armed with a long whip, while a pair of handcuffs were suspended from his saddle. Briefly they explained that their "nigger" had given them the slip—that they had the necessary authority and were going to take him back if found, dead or alive.

They did not know it, but about this time the farmer made up his mind that the negro should be saved, and the fellows before him sent away empty handed. Telling them to hitch their beasts while he finished his toilet, he stepped inside with a strong belief in his mind that some-

body then and there was about to break the law, for come what would he was determined they should not get possession of the negro. There crouching in one corner was his man and in another was the family bed, from which his wife had not yet risen. "Get into my place in bed," said he, and his tones indicated he meant it. His wife would have remonstrated, but a warning "hush" and steps at the door stopped further conference. The men entered and were told to search the premises well. He wanted no niggers about him, and "if the black rascal had been hiding there he hoped he would be found." Of course the man was not found, but was cared for during the day and when night came helped on his way rejoicing.

The incident related above recalls to mind a negro barber whom we knew at McGregor, Iowa, in 1859. His name was Cromwell, and he was intelligent beyond his station. We often tried to learn his history, but he was averse to talking upon the subject, and claimed he never was a slave, but the gleam of his eye when talking showed that he felt more than he dare utter. He was deeply interested in the welfare of his race and when the emancipation proclamation was issued and a call made for colored troops sold his business and went South. He made a very creditable record during the war, was at the assault on the rebel fort at Petersburg, was blown up at the explosion that killed Colonel Bross, and when mustered out was Captain in a colored regiment. Afterward he settled in New Orleans was elected State Senator, and in 1875 was one of a delegation that visited Chicago. He there met an old time friend of the writer, and at his request narrated his slave life, detailing an experience identical with what is here related. After leaving his entertainer's premises he made his way straight to Canada, crossing the Detroit River ten miles above the city of that name. He worked at his trade in Hamilton for a number of years, and in 1855 visited his old home, hoping to find his wife and children, but only learned the former died with grief soon after her re-capture, and of his children nothing was known. With a sorrowful heart he turned northward, and under an assumed name settled at McGregor.

CAUGHT A TARTAR.

A negro named Wilson had an eventful time in trying to get his wife, to Canada. He first ran away from his master in Kentucky, made a small home in Canada and returned for his wife, but was caught and put to

work under a guard. In a little time he got away again and returned to Canada. Again he returned for his "other half," but was unsuccessful, and the second time caught. Nothing daunted, he got away once more, went back, put in another crop and returned to meet with a similar fate. In the meantime his wife died. The poor fellow having no other tie in that cruel country, again made his escape. He was plodding his way on foot, brooding upon his misfortunes, and while passing a farm in Peoria County, observed a farmer stop his team where he was plowing and approach the road. Wilson put his hand in his pocket and grasped his knife. The farmer, smelling a reward, shouted in an authoritative manner, "You 're my prisoner!" Wilson simply remarked when he reached the next station on the Underground Railroad, "Guess he won't be so anxious to 'rest anudder cullid pusson." A neighbor who met the farmer shortly after said he looked as though he had been run through a corn cracker, and there was an ugly cut on the arm that disabled him a long time.

WHITE SLAVES.

Mr. Morse is of the opinion that eight-tenths of all the escaping slaves had white blood in their veins. Among the many who passed through was a handsome young girl with pure blue eyes, thin, evenly-formed features, a straight nose and auburn hair, falling in ringlets down her back. It was not kinky or wavy, but in natural curls.

On another occasion two sisters stopped there, who seemed the perfection of grace and loveliness. Their lips were neither too thick nor yet too thin; their skin was fair and their cheeks bloomed with nature's roses; their hair in long ringlets of a light brown color, their feet small and without the African heel, the nose Grecian without flaring nostrils, and the eyes a bright, tender blue. On one side their parents had been white for generations; on the other a grand-mother was partly colored. Themselves, and parents belonged to an aristocratic family, but reverses and imprudent speculations had ruined the estate and they were about to be sold, and so wisely sought their freedom.

Afterwards came a little girl, so purely Caucasian in form and features that no one could believe she was aught else. Mrs. Morse was strongly tempted to keep her and finish the education her mistress had begun, and adopt her into the family; but fearing to create an attachment that might

be broken by the southern master, she let the child go on her way with a devout prayer for her future happiness.

Moses Pettengill, of Peoria, is a life long Abolitionist, who proved his faith by his works in the cause of human freedom. He was once appealed to by a friend named Brown, living east of Peoria, to aid him in helping two men, a woman and several children on the road to freedom. He had started with them the night before and was turned back at the Peoria bridge with threats of being shot if he persisted. A friend of his ran a boat upon the river in whom he could confide, and to him he sent the women and children, and came to Mr. Pettengill to aid in getting the men through. As handbills were posted all around accurately describing them, and offering large rewards for their apprehension, it was not safe for them to be seen. So P. arranged to meet his friend across the river at ten o'clock that night with a skiff. He then engaged two trusty young men, one of whom was Josiah Babcock, now a prominent business man of Galesburg, to assist. The men were safely brought across, given a good supper prepared by Mrs. P., and before daylight safely delivered to Chas. Stone, at Lawn Ridge, who forwarded them on their way. One of the negroes was the husband of the woman and father of the children previously referred to, and had been owned by a christian widow woman not far from St. Louis, from whom he rented the services of himself and wife, paying them \$200 yearly. But hard times came, and finding he could not support them and pay his mistress the exorbitant sum demanded he determined to escape. To get safely out of the city was the difficulty, and to accomplish it he bargained with a close-mouthed, mercenary farmer, living in Jerseyville, Ill., to convey himself and family boxed up as merchandise to his destination, giving him in advance \$50.00—every penny he possessed. Imagine if we can their condition. The man in one box, the woman and children in the other, driven slowly over the rough broken roads, incapable of changing their positions, uttering a word, or getting a breath of fresh air, and compelled to remain so all the day long. It was fifty-two miles of agony, and for sixteen hours they endured it. How inexpressibly dear must be the boon of freedom purchased at such dreadful hazard.

Another instance is remembered where a slave-catcher was baffled, occurred a year later, at Florid. A couple of slaves, a woman and her

daughter, traveling by the Underground Railroad, had reached Wm. M. Stewart's, and were stopping for the night. While there, a sharp fellow, who claimed to own the fugitives, appeared and demanded them. He too remained over night, when, to gain time, Mr. Stewart had him arrested on a charge of attempted kidnapping. The slave hunter, familiar with our odious laws, managed his own case and cleared himself, but the women in the meantime had been hidden in Geo. McCoy's smoke-house, and couldn't be found. They got away safely. Ten years afterward Mr. McCoy, while passing through Indiana in the timber, passing a neat comfortable cabin, was astonished by hearing his name spoken by a good looking black woman, who proved to be one of the two above mentioned. She had since married and was in happy circumstances, and her mother also lived near by and was satisfactorily provided for.

*In 1849, a young slave named John, ran away from his master in Missouri, located in Princeton, and became quite a favorite among the people. His master hearing of his whereabouts and accompanied by a friend to prove property, came after him. The slave was mowing in an out lot in the north part of the town, and did not observe the slave catchers until they came upon him, each of whom presented a pistol to his head, which caused him to make no resistance. His hands were tied behind him, and his master holding one end of the rope led him like a dog through the streets of the town. News of the boy's capture flew like lightning, and people, much excited, were seen running hither and thither, marshaling their forces for the rescue. A warrant was issued and the slave catchers arrested on a charge of kidnapping, and with the slave were taken to the Court House for trial. The court room was filled with excited people, some of whom sympathized with the slave and others his master. While the trial was progressing some one cut the rope that bound the slave, and during the confusion he escaped from the court room followed by the excited crowd, some to catch and others to assist him in making his escape. A horse with a woman's saddle on was hitched in the street, on which they placed the slave and ordered him to ride with all speed to the residence of Mr. Lovejoy, which he did, followed by the court and excited people. The house of Mr. Lovejoy was quickly surrounded, some to protect and others to capture the slave. Behind the barn a man was seen to mount a horse, and a cry was raised, "There goes the negro."

* Matson's Reminiscences of Bureau County.

The slave party put their horses at full speed in pursuit of the fugitive, who had taken across the prairie in the direction of Dover, but on coming up with him they were surprised to find instead of the negro Mr. Waldo with a black veil over his face. The slave party attempted to force an entrance into the house, but Mr. Lovejoy forbid them doing so without due process of law. A messenger was sent for a search warrant, and while they were waiting for his return, the boy in disguise, with a basket on his arm, went to the barn. Behind the barn a wagon was standing, into which the slave was placed and covered up with empty bags. This wagon was driven quietly away, and the slave escaped while the slave party stood guard around Mr. Lovejoy's house, waiting for a search warrant.

While the new Court House in Hennepin was being built, a negro slave was caught by an unusually keen detective, and the poor fugitive was put in the basement of the Court House for safe keeping. There seemed to be no weak point in the testimony, and under the law there was no option but to remand the unhappy fellow back to slavery. About forty of the citizens by that mysterious sort of mutual understanding which prevailed in communities of Abolitionists in those days got together, Mr. Flagg, who built the Court House, engineering the scheme. The men met in the brick yard, where John Williams was making brick for the building, and by means of a pole broke in the door and got the negro, put him in a carriage and spirited him away, and the slave-hunter, who was a trembling spectator of part of the scene, mounted his horse and fled for Kentucky, where mob law was not so fashionable.

Wm. Lewis, the "agent" of the Underground Railroad at Magnolia, whose cabin standing on the prairie a half mile north of Clear Creek, was the depot, took a just degree of pride in his work in behalf of freedom. At Vermillionville, east of his place, Mr. Jenks, also a hot Abolitionist, kept another stopping place for fugitives, and Lewis frequently carried escaping darkies from his cabin to that of the Jenk's "station." At one time he took a wagon load of these people over to his neighbors on Vermillion River, stopping on the way to call the settlers out to see his "blackbirds," as he facetiously termed them.

A costly chattel once went through Mr. Morse's hands. He had been a steward on a New Orleans and St. Louis packet. In those days no

negro could leave home without a pass from some competent authority. Purposely remaining concealed one day until the boat had been gone a couple of hours; he went in great haste to the Captain of a boat in the same trade, and explaining his detention asked him to give a "pass" allowing him to go on the first packet and overtake his master. He did overtake, and passed him by, going clear past—to St. Louis and a land of liberty, beyond Lake Erie.

On one occasion a bright, intelligent mulatto came along. He was a valuable chattel belonging to D. A. January, a well known citizen of St. Louis, who determined, if possible, to effect the boy's capture. A trusty agent was sent over the route, scattering hand-bills offering a reward of \$1,000 for his arrest, and personally called upon Mr. Morse, the chattel in the mean time being safely hidden in the barn. It was the nearest he ever came to a thousand dollars, but it had no temptations for him.

Many of the escaping fugitives were armed, and sooner than be taken, would have used their weapons. Mr. Morse told the fugitives to never show their arms unless forced to, and then "strike hard and spare not." A mulatto named Free, living at Springfield, had a fine team of horses, and plied regularly between Springfield and Chicago, helping many a slave to freedom. He was once pursued and shot, near Washington, Ill., but upon displaying an old rusty musket his three assailants fled in mortal terror, and he delivered his load safely. The shot lamed him for life.

Among the friends of the slaves and active workers in his liberation Mr. Morse remembers Deacon John Morse, of Mt. Hope; Rev. Mr. Hurlburt, William Lewis, Samuel and James Work, the Messrs. Dillon, near Tremont; the Roberts brothers, Mr. Mathews, of the same locality; Mr. George Kern and boys, near Washington; Patterson and Randolph Scott, Mr. Chase, Mr. Bayne, and a few others.

Aaron Payne was a good Christian, but reared in the South he firmly believed in the divinity of slavery, and bitterly opposed the advocates of freedom. During the anti-slavery excitement an enthusiastic meeting was once held at the log school house on Clear Creek, north of Magnolia, and addresses and sermons on the subject delivered by such workers as Benj. Lundy, Owen Lovejoy and Richard Coddington. Aaron Payne attended one of these gatherings, and created a fearful explosion by getting up and

denouncing the meeting and its object as an affront to the Almighty, who had created the negro and condemned the race to be the slaves of white men, and the institution being of Divine origin, countenanced and approved by the Creator, in both the old and new testaments, could not be assailed by human hands without sacrilege and sin. The old pro-slavery preacher was not allowed to finish his remarks, having been hustled out of the presence of the offended congregation, and nothing but his personal popularity and known goodness of heart saved him from being roughly handled. He departed highly indignant, and often afterward related the incident as a grievous and unpardonable affront to himself, as well as an assault upon free speech!

James Work learned to abhor slavery when a boy, living in Virginia. He says he often saw gangs of slaves brought up like cattle and driven to market chained together. He has seen hundreds of these human chattles driven along in couples, with a long chain between to keep them in order. Usually a wagon followed with some children and provisions, while the women, who would not desert their offspring, followed behind. These gangs were always accompanied by two owners or drivers on horseback, with loaded whips similar to those used by cattle drivers now-a-days. One of these rode ahead, and the other followed.

Deacon Smith related an incident told him by a confiding slave holder once on a time. He was a member of a church in Dixie that had human chattels bequeathed to it by a dying brother, who doubtless hoped in this manner to buy his way to heaven. Wishing to improve their building, they sold a slave or two, and afterward disposed of a other to buy a communion service. But a member greatly scandalized himself by refusing to partake of the Lord's supper from the holy vessel, saying, "There is blood in the cup."



THE INDIANS.

CHAPTER L.

BLACK PARTRIDGE.



THE individual whose name is commemorated in the north-west Township of Woodford County, was an Indian chief of the Pottawatomie nation, whose village was a little south-west of Richland school house, on lands belonging to William Hunter. The locality was long known to the early settlers as the "Big Springs," and was a favorite camping ground for travelers. In what year Black Partridge was born is not known. We first hear of him at Mad Anthony's defeat of the Miami Indians, in 1794, where he boasted of taking several scalps, but his band was badly cut up, and himself received an ugly wound on the shoulder. His Indian name was Mucketepokee. He was present at the treaty of Greenville in 1795, and received from General Wayne a medallion likeness of General Washington, which was worn round his neck for many years.

Next we hear of him at a treaty concluded with Gov. Edwards in 1809-11—authorities on this point being somewhat conflicting. He was accompanied by Senachwine, whose village was near the present site of Putnam; Gomo, whose camp was at Chillicothe; Shick-Shack, whose people lived below Hennepin, and several minor personages whose names are not known. Black Partridge made a speech, and Governor Edwards responded. A great feast was provided of which the Indians partook liberally, and not until the beeves were eaten up were the latter ready to talk of business. The peace here concluded was not of long duration. English emissaries were busily fomenting mischief and secretly supplying the Indians with arms in anticipation of coming trouble. Then came the war of 1812, in which many Illinois Indians took the part of Great Britain, making raids into the settlements of Madison and St. Clair Counties.

At these depredations the people became greatly alarmed, and some fled the country, while others built temporary forts and with their families took refuge therein. Governor Edwards being applied to determined to raise a force and chastise the enemy into submission.

The General Government took hold of the matter, and General Hopkins, with a force of four thousand mounted riflemen from Kentucky, was ordered to rendezvous at Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, while Colonel Russell, with three hundred Rangers, should assemble near the present site of Edwardsville and marched north to co-operate with them. A force likewise went up the river in four keel boats, under command of Captain Craig. It was raised near Shawneetown, and counted all told about two hundred men, armed with muskets, while the boats carried howitzers. The reason of these heavy forces being brought to bear upon the Indians was a belief that they had participated in the massacre at Chicago, and deserved the severest punishment.

On the 14th of October the Kentucky troops, with a grand display, left Fort Harrison, and with bands playing and banners streaming, their horses gaily caparisoned and their guns glistening in the sunshine, took up their line of march. It was the finest army ever seen in the West, and great results were expected from the expedition. They entered the State of Illinois somewhere in the vicinity of Edgar County, and started across the grand prairie. The Kentuckians had never seen the vast level plains of the West, and their imaginations were fired with apprehension of the hidden dangers beyond. They were superstitious withal, and greedily devoured reports waggishly circulated that great dragons lay in wait, and prairie fires fifty feet high would sweep down and overwhelm them.

On the fourth day out they became panic stricken, their patriotism vanished, and they resolved to go no further into a country so full of dangers. General Hopkins, finding remonstrance useless and his unaided efforts of no avail, sorrowfully gave the order to return.

In the meantime Governor Edwards, with Russell's mounted Rangers, was marching northward, expecting to form a junction with the larger army, but failing to meet them, pushed straight on for Black Partridge's village, near the head of Peoria Lake. They were well mounted and traveled light, relying on the country for forage, and were untrammelled by baggage wagons or commissary stores.

Near the present site of Bloomington they came upon a solitary Indian out hunting, whom a trooper cut down without provocation. They here

fell in with an old trapper, named Grant, who informed them most of the Indians were off on a hunt, and volunteered to lead them to the village. Marching to within a few miles they encamped for the night, and sent out spies to reconnoiter, who reported everything quiet.

Colonel Russell divided his forces, stationing a portion in the bottoms near the present residence of Louis Guibert, to intercept fugitives. On their way to the village they came upon an Indian and squaw, mounted, who held up their hands in token of submission, but Captain Judy saying he did not come to take prisoners, fired and mortally wounded the Indian, and several shots were fired at the squaw, who began wringing her hands and crying, making no attempt to escape. Her comrade fell from his horse but grasped his gun, when those who were near suddenly threw themselves from their horses to avoid his fire. A man by the name of Wright, however, was not quick enough and was shot by the Indian, both expiring soon after. In the confusion one of the rangers' guns accidentally exploded, striking a man named Bruce, from East St. Louis, in the forehead and killing him.

Strange as it may appear, these occurrences did not alarm the sleeping village, and when Colonel Russell was satisfied the detachment sent below had reached its destination he gave the order to attack.

The rangers came on in two columns, one division sweeping directly down the point south of the school house, and another some thirty or more rods below. The Indians, taken wholly by surprise, made little resistance. A portion undertook to escape down the river but ran upon the force concealed there and were turned back. Directly in the rear of the camp was an impenetrable swamp, into which they plunged, followed by the rangers, whose horses became mired in a few steps, throwing their riders. A few Indians made a stand, and protected by trees, poured a galling fire into the invaders, killing Patrick White, of Belleville, John Shur, of Edwardsville, and wounding several others. About thirty Indians, old and young, were killed, most of them being old men and squaws. Several papposes were slain, one soldier inhumanly running his bayonet through a little child and holding it high above his head. Some of the soldiers were guilty of the most inhuman acts,—such as mutilating the dead, placing ropes around their necks and dragging them about.

The camp equipage of the enemy was sunk in the marsh, their wigwams and provisions burned up, and everything destroyed. While this was being accomplished scouts were sent to follow the retreating force,

which fled up the river to near the mouth of Crow Creek, where they were seen crossing to the other side.

Here it was known a large force of Indians, under Gomo, were encamped, and their early appearance was to be apprehended. No time was lost, therefore, in making ready to return. The dead were deposited in a large box and buried in a shallow grave at the foot of the bluff, near the scene of battle, their remains scantily covered, and the enemy left where they fell to be devoured by wolves. When all was complete the different detachments were called in and a rapid retreat eastward began, the troops marching all day without rest, and camping at night on the prairie, probably not far from where Cruger now stands.

At the time of the destruction of his village Black Partridge was absent. He had long been a friend to the whites and his conduct at the Chicago massacre proves this. On the morning of that day, finding he could no longer restrain his young men, he proceeded to the fort, and with a sorrowful countenance delivered up the medal given him at the treaty of Greenville, seventeen years before, saying his men were going to take up arms against the pale faces, and he did not wish to longer wear a token of friendship. It is known that some of his braves participated in the slaughter, but that he did not is conclusively shown by Mrs. Kinzie in her account of the massacre, and confirmed by Mrs. Beeson, whose narrative is here given: "At nine o'clock the troops left the fort in military array, with drums beating and colors flying. Captain Wells with his mounted Miami warriors led the way, the troops followed on foot, and next came the baggage wagons, containing the sick and the women and children, while the Pottawatomies, five hundred strong, brought up the rear. The train followed the present line of Michigan avenue to a range of sand hills, a mile and a half above, where Fourteenth street strikes the lake. Here the Pottawatomies left them and wheeled off into the prairie, which Captain Wells divined as a signal of treachery and told the troops to prepare for battle. The Indians came on yelling like so many devils, and began shooting right and left. The soldiers defended themselves manfully, but were largely outnumbered.

Mrs. Helm, wife of the Lieutenant, rode beside her husband, but was thrown from her horse early in the engagement and stood looking on the carnage, spell-bound with fright. Her husband and father were in the engagement, and she expected each moment to see them fall before the murderous savages. A tall warrior, hideously painted, rushed at her with

uplifted tomahawk, but she evaded his well aimed blow, which descended on her shoulder, cutting a fearful gash. Although but seventeen and slightly formed she grasped him round the neck and tried to get possession of a scalping knife hanging at his belt. Throwing her to one side he was about to brain her with his axe when she was caught up by another Indian, and borne struggling into the lake and plunged beneath the water. It was but for a moment, however, for her head was raised to permit her to breathe, while her body was held under. Gaining courage at this she looked in his face and recognized Black Partridge, the white man's friend. When all was over he took her to the camp of the friendly Indians and delivered her over to a squaw, who cared for her as well as circumstances allowed.

It afterward transpired that Lieutenant Helm's life was spared at the time of the massacre, and he was held a prisoner at a village on the Kankakee. On learning it, Black Partridge arranged with his French friends for his ransom, and being provided by them with presents he started for the village, accompanied by a half-breed from Peoria.

They found the Lieutenant closely guarded and suffering from a severe wound. He knew that to the old chief he was indebted for the preservation of his wife and her family, and when he approached threw his arms round him and wept like a child. The Indians refused to accept the ransom offered, and Black Partridge voluntarily added to the sum his pony, rifle, and a large gold ring worn in his nose. The party soon started for St. Louis, accompanied one day by Black Partridge, who then left them and rode across the country to learn on his arrival that his home had been destroyed, and to recognize among the half consumed remains his favorite daughter and her infant child. No one was near, and in bitterness of spirit the old chief threw himself on the ground and wailed in anguish.

The next day he crossed the river to Gomo's town, where Chillicothe stands, and learned the remnant of his band had removed up the river to Bureau Creek. Thither he wended his way in the bitterness of his heart, vowing revenge against his enemies. That winter he traveled from place to place stirring up the red men, and in the spring led a force of three hundred Indians against the the frontier settlements of Randolph, St. Clair and Madison Counties. They massacred several persons, and capturing a number of horses made a rapid retreat without loss. Peace was

soon after concluded, and Black Partridge retired to his village beside the big spring to spend the remainder of his days.

He was an old man, his wife and children were dead, his people were yearly growing fewer in numbers, the buffalo had fled the country, the land was passing into the hands of the pale faces, and there was little left to live for. With no desire to longer stay, he looked his last on the green grass and blue sky, turned his face to the wall and died. There was deep sorrow in the camp, and all the rites of Indian mourning were gone through with. His body, clad in richest robes, was laid in a rough box, his ornaments, arrows, pipe and tobacco placed beside him and when securely bound with thongs was hoisted into the forks of a big ash tree growing a few rods distant, where it stood after the Indians had departed, and was cut down by old man Fields. His death is supposed to have taken place about 1819 or 20. In appearance Black Partridge was tall and commanding, with the eye of an eagle, a high forehead, a large nose and comely features. His aspect was noble, his voice heavy, and his hair long and black as a ravens. In his little world he reigned supreme, and his will was law, yet no king on his throne was better beloved, and no rivals disputed his authority.

THE HUNTER HERMIT OF CROW CREEK.

In the vicinity of Crow Creek in very early times lived an old hunter and trapper named Grant. His story is told in the diary of an officer engaged in the survey of the "Military Bounty Tract" in 1816, and appeared in a series of letters published in the "*New Yorker*" in 1839. Where he came from originally is unknown. We first hear of him as a hunter and scout attached to Lewis and Clark's expedition, which ascended the Missouri and traversed the continent in 1805, being the first to explore the then unknown territory of Oregon.

In 1815 Government set apart that part of the territory of Illinois north and west of the river of that name, or so much of it as was necessary, for the payment of soldiers' bounties in the war of 1812, and ordered its immediate survey. The party from whom our information comes says that one Sabbath they crossed the Illinois River at a point about twenty miles above Fort Clark, and followed up a large creek to the cabin of an old hunter and trapper who had lived there for several years, and was held in much esteem by the Indians, over whom he exercised con-

siderable authority. The way this influence was secured is told in the following story: When he came to the country there were two tribes at perpetual war. He took sides with one, and became the deadly enemy of the other. A small copper camp kettle comprised the sum total of his culinary equipage, which for convenience of transportation was worn on his head, and served not only to cook his provender, but protected his upper works from the weather. One day while alone in the bottoms somewhere between Henry and Lacon, he was surprised by a party of his foes, and they being too numerous to fight, he took to his heels. Among the pursuers was a young brave uncommonly fleet-footed, who coming up with him, dealt a blow with his tomahawk which, according to Indian logic, should have cleaved its way to his enemy's shoulders, but in this case produced only a sharp, ringing report. No Indian's skull would ring like that, and he started back in terror exclaiming, "Manitou!" From that time the hunter was safe. He bore a charmed life, and no one offered or dared to molest him. His cabin was in a secluded nook some two miles up Crow Creek, as near as can be made out.

SHICK SHACK.

While Shaubena achieved greater notoriety and was best known to the whites from his unswerving friendship during the war, he was but an occasional visitor in Marshall and Putnam Counties, and his detailed history is not in accordance with our plan. His friend and cotemporary Shick Shack, whose home was at the mouth of Clear Creek, in Putnam County, more properly comes within our province and deserves mention. He was the head of a branch of the Kickapoo tribe, whom he governed with an authority truly patriarchal. He was a man of large stature and imposing presence, and had sufficiently profited from the example of the whites to know that the best interests of his people lay in a strict observance of treaty stipulations.

Shick Shack had enjoyed the civilizing influences of a residence among a better class of whites than the majority of his people were brought in contact with, having been converted to Christianity when a boy of twelve years old, and sent, with his parents, to St. Louis, where he received some schooling and religious training. He spoke English quite fluently, sought the society of his white neighbors, in the association with whom he ever conducted himself with scrupulous politeness; and by example and pre-

cept exercised a powerful influence for good among his followers. He was also a preacher, and frequently, alone or in company with white missionaries, expounded Gospel truths to Indian congregations with zeal and eloquence. Personally he was temperate, and compelled, as far as possible, total abstinence among his people. Though depending principally on the chase for subsistence, he gave considerable attention to agriculture and introduced the American breaking plow into use by his tribe.

While emulating the virtues of the whites, he was prompt to condemn their vices and deplored the demoralizing effects upon the Indians of association with the vicious of our race, claiming that when left to themselves the Indians were naturally a more peaceable and religious people than the whites. He sorrowfully recognized that the two races never could affiliate and clearly foresaw the ultimate extinction of the red man. He mourned deeply the necessity of leaving here because of the Black Hawk war. A firm friend to the whites, he had, he said, tried to make his people understand and obey white men's laws; he signed treaties that they might live at peace with the palefaces; but with a shrug of the shoulders he added: "Bad Ingen and bad white men make war: good Ingen, good white man, no war."

His method of inculcating temperance was both novel and successful. If a member of his band got tipsy he was soundly whipped. If he transgressed a second time he was whipped harder, and if after these admonitions he continued to tipple he was whipped to death.

INDIANS MAKING SUGAR.

One of the first settlers near Florid, in entering land for his farm, took within its boundaries a maple grove, where Shick Shack's tribe annually made sugar. One afternoon in early spring a formidable procession of painted warriors rode up and surrounded the house of the pioneer, nearly frightening his wife to death. In the cabin was a couch-shell used as a horn, which she had been instructed to sound on the appearance of danger, as a warning to the men at work in the fields or woods. But the sight of the savages so completely terrified her that she was unable to give the signal. An Indian picked up the shell, looking inquiringly at her, as though to ask its use. Her woman's wit prompted her to cause him to sound the alarm, which she dared not give herself. Swelling out her cheeks and puckering her lips upon her closed fist, with expressive panto-

mime, she imitated blowing. The Indian swelled his stalwart chest, pressed his coarse lips, and with great ado—

Blew a blast as erst threw down
Old Jericho's substantial town.

His companions instinctively seized their tomahawks as if to repel an attack, but learning the source of the strange noise, gathered round eager as children to manipulate a new toy. Meantime the men, alarmed at the signal, came running to the house, when it was found that the Indians had no hostile intentions but simply wanted to make sugar on their old grounds.

Shick Shack used frequently to visit the homes of his white friends, bringing venison, honey, fish, moccasins, etc., to trade for flour, corn, potatoes, meal or corn bread. Though noted for his temperance, honesty and morality, he had the weakness of his race for finery. On one occasion he with a number of his followers, called on Mr. Samuel D. Laughlin and asked for some rooster feathers. Told to help themselves they charged upon the frightened cocks, robbed them of their gaudy plumage, and soon each dusky brave appeared profusely and ludicrously decorated. Shick Shack wore a high-crowned silk hat which some white friend had given him, in the band of which he thrust the longest and brightest feathers, and strutted proudly about with his borrowed plumes waving in the breeze.

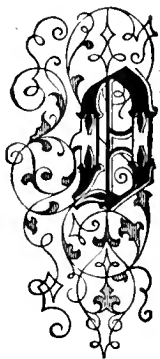
Himself and his tribe went beyond the Mississippi, upon the reservation appointed by their treaty with the Government, in the fall of 1832.



THE ILLINOIS RIVER.

CHAPTER LI.

EARLY STEAMBOATING.



IN the Illinois River Peru was practically the head of navigation, though a few boats in seasons of high water occasionally ran up to Ottawa. Forty years ago travel was principally by the rivers. Passengers for St. Louis took the stages or the canal (when built) at Chicago, and at Peru transferred themselves on board steamers in waiting to carry them to their destination. These boats were well equipped and quite equal to those of the present day.

The name and date of arrival of the first steamer seen on the Illinois above Peoria are unknown, but it is believed to have been in 1830. Wm. Strawn, who at the time lived three miles in the country, once visited the Indians on the river bottoms and found them in a high state of excitement over the supposed visitation of the Great Spirit, which passed up the river the night before. As described by them it was enveloped in flames and with a roar like thunder and a great rush of waters passed slowly by, returning the next night. It was a long time before their description was intelligible, but finally the whites concluded it must have been a steamer, which probably passed up to Hennepin or further, and the next night returned.

In 1832 the steamer *Souvenir* came up with supplies for troops engaged in the Black Hawk war. There was very little to attract trade for several years and arrivals were few.

In 1838 the *Joe Daviess*, Capt. John Hall, ran during the season of navigation between Peoria and Peru, doing a fair business.

In 1839 the steamers "*Exact*" and "*Tiskilwa*" made occasional trips here, the latter boat terminating her existence the following year in a collision with the "*Waconsta*," in which both were disabled.

The steamer "Frontier" was put on the route by Frink & Walker to carry the mail from Peoria to Peru. Her commander was O. C. Pratt, and her pilots were Detwieler and Mosher, afterward well known Captains. She was sunk at the "Tow Heads," a well known locality in the narrows of Peoria Lake, about 1843, in a collision with the "Panama." Its place was supplied by the "Governor Briggs."

About 1850 the "Prairie Bird" and "Governor Briggs" collided at a place since known as Prairie Bird Point. The "Bird" had a large number of emigrant Irish on board and safely landed them on an island.

The "Lucy Bertram" was wrecked at Trenton (Depue) many years ago.

The principal obstructions were Tree Top bar, Crow Creek bar, the Sister Islands and Hennepin Flats.

Among the men best known as commanders or pilots were Captains Price, Blake and Swaney, "Hard" Culter and others. A noted murder once occurred above Henry, when a steamboat commander shot and killed a rival Captain. The murderer escaped and was never seen afterward.

For twenty years no boat ascended the river above La Salle, but in 1877 the Grey Eagle, commanded by Captain Morris, carried an excursion party to Starved Rock. Since its erection the Illinois Central Railroad bridge had never been swung, and the stringers were sawed off to permit the draw to revolve and the boat pass through.

KEEL AND FLAT BOATS.

Before steamboats began to ply upon the river, most of the business was done by sail and flat boats, especially that of transporting to the South, the enormous crops of potatoes then raised everywhere, near the Illinois especially in Putnam County.

These huge arks were from 75 to 115 feet in length, 20 to 25 feet wide, from six to seven feet between decks and would hold from 4000 to 6000 bushels of potatoes, and cost from \$300 to \$400.

They floated to their destination, no propelling power being used, and a trip from Hennepin or Henry to New Orleans required six to ten weeks.

In 1842 Wm. B. Mann and others built about twenty flat boats at Hennepin, loaded them with potatoes, and floated down to New Orleans where they sold boats and cargoes realizing an average of \$30 each for the

boats. Capt. Leech left Hennepin rather late one cold season about 1844 or '45, with a cargo of these vegetables and a consignment of oats and was caught four miles below Liverpool, Fulton County, on the 15th of November and frozen in, being ice-bound until the 25th of the following January. The potatoes were not damaged and the oats he traded for flour, meal and groceries, made an early voyage in the spring and sold out to advantage at St. Louis.

These boats were used but once. As soon as the cargo was removed they were broken up, and the lumber and spikes from the dismembered craft sold for what they would bring.

The keel boat, however, was a more permanent vessel and could be rowed up stream. They were smaller than the others mentioned, more resembling the canal boat of our day in form and shape. Around the outer edge of the deck was a narrow walk, but without guards. Cleats of wood were nailed parallel across this walk, as braces for the feet of the polesman, who, with a stout well-seasoned pike or staff, twelve or fifteen feet in length and as thick as he could conveniently grasp, one end braced against his shoulder and the other on the bed of the river, shoved the boat along. Should the pole break or slip he invariably plunged head-long into the water at the imminent peril of his life, especially where the current happened to run quartering from his side under the vessel.

There were from ten to twenty men employed on each of these treacherous crafts, and accidents of the kind described were frequent, and often fatal.



THE GRAVES TRAGEDY.

CHAPTER LII.

THE REED AND DONNER PARTY.



AMONG the saddest episodes in the frontier history of the West is the narrative of the Reed and Donner party of ninety persons, which, in attempting to cross the Sierra Nevada Mountains late in the fall of 1846, were overwhelmed in one of the great storms peculiar to that section, and one half of them perished. With this party were a family of emigrants from Sparland, whose history we propose briefly to follow. From time to time vague and unreliable accounts have appeared, made up from rumors and "facts" supplied by the vivid imagination of enthusiastic writers, but until the past year no authentic history has ever been given. The experience was too dreadful, the recollection of their sufferings too horrible to be dwelt upon, and no persuasions could induce the survivors to recall their superhuman sufferings. So much had been and was being told that was false, and so little was really known upon the subject, that for the benefit of correct history the survivors were at last persuaded to unseal their lips, and give to the world their awful experience. To C. F. McGlashan, of Truckee, California, is due the credit of bringing this about, and to whom we are indebted for the particulars which follow :

Franklin Ward Graves was a Vermonter by birth, who came to Putnam County in 1831, where a couple of half brothers resided. He spent some time looking up a location, and finally purchased a claim of the Indians where Sparland stands, erected a cabin near the present residence of Dr. Tesmer, and moved into it probably in the fall of 1831. During the Black Hawk war he enlisted and served as Drum Major in Strawn's Regiment of Infantry, his family remaining most of the time in their cabin. Mr. Graves was a genuine backwoodsman and pioneer, who found

his most congenial associations on the frontier. He despised the trammels of civilization, and loved the unshackled freedom of the red man. In summer he went shoeless, hatless and coatless, his long coarse hair his only protection. He was a man of large frame, good natured, hospitable and ever ready to do a kindness. Mrs. Graves was tall and thin, her good natured sun-burnt face wreathed in smiles. She wore a blue calico frock, an old sun-bonnet and a faded shawl, on dress occasions, and like her liege lord, went barefoot. It was her custom to cross the river daily in fair weather, laden with honey, wild fruits or soft soap, and dispose of them to the settlers of Columbia (Lacon). There was not a woman in the place but knew her and loved to see her kind face make its appearance. She would cross the river in the coldest days and stormiest weather in her little canoe to convey some remedy to the sick or do a kindness. Mr. Graves was more hunter than farmer, but managed to secure a large tract of land and open up a considerable farm upon the bottoms. For some time before leaving he grew restless and longed to explore the then little known Pacific States, and sought a purchaser for his property, finding one in Geo. Sparr, to whom he sold 500 acres of land for \$1,500. This was in the spring of 1846, and immediate preparations were made for departure. His family at the time consisted of himself and wife, and nine children as follows: Mary A., William C., Eleanor, Lovina, Nancy, Jonathan, Franklin Ward Jr., Elizabeth, and Sarah. The latter was engaged to Jay Fosdick, and did not design accompanying her parents, but when the time for departure drew nigh her heart failed, and she decided to go. Her lover chose to accompany his wife, and they were married a few days before starting. Along with them went John, Snyder, a tall, good looking young man afterward engaged to Mary.

Mr. Graves had an extensive outfit, and was equipped in the best possible manner for the journey. He had three teams drawn by oxen, and took along with him several head of cattle and cows besides. The payment for his land was mostly in silver half dollars, and for their safe conveyance he put heavy cleats in the corners of his wagon box, bored holes from below with an auger sufficiently large for the purpose, and then deposited them. They journeyed leisurely to New Boston, where they crossed the Mississippi, traversed Iowa and reached Independence.

There was a large emigration that year to Oregon and Salt Lake. One hundred miles west of Fort Bridger the Graves party overtook a company numbering one hundred or more, which from the leadership was

known as the Reed and Donner party. Previous to this a man named William Trimble, traveling with their party, was murdered by the Pawnees, and his stock stolen. His family turned back. At Fort Laramie they celebrated the Fourth of July with appropriate exercises. Occasionally they were pestered by thieving Indians, but not often.

Once a party of friendly Sioux offered to purchase Mary Graves, and failing in this one of them laid hold of her bridle as though disposed to carry her off by force, but a rifle pointed in that direction caused the fellow to quickly drop the bridle. At Fort Bridger there was talk concerning a newly discovered route across the mountains, known as Hasting's Cut-off, said to be 300 miles shorter than the usual route by Fort Hall. A large number took the old route and got through safely, but the Donner party of ninety persons, at the earnest solicitation of Bridger and Vasquez, who had charge of the fort and were personally interested in the new route, concluded to adopt it. To these men is due all the disasters that followed.

The party traveled several days without difficulty, crossing Weber River at the head of the well known canyon. Here a long delay occurred until men could be sent forward to ascertain a proper route, when they concluded to take across the mountains in a more direct line to Salt Lake. Innumerable difficulties were experienced, and three weeks of precious time was spent making roads. When the party arrived at the outlet of the stream down which they had followed, it was impossible to proceed further, and the wagons had to be hoisted to the top of a steep bluff and then lowered upon the other side. The dreadful difficulties can never be described. Instead of reaching Salt Lake in a week they were thirty days in making the trip.

The terrible delays made possible the imminent dangers that awaited them on the Sierra Nevadas. From where they stood the great lake and the plains surrounding it were seen, and they hailed it with joy and gratitude as the end of their difficulties, looking forward to a prosperous and peaceful journey over pleasant roads for the remainder of their trip. Alas! there were trials in the way compared with which their recent struggles were insignificant. But for the fatal delay caused by the Hastings Cut-Off all would have been well, but now the summer was passed, themselves and teams well nigh exhausted, and their stock of provisions nearly consumed.

The valley of Salt Lake contained little of gladness for the Donner

party. At this time the Mormon emigration had not arrived, and all was a vast solitude. It was the 3d of September when they arrived, but warned by the lateness of the season, stopped but a single day. Here one of the party died, a poor consumptive named Halloran, and was buried beside the road in a bed of almost pure salt. He left about \$1,500 in cash, which he gave to Captain Donner. On the 6th of September they reached a valley called Twenty Wells, and laid in a supply of pure water, knowing they had a fifty mile desert to cross. It was a vast alkaline plain destitute of either water or grass, and instead of fifty was seventy-four miles wide. Long before crossing its wide expanse their supplies gave out, and after being on the plain two weary nights and one day, James Reed volunteered to ride ahead and, if possible, discover water. It was twenty miles away, and during his absence his eighteen oxen, maddened by thirst, wandered off in the desert and were never seen again, leaving himself and family of nine persons destitute in the midst of a desert eight hundred miles from California. When he returned the awful truth was disclosed, and the full horror of the situation dawned upon him.

But to remain here was death, and taking his child in his arms all started to walk the twenty miles. The sufferings of that dreadful night can never be told. Some of the children became so worn out and exhausted for want of water that they laid down on the bleak sands and would never have risen had they not been forced forward. During the night they were intensely frightened by the rush of a wild animal, that proved to be one of his lost steers maddened with thirst. Finally it dashed off in the darkness and was seen no more. At last they reached the welcome spring and found relief. For eight days they camped here all hands seeking Reed's cattle.

The outlook for him was gloomy enough. An ox and a cow was all he had left, but Mr. Graves and a Mr. Breen each lent him an ox, and hitching them all together and abandoning everything that could not be loaded on one wagon they started once more.

While here an inventory of provisions was carefully taken, and the startling discovery made that all their supplies would not take them through. And to render their situation still more terrible a storm came on and the hill tops were covered with snow. A council was held and it was decided to send two of the party forward to seek relief, and a couple

of brave volunteers were found in the persons of William McCutchen and C. T. Stanton, the latter from Chicago.

DEATH OF JOHN SNYDER.

Between Mary Graves and John Snyder, the young man who accompanied the family, a love affair had grown up, which ripened into a marriage engagement. He was about twenty-three years of age, of manly carriage, erect, tall and muscular. On the march and in camp, through hardship, toil and danger, he was the life of the party, never cast down and never despondent. His intended was about nineteen years old. She was tall and slender, of graceful form and build, and had been better educated than most persons in her station, having taught school before leaving Illinois.

Of James Reed mention has before been made, and the deplorable incident we have to relate concerning these men shows how sudden passion makes deadly foes of warmest friends.

The train had reached Gravelly Ford on the Humboldt. Already they were beginning to eagerly scan the Western plains in hopes of relief from Sutter's Fort. Occasionally a wagon would need repairing or there would be a brief halt to recruit the jaded cattle. The Indians were troublesome and had stolen two of Mr. Graves oxen and one of the horses.

In traveling the party observed this rule, the team that led one day was obliged to take the rear position in the next, this system of alternating allowing each one to lead the train. On the 5th of October Franklin Graves was ahead, Jay Fosdick second, John Snyder third, and the team of J. F. Reed came fourth. Milton Elliott drove Reed's team. Arrived at a steep sandy hill they were obliged to double up, that is, hitch several yoke to each wagon. There was some difficulty in doing this, and Elliott and Snyder exchanged hot words, the origin of which is unknown. Snyder being nettled at some remark of Elliott's, declared his team could pull up alone, and made use of very bad language. It is probable the teams collided, but of this nothing now can be known. All parties agree that Snyder was greatly enraged, and was beating his team over their heads with the heavy end of his whip when Reed, who had been hunting, arrived and remonstrated with Snyder for beating his cattle, offering his own team to assist.

Snyder refused the proffered aid, and used very abusive language to-

ward both Reed and Elliott. Reed attempted to calm the enraged man, but it only added fuel to the fire. Both were men of fiery, passionate dispositions, and angry words multiplied rapidly. When Reed saw that trouble was inevitable, he said something about waiting until they got up the hill and then settling it, but Snyder construed it into a threat and replied, "We will settle it now," at the same time striking Reed a heavy blow with the but end of his heavy whip-stock. This was followed by a second and third, each one cutting through the scalp, from which the blood flowed in streams. Mrs. Reed believing her husband was being murdered, ran between the parties, and the blow descended on her own head and shoulders. Again the whip was raised, when Reed, blinded by the blood and dazed by the shock of the fierce blows, rapidly drew his knife and struck Snyder in the breast, penetrating the lung. He staggered and fell into the arms of W. C. Graves, who laid him on the ground, his only utterance being, "I am a dead man." Reed's wife and daughters gathered about him and began to stanch the blood that flowed from his wounds, but he pushed them aside and went to the assistance of the dying man.

Snyder's death fell like a thunderbolt on the party, who immediately went into camp. Reed felt he had only acted in self-defense and in the protection of a wife he adored, nevertheless it was evident trouble was brewing among Snyder's friends that boded no good to him. The Reed family were in a bad situation. At the commencement they had the best turnout or outfit in the party. He had a fine horse, his daughter had a pony, on which she often rode beside her father, and was looked upon as "aristocratic." Mrs. Reed was so unmanned with grief and remorse that she could do nothing, and the wounded man came to his twelve-year old daughter to have the cuts dressed. They were wide and deep, and years after, when he lay in death, a gently stirring wind blew his gray locks aside, disclosing the ugly scars. A council was held to decide his fate, and they said he must die. John Snyder had been an unusual favorite, and they felt that nothing else could atone for his loss; but when they looked on his weeping wife and children, who would be left without a protector, they relented, and said he might live, but should be banished from the party.

When this was communicated to Reed he refused to comply. He had only obeyed the dictate of self protection and would not accede to an unjust punishment. Then came the wife's pleadings, and long and earnestly

she urged him to go. If he remained he would be sacrificed to the deadly enmity of Snyder's friends, and if he went forward he might reach the settlements and return with provisions already needed in camp. Even if permitted to stay he might be compelled to see those he loved so dearly perish of starvation. The wife's counsels prevailed and sorrowfully he prepared to go, first exacting a solemn promise from the company that they would care for his family. It was their purpose to turn him adrift without food or the means of procuring any, but their intentions were frustrated by his faithful daughter who smuggled to him his gun and ammunition and a few crackers. A man named Herron also chose to accompany him. Sad and bitter was the parting, for each felt a presentiment they were never to meet again and the unhappy man sorrowfully departed.

Starvation now stared the emigrants in the face. Their provisions were nearly exhausted, the oxen were poor and scarcely able to drag the wagons. On the 12th of October they reached the sink of the Humboldt. Here the cowardly Indians ran off twenty-one head of cattle, and they were never recovered. All who were able had to walk, and many carried little children. Some had lost their entire stock and had to carry whatever of personal effects they had. The men, as a rule, became exhausted much sooner than the women. Only the sick, the little children and the utterly exhausted were allowed to ride.

On the 9th a death occurred. It was an old German named Harcoop, traveling with a person by the name of Keseberg. He was nearly three score years; was sick, feeble and helpless, yet he was compelled to walk with the rest. He walked till his feet actually burst,—walked until he sank exhausted, and then as the train pitilessly left him, tried to walk again. It was terrible to think of, for well he knew this abandonment meant death by exposure and starvation in its most dreadful form. Keseberg made no attempt to return and find the old man, and owing to the overwhelming dangers that now threatened the company they could not wait.

A few days later another tragedy occurred. This time it was a man named Wolfinger, supposed to be wealthy. He and Keseberg were walking in the rear, and when the latter came into camp he was alone. Several went back to search for the missing man but he was never found, and the supposition was strong that Keseberg had murdered him for his money.

On the 19th of October T. C. Stanton returned with five mules laden with flour and beef sent to their aid by Captain Sutter. The welcome

supply cheered all hands, and but for this the whole party would have perished. Here a great mistake was committed.

Instead of pushing forward as they should have done they laid by four days to rest their cattle before ascending the mountains. It was a fatal delay. Here, too, an accident occurred, costing one man his life and leaving a widow and two fatherless infants.

The clouds now began to wear an ominous appearance, and everything indicated winter was at hand. It was a month earlier than usual, but the mountains were covered with snow, and at Prosser Creek it was eight inches deep. The hapless emigrants struggled on and made desultory efforts to cross the barriers, but baffled, wearied and disheartened they turned back to the foot of the lake. Another determined effort was made. The wagons were left behind, the horses and mules packed with provisions, and all day long the men and animals floundered in the snow, breaking paths and forcing their way forward, but at nightfall an abrupt precipice was reached that could not be passed, and sorrowfully they returned. The next day it was decided to kill the stock, pack the meat, and cross the summit on foot, but to many the opportunity never came. That night snow began to fall at the Lake, coming down in large steady masses. All understood it meant death. The storm continued four days, and the cattle left to themselves strayed off and were lost in the drifts. The mules loaned by Captain Sutter were lost and never returned. Some of the cattle were afterward found and slaughtered; a Mrs. Breen, whose husband was an invalid, personally doing this, and storing up the meat for her family. Mrs. Reed had no cattle to kill and Mr. Graves gave her two from his store.

It was now apparent that the party must remain here during the winter, and preparations, such as were needed, were made. Mr. Graves built a cabin close by Donner Creek, and others were from one to six miles distant.

All knew that death speedily waited the company unless the mountain could be crossed and relief obtained from the other side, and it was resolved soon as possible the strongest and ablest should set forth. Accordingly, on the 15th of November, fifteen persons set out, among them being Mr. Graves, his two daughters, Mary A. and Sarah, along with her husband, Jay Fosdick. All day they toiled but did not get more than a mile from the cabins and at midnight they returned. The failure had a very depressing effect and many never rallied or afterward made an effort

at release. On the 19th they killed a bear which gave a welcome supply of provisions, but what was that in a company of 81 persons. Things indeed looked dark. They could count on their fingers when their provisions would be exhausted, yet unless it came from themselves no relief could be expected.

Day after day with aching hearts and throbbing brows they gazed into each others faces in blank despair. Who would go out and seek a grave that those left behind might live. Who would be the forlorn hope of the perishing emigrants.

Once, a party led by Patrick Breen, tried to reach the summit and again the same parties, accompanied by Mrs. Reed and family and others, made an unsuccessful attempt. Still another party of men and women forced their way to Summit Valley but were forced to return.

About this time August Spitzer, weakened by long fasting, fell down never to rise again and was buried in the snow.

Finally a forlorn hope was organized and seventeen names enrolled, though two did not go, Mr. Graves making snow shoes for the party without which they could not travel. It was certain death to remain, it could be no worse to go.

Who comprised this party? Mothers whose babes would starve unless they went; fathers, whose wives and children would perish if the fathers did not go; children, whose parents could not survive unless the children, by leaving, increased the parents' share of food. It was indeed a forlorn hope. C. F. Stanton, as noble a man as ever lived, he who had returned laden with supplies furnished by Captain Sutter, was the first to volunteer. He said: "I will bring help to those famishing people or lay down my life." Franklin Ward Graves was the next. He was one of the noblest men that ever lived, and worthy of a monument. Of his nine children the youngest was but a babe. Generously had he parted with his cattle that others might live, dividing equally with those who had no food, when his own family was starving. Mary Graves and her sister Sarah resolved to accompany their father, and Jay Fosdick resolved to share with his wife, the perils of the way. Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Pike left their babes with their mother, she telling them what they ate would keep their little ones from starving.

Who can imagine the anguish with which Mrs. Pike bid her little Naomi, but two years old, and her nursing babe Catherine, farewell.

What bitter tears were shed by Mrs. Foster, when she bid her baby boy good bye. They knew it not, but it was a long, long farewell.

Among others who went was an Irishman named Patrick Dolan from Keokuk. He had a supply of meat stored away, and generously gave it to Mrs. Reed, going voluntarily into the wilderness to starve and die. Oh, the horror of the occasion,—the heroism of the brave men and women in the party. As an appreciation of his services, Mrs. Reed gave him a gold watch and a Masonic emblem belonging to her husband and bade him keep them. Months after, when the snows left the valleys, they were found by the Indians and carried to Captain Sutter's fort and reclaimed by the owners.

The party took with them six days rations, if a piece of tough shriveled beef the size of one's two fingers, three times a day, could be called such. This, with a little coffee and loaf sugar, was all. They dare not take more from the dear ones at the cabins. They had matches, a hatchet, one gun, and a blanket for each. The first day they made four miles, pressing resolutely forward, without so much as daring to look back to the dear ones whose lives depended upon the horrible venture.

They camped in full view of the cabins, which seemed harder to the aching hearts of the poor mothers than the parting. The snow was from twelve to sixty feet deep. The next day they made six miles, and getting a few boughs kindled a fire on the snow, boiled a little coffee and ate their pitiful allowance of beef. The third day they walked four miles, dragging themselves wearily along, silently and with downcast eyes. No one spoke except when absolutely necessary, but on they struggled, sometimes at long distances from each other.

On the fifth day Stanton died. He had gone snow blind, and piteously besought them to lead him, but with food gone, hope lost, and only the blind clinging instinct of existence left, they could not aid him, and ceasing to importune he heroically met his fate. On that morning he sat by the camp-fire smoking, and as they were about to leave, Mary Graves went to his side and asked if he was coming. "Yes," he said, "I'm coming soon." They were his last words.

None can be blamed for abandoning Stanton. In twenty-four hours all were without food, except a Mr. Eddy, who in his sorest need found a small piece of meat his wife had robbed herself of and hid in his clothes with a note signed, "Your own dearest Eleanor." It saved his life.

That night the snow begun to fall, coming down in great fleecy flakes.

They were utterly discouraged and some proposed to go back, but the two Indians of the party said they would go on and Mary Graves said she would accompany them. For two days they had not tasted food, and some one proposed to cast lots to see who should die that the rest might live. It fell on Patrick Dolan, the generous Irishman who voluntarily gave his food that others might live. Who should take Dolan's life? With one accord they rose to their feet and staggered on, making two or three miles. The next morning dawned dreary, rainy and discouraging, but they started out as usual, the soft snow clinging to their feet in balls.

Mary Graves says instead of attempting to make a fire they crawled back to their old camp of the previous night and remained, the falling rain having changed to snow and sleet, which cut their pinched faces and made them shiver with cold. A good fire was finally made, which sometime during the night thawed the snow beneath and suddenly dropped out of sight. Their camp was made above a stream of water, which far below tumbled over its rocky bed. Here Patrick Dolan's life went out in demoniacal shrieks and frenzied appeals for food. About midnight Antoine ceased to breathe and W. F. Graves was dying. He had reached a point where iron nerves and a strong constitution would no longer sustain a man, and his end was at hand. Calling his daughters to his side he exhorted them for the sake of those left behind to bear up and strive to prolong their lives.

He reminded Mrs. Pike of her babies and all of the necessity of securing food and charged them when life was gone to save their own lives by using his body as food. His daughters had said they would never partake of human flesh and earnestly he pleaded that they rise superior to their natural instincts and prejudices and use the the only means permitted to sustain life.

Was there not something noble and grand in the advice of this father? Was it not true heroism that all false delicacy be thrown aside and his body be sacrificed to save the starving emigrants. A sublimer death was never witnessed. With his last breath he urged that his flesh be used to prolong the lives of his companions. Truly a soul so noble had no need of the form of its mortal tenant,—it had a better place prepared.

With their fires gone out, the fierce cold cutting to the bone and two of their number dead, some plan must be devised to secure warmth or all would perish. Lying down as closely as possible, Mr. Eddy spread blankets above and crawling beneath all were soon covered beneath the

swiftly falling snow. The next day ushered in a worse storm than had yet been encountered, lasting two days. When at last it abated and they emerged from their prison-house they were more dead than alive. Four days they had passed without food and two without fire.

The horror of this "camp of death" can never be told. It was necessary to secure a fire or they would perish, yet for a long time their efforts were fruitless. Their matches were worthless and not until Mrs. Pike tore open a mantle lined with cotton did they succeed in getting a fire from their flint lock gun. At last they succeeded and lighted the branches of a dead pine which afforded warmth. The weak, famished wretches had reached the last possible alternative and they must eat of the flesh of their dead companions or all perish. Oh, the supreme, the awful horror of horrors of the moment.

The men finally mustered courage enough to approach the dead. With averted heads and trembling hands they cut pieces of flesh from the inanimate forms and placed them on the coals. Human beings were never called on to undergo more trying ordeals. Dividing into groups, the members of each family were spared the pain of feasting upon their own kindred. One could not eat. This was Lemuel Murphy, a feeble boy of thirteen years, who succumbed to the great hardships and privations, and died with his head in the lap of his sister.

The four bodies were divested of their flesh and the same dried.

Although none partook of their own kindred the sights were blood-curdling. Can any one express the horror of Mrs. Foster when she saw the heart of her beloved brother broiling upon the coals? Yet did she endure it that she might succor her babies and her mother, who were left behind. The Indian guides would not partake of the revolting food but sat apart in mute dejection. Starved bodies possess little nutriment, and soon the supplies were exhausted. Then they ate their shoe strings and their moccasins. That night the Indians, hearing words that boded no good, became alarmed and fled. On the 4th, Mr. Eddy and Mary Graves, who were together, shot a deer, drinking its blood and feasting on its flesh, then waiting for the others to come up. It sustained the party several days. Next Jay Fosdick gave out, becoming too weak and exhausted to travel. That night he died, his wife staying by him until morning, and then struggling on to overtake her companions. Mrs. Foster's husband had given out and was perishing, and Mrs. Fosdick consented the flesh of her husband should be converted into food. It was

the first time a woman had been called on to use the knife, but Mrs. Foster cut the withered flesh, and broiling it over the coals gave it to her husband and saved his life. Mrs. Fosdick would not touch the food, and but for the deer would have died. Head, feet, entrails, and all were eaten, and then they were without food of any kind. That night they felt would be their last, but when morning came they staggered on.

Soon they met freshly made tracks marked with blood. It was the tracks of the two Indians who for nine days had been without food. Starving, exhausted, with feet bleeding and frozen they staggered on until they reached a little streamlet, where they lay down to die. The starving whites came up and passed them, for famished as they were they could not think of depriving them of the little life left in their wasted bodies. Already the delirium that precedes death was upon them, and the fugitives sat down to wait their death. There were five women and two men left, and two of those must die unless help came at once. William Foster went back and told them he must take their lives. They neither moaned nor struggled, but with Indian stoicism submitted. The emigrants heard two reports of the gun and all was over.

Even this relief was but temporary. The flesh was carefully removed, saving it all, and they pushed on, until absolute starvation again stared them in the face.

At last they reached a valley where they beheld human tracks, and turning a point discovered an Indian Rancherie. Mary Graves, who tells it, says they ran fast as their uncertain steps could carry them. The Indians were amazed. Never had they beheld such pitiable human creatures who stood stretching out their arms for assistance. A moment they looked and then all turned and fled, but soon returned to aid the dying travelers. The women and children cried and wailed with grief at their terrible condition, and set before them such food as they had, which was bread made of acorns. The Indians did all they could to relieve them, but the food was insufficient for their weakened systems, and they knew something more nutritious must be had or they must die. So again they started, with their Indian friends as guides. Day after day they struggled until their strength was all gone, and they laid down feeling they could not rise again. W. H. Eddy had still some remaining strength, and with an Indian on either side he pushed on fifteen miles, to the cabin of a Mr. Tucker, where he found relief, and at once despatched aid to those behind who were brought safely in. Their names were W. H. Eddy,

William Foster, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Pike, Mrs. McCutchen, Sarah Fosdick and Mary Graves. It was thirty-two days since they left Donner Lake.

Meanwhile, how fared those left behind? About the time the fifteen left, William Baylies starved to death. He died in the Graves cabin, and was buried by W. E. Graves and John Denton. All the party were starving. Between them and death were only the hides of the cattle taken off in the fall and laid on the roof for protection. These were cut into strips, the hair singed off, and the sides scraped until clean, and then boiled and eaten without salt. It made a pulpy mass very much like glue, containing very little nourishment.

The cast away bones of the cattle were picked up and boiled until they crumbled in the teeth and could be eaten, and even rags were toasted and eaten.

The Donner party, at the foot of the lake, were if possible worse off. They ate everything from which nourishment could be extracted, and got so weak they could not make a fire.

Mrs. Murphy had charge of the little nursing babe of Catherine Pike, and all the nourishment she could give it was snow water mixed with a little coarse flour.

Jacob Donner was the first to die. He expired while sitting at the table in his tent, as if in deep meditation.

Patrick Breen kept a diary, from which these particulars are gleaned. He was a devout Catholic, and during the darkest hours prayers were regularly read. So impressive were these religious ceremonies that one beautiful girl made a vow that if God saved her family she would become a Catholic. He did save them and she kept her vow. She is to-day a devout Catholic.

Many attempts were made to cross the mountains, but all were failures, and the disheartened, starving emigrants each time returned. January 27 there was a death, and on the 31st another. February 4 and February 7 two children died. The snow being so deep out of doors one was buried in the Graves cabin. On the 8th and 9th three more deaths occurred. February 14, another death.



CHAPTER LIII.

RELIEF.



AS soon as possible after the forlorn hope had got through, a relief party was organized to go to the aid of those left in the mountains, but it took ten or twelve days to get ready. It was on the 5th of February they started, and three days later three of them returned, unable to endure the hardships of the journey.

At the foot of the mountains the horses had to be abandoned, as the snow was so deep they could not travel; but the brave men, carrying fifty pounds each, made the journey on foot. What a spectacle met their gaze. The deep snows had almost concealed the cabins, and the inmates lived subterranean lives. They were like deep pits, down which icy steps led like going into a grave. Dead men and women were laying around, some without any covering and others partially buried in the snow. So weak had they become that it was a great effort to hoist the dead up the steps of snow that led to the cabins. All were reduced to skeletons, their eyes were sunken deep in their sockets and had a fierce maniac glare terrible to behold, their faces were haggard, woe-begone and sepulchral. It was seldom a voice was heard, but when heard was weak, tremulous and pitiful. Food, there was absolutely none.

Wood was plentiful, but to these weak, starving creatures it was a herculean task to prepare it. Their numb, fleshless fingers could hardly guide an ax, and it was more than their feeble strength could do to wield it.

Milton Elliot died in the Breen cabin. There were no men about and Mrs. Breen and her daughter by tugging, pushing and lifting as best they could, got the body up the steps. And now it seemed Virginia Reed, the brave little girl who bound up the cruel wounds on her father's head, who braved the wrath of the infuriate men determined upon taking his life, and conveyed to him arms and provisions; who had been the life, the hope, the stay of the cabin and camp, must die. Her stomach had grown so weak that it could no longer endure the nauseating

boiled hides, and they had nothing else to give. Good Mrs. Breen was the first to notice the signs of dissolution, and softly calling her mother, they ascended to the snow above to confer upon it away from the hearing of the girl. Together they knelt and prayed, and were talking despairingly of the future, when an unusual noise was heard above them, and then the shout of a strong man. It was the relief party sent out by the forlorn hope. Virginia Reed's life was saved.

Captain Reasin Tucker led the party, an old acquaintance of the Graves family, to whose cabin he hastened. Famished, indeed, they were. Anxiously Mrs. Graves asked about her dear husband, and Captain Tucker had not the heart to tell her the truth, and so he said they were well. So too they deceived Mrs. Murphy about her dead son.

Mrs. Graves was a noble-hearted woman, specially praised for her unstinted charity. She was generous to a fault, and no one was turned from her door without food while she had it to give.

The relief party started back in a couple of days, and twenty-three persons accompanied them, among whom were William C., Eleanor and Lovina Graves. Mrs. Pike's child and Mrs. Kirby's child were carried by the party.

Before they had proceeded two miles two of Mrs. Reed's children showed such signs of weakness that it was not safe to proceed, and Aquilla Glover so informed her. Bitter was her grief, and to cherish her feelings Mr. Glover promised to return when he reached Bear Valley and take them over. Turning to him, she said: "Are you a Mason?" He replied, "I am." "Will you promise me upon the word of a Mason that you will come back and get my children?" Mr. Glover made the promise, and the little ones were by him taken back to the cabins. In the gloomiest moment of her life the mother remembered her husband deeply revered the order, and she felt if her children must be left, she would trust this Brother to care for them. The party were placed on short allowance from the start, and each day it was cut shorter until they had for a day's rations but two pieces of meat the size of one's finger.

On the evening of the first day a death occurred. It was the infant child of Mrs. Keseberg. Her only boy had starved to death at the cabin, and her grief was inconsolable.

When camp was pitched at night John Denton was missing. They went back along the route and found him lying on the snow, entirely exhausted and asleep. They roused him and took him to camp. He appre-

ciated their kindness but declared he could not stand another day's travel. And true enough after walking a little way he gave out and sat down deciding that he could go no farther. His companions built a fire and leaving some food went on. Their necessities were too great for them to wait. Denton was a gunsmith and worked in metals, and the first one to discover gold in California. In the ashes of the Graves cabin he found a yellow metal which he declared was gold and retained the piece as long as he lived. The existence of gold in California at that time was not known but afterwards there were extensive mining camps in the vicinity, and since gold exists in the soil there, it is more than probable the statement is correct. The second relief party found his remains untouched, and beside him a memorandum book on one leaf of which was inscribed the following beautiful poem, and there too lay the pencil with which it was penned. It is inexpressibly sad and beautiful.

Oh after many many years,
 How sweet it is to come
 Back to the dwelling place of youth,
 Our first and dearest home ;
 To turn away our wearied eyes
 From proud ambition's towers,
 And wander in those summer fields,
 The scenes of boyhood's hours.

But I am changed since last I gazed
 Upon that tranquil scene,
 And sat beneath the old witch elm
 That shades the village green,
 And watched my boat upon the brook,
 It was a regal galley,
 And sighed not for a joy on earth,
 Beside the happy valley.

I wish I could once more recall
 That bright and blissful joy,
 And summon to my weary heart
 The feelings of a boy ;
 But now on scenes of past delight.
 I look and feel no pleasure,
 As misers on the bed of death,
 Gaze coldly on their treasures.

Just as their last provisions were exhausted, they reached a place where Capt. Tucker had cached a supply, tied up in a tree. To their inexpressible grief and dismay they were gone. Some wild animals had

eaten the ropes and destroyed them. Death stared them in the face, and the strongest man trembled at the prospect.

But soon they met James F. Reed, and the little party with him was laden with provisions for the sufferers. Taking just sufficient for their immediate wants each passed on. The meeting between Reed and his family under the circumstances, was very touching, and after a simple greeting he continued his journey knowing full well that an hour's delay might cost a human life.

At Bear Valley Capt. Tucker had another cache of provisions, and these were safe. The small quantity distributed could not satisfy their hunger, and great care was taken that the starving people did not get too much. After a sufficient quantity was distributed, the remainder was hung up in a tree. During the night a boy named Hook climbed the tree and ate until his hunger was appeased. It was a fatal act. In the morning he could not move, and the camp went on without him. William Murphy's feet were swollen and blistered so that he could go no further, and he, too, was left. A camp keeper likewise remained. When all had gone, William Murphy rose up and followed. For two days he walked barefoot on the snow, his feet frozen and bleeding.

In marching, the leader provided with snow shoes went ahead and the rest followed, stepping in his tracks. Little James Reed could not take such long steps and had to go partly on his knees, yet he got through with the rest.

Mr. Reed found the inmates in the cabins at the lake and on the creek in a sad condition, but overjoyed at the prospect of relief. Food was distributed sparingly that harm might not come from over eating. At Kesenberg's cabin was Foster's and Reed's little children. They were in bed and crying incessantly for food. For fourteen days they had not risen or been moved from the bed.

The threatening appearance of the weather impelled Mr. Reed to at once return. With him went seventeen persons, among whom were Mrs. Elizabeth Graves, Nancy Graves, Jonathan, Franklin, and her daughter Elizabeth Jr. All were weak and emaciated and it was evident the journey would be slow and painful.

Mrs. Donner's husband was an invalid, and the faithful wife would not leave him even to save her own life. The party scarcely made three miles the first day, and then went into camp. At leaving Mrs. Graves took with her a considerable sum of money, but how much is unknown,

Geo. Sparr paid her husband \$1,500, and it is not probable much of this was used in procuring an outfit. The first night some one of the party jokingly said they would play a game of cards to see who should have her money. The next morning she staid behind and secreted it. All that is known is, that she buried it behind a big rock on the north side of Donner Lake. So far as known it has never been found.

The threatening storm came in all its fury, and the poor immigrants were exposed to its pitiless blasts. They were shelterless, supperless and disheartened, and sank down upon the snow, some never to rise again. Except for the exertions of James Reed this dreadful night all must have perished. He labored at the fires, he piled snow against the sheltering boughs, he shook it from the poor sleepers. But there is a limit to human endurance and while saving others he was literally freezing. He labored until sightless, benumbed and half dying he sank down on the snow. Providentially Mrs. Breen awoke. The logs on which the fire rested had given away, the coals dropped on the snow and had gone out and soon all would have been in darkness. The camp was quickly roused and Reed was cared for. All were nearly frozen. Hiram Miller's hands were so cold and frosted that the skin cracked when he strove to split some kindling. The night was the coldest many of them had ever known, and in the darkness and in the storm the weary soul of Mrs. Graves put out on the unknown sea of eternity. She was one of the noblest and self-sacrificing mothers in the party. Her life was devoted to her children, and for them she yielded it up.

Mrs. Farnham, who gathered the particulars from one who was present thus describes the closing scene: "Mrs. Graves lay with her babe and three or four children by the side of the fire. The storm raged violently all night, and she watched through it, taking little snatches of rest, and rousing herself to brush the snow from the sleepers. Toward morning one of the little Grave's girls called her mother's name. The call was repeated impatiently, and Mrs. Breen rebuked the child, telling her to let her mother rest. Presently Mrs. Graves spoke in a quite unnatural voice and Mrs. Breen asked one of the men to go and see to her. He found the poor sufferer almost gone, and taking the infant, shook the snow from the blanket and covered her as well as he could. Presently Mrs. Breen went and found her cold in death. Her poor starving child moaned

piteously in the arms of its young sister, but the mother's heart could no more warm or nourish it."

Meanwhile the snow came pitilessly down without ceasing. For three days it stormed incessantly, and none can imagine the dread desolation of the scene. It is best told in Bret Harte's story of "Gabriel Conroy."

"Snow everywhere. As far as the eye could reach—fifty miles looking southward from the highest white peak. Filling ravines and gulches and dropping from the walls of canyons in white shroud like drifts fashioning the dividing ridge into the likeness of a monstrous grave, hiding the basis of giant pines and completely covering young trees and larches, rimming with porcelain the bowl-like edges of still, cold lakes, and undulating in motionless, white billows to the distant horizon. Snow lying everywhere on the California Sierras, and still falling. It had been snowing in finely granulated powder, in damp, spongy flakes, in thin, feathery plumes; snowing from a leaden sky steadily; snowing fiercely; shaken out of black purple clouds in flocculent masses, or dropping in long, level lines like white lances from the broken and tumbled heavens; but always steadily. The woods were so choked with it, it had so cushioned and muffled the ringing rocks and echoing hills, that all sound was deadened. The strongest gust, the fiercest blast awoke no sigh from the snow-packed rigid piles of frost. There was no cracking of bough, no crackle of underbrush; the overladen branches of fir and pine yielded and gave way without a sound. The silence was vast, measureless, complete."

No description can do justice to that awful night. Even the pen of the romancer fails to reproduce its dreadful horrors.

Mrs. Breen laid her husband and four children together, and while they slept watched by the fire, with only moccasins on her feet and a blanket drawn over her head, within which she shielded her poor, emaciated baby. Her milk had dried up, and the babe was so poor and lifeless that each hour she expected it to expire.

The brave men who had periled their lives to save the poor emigrants felt themselves in imminent danger of death. They were powerless to carry the helpless and starving children through the soft, yielding snow, and it was doubtful whether they could ever reach the settlements, even if unencumbered. Isaac Donner, one of the sons of Jacob and Elizabeth Donner, died the second night. He was sleeping on a bed

of pine boughs between his sister Mary and Patty Reed, and died so quietly that neither of them awoke.

In the deep snow, and the weak and starving condition of the fugitives, progress was impossible, and yet to remain was death. The relief party felt that the only hope was to hasten to the settlements and send back relief. Solomon Hook thought himself able to travel, and joined the party. Hiram Miller, an old friend of the Reed family, took Francis Reed in his arms, and Patty Reed, full of courage and hope, refused to be carried, and started on foot.

With what emotions did the poor sufferers in Starved Camp see the party disappear among the pines. There was no food, and death had already claimed two of their number. What a pitiable group it was. Could a situation more desolate and deplorable be imagined. Mr. Breen, as has before been mentioned, was feeble and sickly, and upon his faithful wife devolved the care not only of her helpless family, but of all who remained in camp. John Breen, their eldest son, was the strongest and most vigorous, yet the following incident shows how near he was to death's door: The fire had melted a deep cavity in the snow, down which the men sometimes descended, and into this pit the boy stumbled and fell, but fortunately was rescued. It was some time before he was restored to consciousness. Mrs. Breen had saved a small piece of sugar, which she placed between his teeth, and that seemed to revive him. He lived, and is now the head of a large family in San Benito County.

Mrs. Breen's younger children, Patrick, James, Peter, and her babe Isabella, were completely helpless and dependent. So, too, were the orphan children of Mr. and Mrs. Graves. Nancy was only about nine years old, and upon her devolved the task of caring for the little babe Elizabeth, and to her lasting honor be it said, although she was dying of hunger, she faithfully tended, cared for and saved her baby sister. Aside from little bits of sugar, this baby and Mrs. Breen's had nothing for an entire week but snow water. Besides Nancy and Elizabeth there were of the Graves children Jonathan, aged seven, and Franklin, aged five. Franklin soon perished. Starvation and exposure had so reduced his feeble person that he could not endure the continued fasting. Nancy Graves became the wife of R. W. Williamson, an able, eloquent and devout divine of Los Gatos, Santa Clara County.

An accident happened to Mary Donner, an estimable girl. She had

frozen her feet, and they were insensible to pain. Happening to be too near the fire, they were dreadfully burned, and she suffered excruciating agony, yet evinced remarkable fortitude. She ultimately had to submit to a partial amputation of her foot.

Of the fourteen who started out three—Mrs. Graves, her boy Franklin, and Isaac Donner—lay dead upon the snow, and the eleven waiting relief were the Breen family of seven, Mary Donner and the three Graves children.

Meantime, how fared it with those who went pressing on toward the southwest? At each step they sank above their knees in snow, each following in the footsteps of the leader. Only the strongest could endure the severe hardships of forcing a way through the interminable drifts, and the men alternated in leading as their strength allowed. Patty Reed was too small to take the long steps, and the over-exertion soon told upon her; yet so resolute and courageous was she that she would not admit she was either cold or fatigued. She was but eight years old, but had a wonderful mind for one of her age. She was too weak to endure her journey, and gradually her system gave way. Her sight grew dim, and the path, the forest, the bleak mountains faded from her eyes, but in their stead came a vision of angels and brilliant stars. It was a picture seldom seen by mortal eyes, full of glory and brightness. Her wan face became illumined with smiles, and she began to talk of the radiant forms that hovered near her, the angels, the stars, and the happiness she felt. McCutcheon looked on the girl and said to her father: "Why Reed, Patty is dying." It was too true.

At once the party stopped and went into camp, that they might minister to the little girl. At the starved camp Reed had taken the frozen sacks in which food had been carried, and scraping from the seams little crumbs of bread that adhered, placed them in the thumb of his mitten for an emergency like this. Little did he imagine such an emergency would come so soon. Warming and moistening the crumbs between his own lips, the father placed them in the child's mouth. Others wrapped blankets round her chilled form, chafed her feet, and gradually she returned to life, her first words being a regret that they had wakened her from that beautiful dream. To this day she cherishes the memory of that enchanting vision. After this Patty was carried on the men's backs.

Without further accident they arrived at Bear Valley, where Past

Midshipman Woodworth, with supplies, had idly waited without an effort to succor those known to be in the mountains. His name deserves to be embalmed in infamy.

Patty Reed is now Mrs. Frank Lewis, of San Jose, California. She has a pleasant home and a beautiful family of grown-up daughters; yet never has she forgotten that dreary, desolate journey in the mountains that so nearly terminated her existence.



CHAPTER LIV.

A MOTHER AT STARVED CAMP.



WE have told how Mrs. Breen was left with the living and the dead at Starved Camp, and its history cannot better be given than has been done by Mrs. Farnham, whose account we append:

There was no food in Starved Camp. There was nothing to eat save a few seeds, tied in bits of cloth, that had been brought along by some one,—and the precious lump of sugar. There were also a few teaspoonfuls of tea. They sat and lay by the fire most of the day, with what heavy hearts who shall know. They were upon about thirty feet of snow. The dead lay before them, a ghastlier sight in the sunshine that succeeded the storm than when the dark clouds overhung them. They had no words of cheer to speak to each other—no courage or hope to share—but those which pointed to a life where hunger and cold could never come, and their benumbed faculties were scarcely able to seize upon a consolation so remote from the thoughts and wants that absorbed their whole being.

“A situation like this will not awaken in common natures religious trust. Under such protracted suffering, the animal outgrows the spiritual in frightful disproportion. Yet the mother’s sublime faith, which had brought her thus far through her agonies, with a heart still warm toward those who shared them, did not fail her now. She spoke gently to one and another; asked her husband to repeat the Litany, and the children to join her in the responses; and endeavored to fix their minds upon the time when relief would probably come. Nature, as unerringly as philosophy could have done, taught her that the only hope of sustaining those about her was to set before them a termination of their sufferings.

What days and nights were those that went by while they waited. Life waning visibly in those about her; not a morsel of food to offer them; both her own infant and the little one that had been cherished and saved through all by the mother now dead, wasting hourly into the more perfect image of death; her husband worn to a skeleton; it needed the fullest

measure of exalted faith, of womanly tenderness and self-sacrifice, to sustain her through such a season. She watched by night as well as by day; she gathered wood to keep them warm; she boiled the handful of tea and dispensed it to them; and when she found one sunken and speechless, she broke with her teeth a morsel of the precious sugar and put it on his lips. She fed her babe freely on snow water, and scanty as was the wardrobe she had, she managed to get fresh clothing to its skin two or three times a week. Where, one asks in wonder and reverence, did she get the strength and courage for all this? She sat all night by her family, her elbows on her knees, brooding over the meek little victims that lay there, watching those who slept, and occasionally dozing, with a fearful consciousness of their terrible condition always upon her. The sense of peril never slumbered. Many times during the night she went to the sleepers to ascertain if they all still breathed. She put her hand under their blankets and held it before the mouth. In this way she assured herself that they were yet alive. But once her blood curdled to find, on approaching her hand to the lips of one of her own children, there was no warm breath upon it. She tried to open the mouth, and found the jaws set.

She roused her husband, "Oh! Patrick, man! arise and help me! James is dyiug!"

"Let him die!" said the miserable father; "he will be better off than any of us."

She was terribly shocked by this reply. In her own expressive language, her "heart stood still when she heard it." She was bewildered, and knew not where to set her weary hands to work; but she recovered in a few moments and began to chafe the breast and hands of the perishing boy. She broke a bit of sugar, and with considerable effort forced it between his teeth with a few drops of snow water. She saw him swallow, then a slight convulsive motion stirred his features, he stretched his limbs feebly, and in a moment more opened his eyes and looked upon her. How fervent were her thanks to the Great Father, whom she forgot not day or night.

Thus she went on. The tea leaves were eaten, the seeds chewed, the sugar all dispensed. The days were bright and, compared with the nights, comfortable. Occasionally, when the sun shone, their voices were heard, though generally they sat or laid in a kind of stupor from which she often found it alarmingly difficult to arouse them. When the gray evening twilight drew its deepening curtain over the cold glittering heavens and the

icy waste, and when the famishing bodies had been covered from the frost that pinched them with but little less keenness than the unrelenting hunger, the solitude seemed to rend her very brain. Her own powers faltered. But she said her prayers over many times in the darkness as well as the light, and always with renewed trust in Him who had not yet forsaken her; and thus she sat out her weary watch. After the turning of the night she always sat watching for the morning star, which seemed, every time she saw it rise in the cold eastern sky, to renew the promise, "As thy day is, so shall thy strength be."

Their fire had melted the snow to a considerable depth, and they were lying on the bank above. Thus they had less of its heat than they needed, and found some difficulty in getting the fuel she gathered placed so it would burn.

One morning after she had hailed her messenger of promise, and the light had increased so as to render objects visible in the distance, she looked as usual over the white expanse that lay to the southwest, to see if any dark moving specks were visible upon its surface. Only the tree-tops, which she had scanned so often as to be quite familiar with their appearance, were to be seen. With a heavy heart she brought herself back from that distant hope to consider what was immediately about her. The fire had sunk so far away that they had felt but little of its warmth the last two nights, and casting her eyes down into the snow-pit, whence it sent forth only a dull glow, she thought she saw the welcome face of beloved mother Earth. It was such a renewing sight after their long, freezing separation from it!

She immediately aroused her eldest son, John, and with a great deal of difficulty and repeated words of cheering and encouragement brought him to understand that she wished him to descend by one of the tree-tops which had fallen in so as to make a sort of ladder, and see if they could reach the naked earth, and if it were possible for them all to go down. She trembled with fear at the vacant silence in which he at first gazed at her, but at length, after she had told him a great many times, he said "Yes, mother," and went.

He reached the bottom safely, and presently spoke to her. There was naked, dry earth under his feet; it was warm and he wished her to come down. She laid her baby beside some of the sleepers, and descended. Immediately she determined upon taking them all down. How good, she thought as she descended the boughs, was the God whom she trusted.

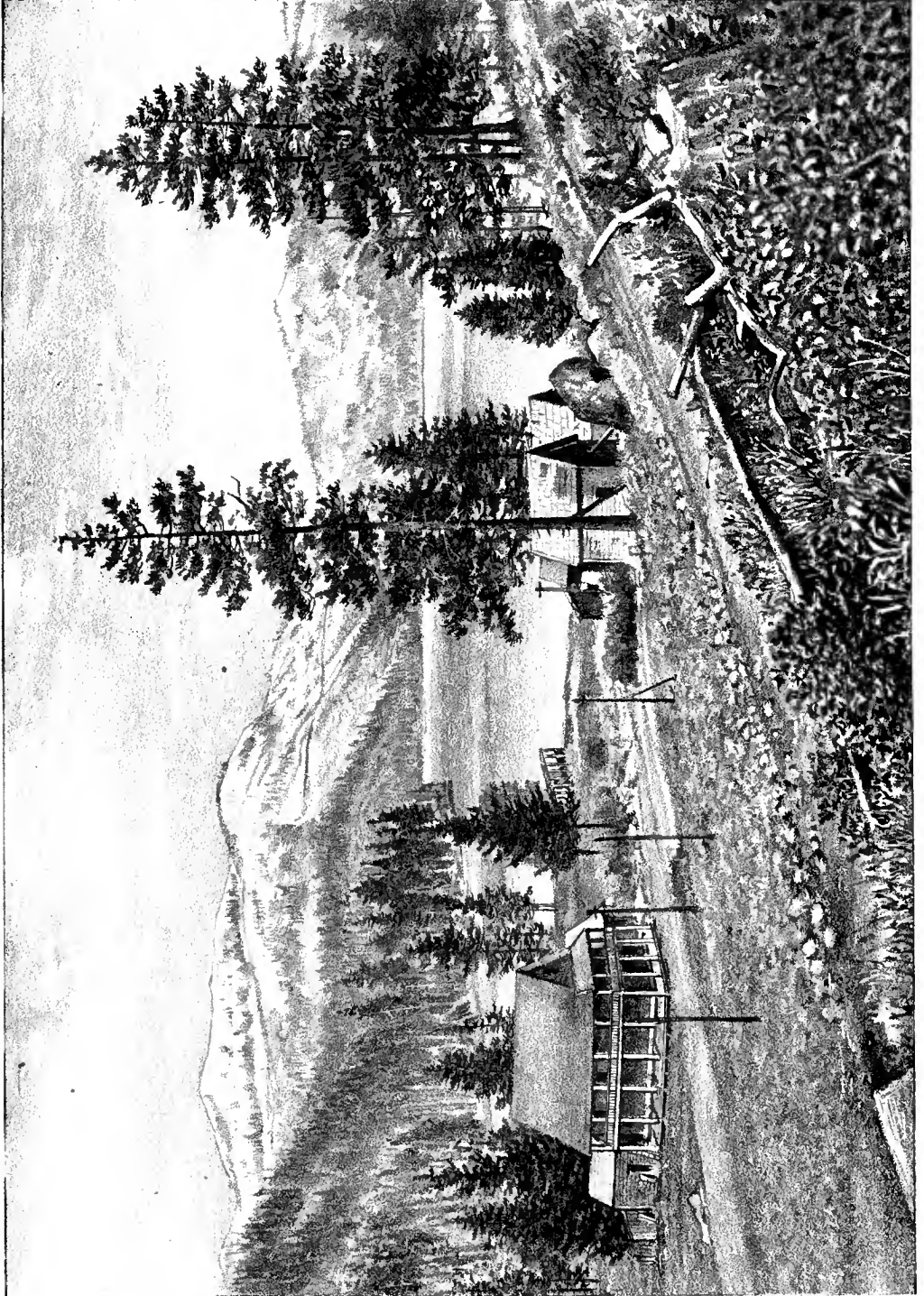
By perseverance, by entreaty, by encouragement, and with her own aid she got them into this snug shelter.

Relief came not, and as starvation crept closer and closer to himself and those around him, Patrick Breen determined that it was his duty to employ the means of sustaining life which God seemed to have placed before them. The lives of all might be saved by resorting to such food as others in like circumstances had subsisted upon. Mrs. Breen, however, declared that she would die, or see her children die, before her life or theirs should be preserved by such means. If ever the father gave to the dying children, it was without her consent or knowledge. She never tasted, nor knew of her children partaking.

Mrs. Farnham says that when Patrick Breen ascended to obtain the dreadful repast, his wife, frozen with horror, hid her face in her hands and could not look up. She was conscious of his return, and of something going on about the fire, but she could not bring herself to uncover her eyes until all had subsided again into silence. Her husband remarked that perhaps they were wrong in rejecting a means of sustaining life of which others had availed themselves, but she put away the suggestion so positively that it was never renewed nor acted upon by any of her family.

She and her children were now, indeed, reaching the utmost verge of life. A little more battle with the grim enemies that had pursued them so relentlessly—twenty-four, or at most, forty-eight hours of such warfare, and all would be ended. The infants still breathed, but were so wasted they could only be moved by raising them bodily with the hands. It seemed as if even their light weight would have dragged the limbs from their bodies. Occasionally through the day she ascended the tree to look out. It was an incident now, and seemed to kindle more life than when it only required a turn of the head or a glance of the eye to tell that there was no living thing near them. She could no longer walk on the snow, but she had still strength enough to crawl from tree to tree and gather a few boughs, which she threw along before her to the pit and piled them in to renew the fire.

The eighth day was passed. On the ninth morning she ascended to watch for her star of mercy. Clear and bright it stood over against her beseeching gaze, set in the light liquid blue that overflows the pathway of the opening day. She prayed earnestly as she gazed, for she knew there were but few hours of life in those dearest to her. If human aid came not that day, some eyes that would soon look imploringly into hers would



DONNER LAKE 1879 SCENE OF THE GRAVE'S TRAGEDY.

be closed in death before that star would rise again. Would she herself, with all her endurance and resisting love, live to see it? Were they at length to perish? Great God! should it be permitted that they who had been preserved through so much, should die at last so miserably?

Her eyes were dim and her sight wavering. She could not distinguish trees from men on the snow, but had they been near she could have heard them, for her ear had grown so sensitive that the slightest unaccustomed noise arrested her attention. She went below with a heavier heart than ever before. She had not a word of hope to answer the languid, inquiring countenances that were turned to her face, and she was conscious that it told the story of her despair. Yet she strove with some half insane words to suggest that somebody would surely come to them that day. Another would be too late, and the pity of men's hearts and the mercy of God would surely bring them. The pallor of death seemed already to be stealing over the sunken countenances that surrounded her, and weak as she was, she could remain below but a few minutes together. She felt she could have died had she let go her resolution at any time within the last forty-eight hours. They repeated the Litany. The responses came so feebly that they were scarcely audible, and the protracted utterances seemed wearisome. At last it was over, and they rested in silence.

The sun mounted high and higher in the heavens, and when the day was three or four hours old, she placed her trembling feet again upon the ladder to look out once more. The corpses of the dead lay always before her as she reached the top—the mother and the son, and the little boy, whose remains she could not even glance at since they had been mutilated. The blanket that covered them could not shut out the horror of the sight.

The rays of the sun fell on her with a friendly warmth, but she could not look into the light that flooded the white expanse. Her eyes lacked strength and steadiness, and she rested herself against a tree and endeavored to gather her wandering faculties in vain. The enfeebled will could no longer hold rule over them. She had broken perceptions, fragments of visions, contradictory and mixed—former mingled with latter times. Recollections of plenty and rural peace came up from her clear tranquil childhood, which seemed to have been another state of existence; flashes of her latter life—its comfort and abundance—gleams of maternal pride in her children who had been growing up about her to ease and independence.

She lived through all the phases which her simple life had ever worn in the few moments of repose after the dizzy effort of ascending; as the thin blood left her whirling brain and returned to its shrunken channels, she grew more clearly conscious of the terrible present, and remembered the weary quest upon which she came. It was not the memory of thought; it was that of love, the old tugging at the heart that had never relaxed long enough to say: "Now I am done; I can bear no more!" The miserable ones down there—for them her waning life came back; at thought of them she turned her face listlessly the way it had so often gazed. But this time something caused it to flush, as if the blood, cold and thin as it was, would burst its vessels! What was it? Nothing that she saw, for her eyes were quite dimmed by the sudden access of excitement! It was the sound of voices! By a superhuman effort she kept herself from falling. Was it reality or delusion? She must at least live to know the truth. It came again and again. She grew calmer as she became more assured, and the first distinct words she heard uttered were: "There is Mrs. Breen alive yet, anyhow!" Three men were advancing toward her. She knew that now there would be no more starving. Death was repelled for this time from the precious little flock he had so long threatened, and she might offer up thanksgiving unchecked by the dreads and fears that had so long frozen her.



CHAPTER LV.

THE RESCUE.



THE men who reached Starved Camp formed a part of the third relief party sent forward, and to a better understanding of it some account of the efforts made should be given.

The first relief was contributed by good old Captain Sutter, to whom be the praise. When James Reed reached the settlements, he at once went to San Francisco to communicate with the Government, and his story created the wildest excitement.

The story that emigrants were starving to death in the mountains profoundly stirred people, and offers of provisions, horses and money poured in without stint. It was the time of the Mexican war, and most of the able-bodied men were with the army, so that suitable persons to make the perilous journey were not to be found. Captain Tucker's party, organized upon the arrival of the Forlorn Hope, was the first. Reed and his companions were the second, and the third was led by Eddy and Foster.

When they reached the deep well-like cavity where the Breens and the Graves children were, a very serious question arose. Out of the eleven but two were able to walk. A storm appeared gathering on the mountains, and their supply of provisions was limited. It was proposed to take the Graves children and Mary Donner, leaving the Breens to wait the arrival of another party, which all knew meant death.

Oakley and Rhodes favored leaving them, but Stark said "No, I will not abandon these people. I am here on an errand of mercy and I will not half do my work. You may go, but I will stay by them while they and I live." It was nobly said, and nobly did he perform what he promised. To him the lives of the entire family are mainly due. The greater part of the distance he carried one of the Graves and one of the Breen children. He was a powerful man and made light of carrying the blankets, provisions and some of the weaker children. He was formerly from Monmouth, Ill.

At Donner Lake much suffering had occurred. Here Lavina Murphy

was left in charge of her grandson, Geo. Foster, the child of James Eddy, and the three Donner girls. All occupied the same cabin, and with them was Keseburg.

When Foster and Eddy arrived their children were dead. It is said that Keseburg killed and ate one of them during the night, and while there is some discrepancy of opinion on this subject, all agree that he kept the remains hanging on a nail in the cabin for use until consumed. It will be remembered he was charged with two murders previously, those of Harcoop and Wolfinger.

In the morning the relief party started back. Eddy was to carry Georgia Donner, Thompson, Frances Donner, and Foster, Simon Murphy. John Baptise and Clark were to accompany them. At Alder Creek George Donner was at death's door, but his faithful wife would not desert him, though well knowing her life was the penalty of remaining. Of ten occupants, seven lay beneath the snows, and three survived, one of whom was soon to go. This was George Donner, the captain of the party.

Mrs. Murphy was sick, exhausted and unable to walk. She had cared for others until her health and strength were gone, and she was utterly helpless. The children had best go, but she would remain until able to travel. With her, too, staid Keseberg, who by reason of lameness, as he asserted, was unable to travel; though others assert he had a more powerful reason for remaining,—a desire to possess himself of George Donner's property.

The night previous to their leaving, Mrs. Tausen Donner, mother of the three little girls, came up from Alder Creek, seven miles distant, to enquire after her little ones, whom she supposed had gone across the mountains. Oh, the joy and the pain of that meeting. As they wound their arms around her neck, kissed her lips, laughed in her eyes and twined their fingers in her hair, what a struggle must have been taking place in her soul.

As the pleading, upturned faces of her babies begged her not to leave them, her very heart-strings must have been rent with agony. Well may the voice quiver or the hand tremble, that attempts to portray the anguish of this mother during that farewell interview. From the very first moment, her resolution to return to her husband remained unshaken. The members of the relief party entreated her to go with her children and save her own life. They urged that there could only be a few hours of life left in George Donner. This was so true that she once ventured the

request that they remain until she could return to Alder Creek, and see if he were yet alive. The gathering storm-clouds which had hovered over the summit for days, compelled them to refuse this request. An hour's delay might be fatal to all.

George Donner knew that he was dying, and had frequently urged his wife to leave him, cross the mountains, and take care of her children. As she held her darlings in her arms, it required no prophetic vision to disclose pictures of sadness, of lonely childhood, of longing girlhood, of pillows wet with tears, if these three little waifs were left to wander friendless in California. She never expressed a belief that she would see that land of promise beyond the Sierras. Often had her calm, earnest voice told them of the future which awaited them, and so far as possible had she prepared them to meet that future without the counsel or sympathy of father or mother.

The night-shadows, creeping through the shivering pines, warned her of the long, dreary way over which her tired feet must pass ere she reached her dying husband's side. She is said to have appeared strangely composed. The struggle was silent. The poor bleeding heart brought not a single moan to the lips. It was a choice between life, hope and her clinging babes, or a lonely vigil by a dying husband, and an unknown, shroudless death in the wintry mountains. Her husband was sixty-three; he was well stricken in years, and his life was fast ebbing away. If she returned through the frosty night-winds, over the crisp, freezing snow, she would travel fourteen miles that day. The strong, healthy men composing the relief parties frequently could travel but five or six miles in a day. If she made the journey, and found her husband was dead, she could have no hope of returning on the morrow. She had suffered too long from hunger and privation to hope to be able to return and overtake the relief party. It was certain life or certain death. On the side of the former was maternal love; on the side of the latter, wifely devotion. The whole range of history cannot produce a parallel example of adherence to duty, and to the dictates of conjugal fidelity. With quick convulsive pressure of her little ones to her heart; with a hasty, soul-throbbing kiss upon the lips of each; with a prayer that was stifled with a sob of agony, Tamsen Donner hurried away to her husband. Through the gathering darkness, past the shadowy sentinels of the forest, they watched with tearful eyes her retreating form. As if she dared not trust another sight of the little faces—as if to escape the pitiful wail of her darlings—she

ran straight forward until out of sight and hearing. She never once looked back.

There are mental struggles which so absorb the being and soul, that physical terrors or tortures are unnoticed. Tamsen Donner's mind was passing through such an ordeal. The fires of Moloch, the dreadful suttee, were sacrifices which long religious education sanctioned, and in which the devotees perished amidst the plaudits of admiring multitudes. This woman had chosen a death of solitude, of hunger, of bitter cold, of pain-racked exhaustion, and was actuated by only the pure principles of wifely love. Already the death-damp was gathering on George Donner's brow. At the utmost, she could hope to do no more than smooth the dying pillow, tenderly clasp the fast-chilling hand, press farewell kisses upon the whitening lips, and finally close the dear tired eyes. For this, only this, she was yielding life, the world and her darling babes. Fitted by culture and refinement to be an ornament to society, qualified by education to rear her daughters to lives of honor and usefulness, how it must have wrung her heart to allow her little ones to go unprotected into a wilderness of strangers. But she could not leave her husband to die alone. Rather solitude, better death, than desert the father of her children. O Land of the Sunset! let the memory of this wife's devotion be ever enshrined in the hearts of your faithful daughters! In tablets thus pure engrave the name of Tamsen Donner.

When the June sunshine gladdened the Sacramento Valley, three sweet little barefooted girls walked here and there among the houses and tents of Sutter's Fort. They were scantily clothed, and one carried a thin blanket. At night they said their prayers, lay down in whatever tent they happened to be, and folding the blanket about them fell asleep in each other's arms. When they were hungry they asked food of whomsoever they met. If any one inquired who they were, they answered as their mother had taught them: "We are the children of Mr. and Mrs. George Donner." But they added something they had learned since. It was, "and our parents are dead."

With the rescue of the Graves family this narrative properly ends; but those who have followed the party thus far will like to know the fate of those still behind.

George Donner came from Springfield, Ill., and was a man of considerable wealth. He had a large amount of valuable goods, and considerable gold and silver,—how much is not known, but it is supposed some

ten or twelve thousand dollars at least. These facts were known to Keseberg, and it is supposed influenced his course. It is claimed he could have accompanied the third, or Foster and Eddy's party, but chose to remain. Mrs. Murphy was too ill, and Mrs. Tamsen Donner would not leave her husband. These comprised all that were left.

The fourth, or Captain Fallon's relief party reached the lake April 17, and Captain Tucker, who accompanied them, best describes the awful sight. "Human bodies terribly mutilated, legs, arms, skulls and portions or remains were scattered in every direction. Mrs. Murphy's body was found with one of the limbs sawed off, the saw lying beside the remains. Near the Graves cabin were two bodies entire except that the abdomens were cut open and the entrails removed. In that dry atmosphere nothing decays, but bodies shrivel up and wear away, becoming like mummies. Strewn about were skulls which had been sawn asunder to extract the brains, and skeletons in every variety of mutilation.

The remains of George Donner were found in the cabin, neatly wrapped in a sheet. To carefully lay out her husband's body and tenderly enfold it in a winding sheet was the last act of devotion to her husband performed by Tamsen Donner. When this was done, she went to the Murphy cabin, and whether murdered by Keseberg to obtain possession of her husband's money, as is generally believed, or whether she died a natural death, only the Father above and one individual knows. Mrs. Murphy probably starved to death.

When Capt. Fallon's party reached the camp at the lake no one was visible, but a fresh track in the snow led away from camp towards the Donner cabins. They pressed forward to Alder Creek, finding his goods as described but the closest search failed to discover any money. On their return to the Graves cabin at the lake they found the same mysterious tracks which proved to be those of Keseberg. When asked for Donner's money he refused to divulge what had become of it, and not until a rope was put around his neck with a threat of hanging did he tell where it was hidden. All that was recovered was \$531. Capt. Fallon in his report says he found two kettles of human blood, in all supposed to be over a gallon. If Keseberg is guilty of all that is charged he has terribly expiated his crimes. Of all men living he is the most miserable, and as no one should be condemned without a hearing let him give his own version of this terrible story. He says:

"If I believe in God Almighty having anything to do with the destiny of

man, I believe that the misfortunes which overtook the Donner party and the terrible part I was compelled to take in the great tragedy were predestined. On Hastings' cut off, we were twenty-eight days going twenty-one miles.

"When we reached the lake we lost our road, and owing to the depth of the snow on the mountains, were compelled to abandon our wagons, and pack our goods upon oxen. The cattle, unused to such burdens, caused great delay by 'bucking' and wallowing in the snow. There was also much confusion as to what articles should be taken and what abandoned. One wanted a box of tobacco carried along; another, a bale of calico, and some one thing and some another. But for this delay we would have passed the summit and pressed forward to California. Owing to my lameness, I was placed on horseback, and my foot was tied up to the saddle in a sort of sling. Near evening we were close to the top of the dividing ridge. It was cold and chilly, and everybody was tired with the severe exertions of the day. Some of the emigrants sat down to rest, and declared they could go no further. I begged them for God's sake to get over the ridge before halting. Some one, however, set fire to a pitchy pine tree, and the flames soon ascended to its topmost branches. The women and children gathered about this fire to warm themselves. Meantime the oxen were rubbing off their packs against the trees. The weather looked very threatening, and I exhorted them to go on until the summit was reached. I foresaw the danger plainly and unmistakably. Only the strongest men, however, could go ahead and break the road, and it would have taken a determined man to induce the party to leave the fire. Had I been well, and been able to push ahead over the ridge, some, if not all, would have followed. As it was, all laid down on the snow, and from exhaustion were soon asleep. In the night I felt something impeding my breath. A heavy weight seemed to be resting upon me. Springing up to a sitting posture, I found myself covered with freshly-fallen snow. The camp, the cattle, my companions, had all disappeared. All I could see was snow everywhere. I shouted at the top of my voice. Suddenly here and there, all about me, heads popped up through the snow. The scene was not unlike what one might imagine at the resurrection, when people rise up out of the earth. The terror amounted to a panic. The mules were lost, the cattle strayed away, and our further progress rendered impossible. The rest you probably know. We returned to the lake, and prepared as best we could for the winter. I was unable

to build a cabin, because of my lameness, and so erected a sort of brush shed against one side of Breen's cabin.

"When Reed's relief party left the cabins, Mr. Reed left me a half tea-cupful of flour, and about half a pound of jerked beef. It was all he could give. Mrs. Murphy, who was left with me, because too weak and emaciated to walk, had no larger portion. Reed had no animosity against me. He found me too weak to move. He washed me, combed my hair, and treated me kindly. Indeed, he had no cause to do otherwise. When Reed came with the relief party to the lake, he found his children in my cabin. Some of my portion of the flour brought by Stanton from Sutter's Fort I gave to Reed's children, and thus saved their lives. When he left me he promised to return in two weeks and carry me over the mountains. When this party left, I was not able to stand, much less to walk.

"A heavy storm came on in a few days after the last relief party left. Mrs. George Donner had remained with her sick husband in their camp, six or seven miles away. Mrs. Murphy lived about a week after we were left alone. When my provisions gave out I remained four days before I could taste human flesh. There was no other resort—it was that or death. My wife and child had gone on with the first relief party. I knew not whether they were living or dead. They were penniless and friendless in a strange land. For their sakes I must live if not for my own. Mrs. Murphy was too weak to revive. The flesh of starved beings contains little nutriment. It is like feeding straw to horses.

"I cannot describe the unutterable repugnance with which I tasted the first mouthful of flesh. There is an instinct in our nature that revolts at the thought of touching, much less eating a corpse. It makes my blood curdle to think of it! It has been told that I boasted of my shame—said that I enjoyed this horrid food, and that I remarked that human flesh was more palatable than California beef. This is a falsehood. It is a horrible revolting falsehood. This food was never otherwise than loathesome, insipid and disgusting. For nearly two months I was alone in that dismal cabin. No one knows what occurred but myself—no living being ever before was told of the occurrences. Life was a burden. The horrors of one day succeeded those of the preceeding. Five of my companions had died in my cabin and their stark and ghastly bodies lay there day and night, seemingly gazing at me with their glazed and staring eyes. I was too weak to move them had I tried. The relief parties had not removed

them. These parties had been too hurried, too horror stricken at the sight, too fearful lest an hour's delay might cause them to share the same fate. I endured a thousand deaths. To have one's suffering prolonged inch by inch, to be deserted, forsaken, hopeless; to see that loathsome food ever before my eyes, was almost too much for human endurance. I am conversant with four different languages. I speak and write them with equal fluency, yet in all four I do not find words enough to express the horror I experienced during those two months, or what I still feel when memory reverts to the scene. Suicide would have been a relief, a happiness, a godsend! Many a time I had the muzzle of my pistol in my mouth and my finger on the trigger, but the faces of my helpless, dependent wife and child would rise up before me, and my hand would fall powerless. I was not the cause of my misfortunes, and God Almighty had provided only this one horrible way for me to subsist."

"Did you boil the flesh?"

"Yes! But to go into details—to relate the minutiae—is too agonizing! I cannot do it! Imagination can supply these. The necessary mutilation of the bodies of those who had been my friends, rendered the ghastliness of my situation more frightful. When I could crawl about and my lame foot was partially recovered, I was chopping some wood one day and the axe glanced and cut off my heel. The piece of flesh grew back in time, but not in its former position, and my foot is maimed to this day.

"A man before he judges me, should be placed in a similar situation; but if he were, it is a thousand to one he would perish. A constitution of steel alone could endure the deprivation and misery. At this time I was living in the log cabin with the fire-place. One night I was awakened by a scratching sound over my head. I started up in terror, and listened intently for the noise to be repeated. It came again. It was the wolves trying to get into the cabin to eat me and the dead bodies.

"At midnight, one cold, bitter night, Mrs. George Donner came to my door. It was about two weeks after Reed had gone and my loneliness was beginning to be unendurable. I was most happy to hear the sound of a human voice. Her coming was like that of an angel from Heaven. But she had not come to bear me company. Her husband had died in her arms. She had remained by his side until death came, and then laid him out and hurried away. He died at nightfall, and she had traveled over the snow alone to my cabin. She was going, alone, across the moun-

tains. She was going to start without food or guide. She kept saying, 'My children! I must see my children!'

"She feared she would not survive, and told me she had some money in her tent. It was too heavy for her to carry. She said, 'Mr. Keseburg I confide this to your care.' She made me promise sacredly that I would get the money and take it to her children in case she perished and I survived. She declared she would start over the mountains in the morning. She said, 'I am bound to go to my children.' She seemed very cold, and her clothes were like ice. I think she had got into the creek in coming. She said she was very hungry, but refused the only food I could offer. She had never eaten the loathsome flesh.

"She finally laid down, and I spread a feather bed and some blankets over her. In the morning she was dead. I think the hunger, the mental suffering and the icy chill of the preceding night caused her death. I have often been accused of taking her life. Before my God, I swear this is untrue! Do you think a man would be such a miscreant, such a damnable fiend, such a caricature on humanity, as to kill this lone woman? There were plenty of corpses lying around. He would but add one more corpse to the many!

"Oh! the days and weeks of horror which I passed in that camp! I had no hope of help or of being rescued, until I saw the green grass coming up by the spring on the hillside, and the wild geese coming to nibble it. The birds were coming back to their breeding grounds, and I felt that I could kill them for food. I had plenty of guns and ammunition in camp. I also had plenty of tobacco and a good meerschaum pipe, and almost the only solace I enjoyed was smoking. In my weak condition it took me two or three hours every day to get sufficient wood to keep my fire going.

"Some time after Mrs. Donner's death, I thought I had gained sufficient strength to redeem the pledge I had made her before her death. I started to go to the camps at Alder Creek to get the money. I had a very difficult journey. The wagons of the Donners were loaded with tobacco, powder, caps, shoes, school books, and dry goods. This stock was very valuable, and had it reached California, would have been a fortune to the Donners. I searched carefully among the bales and bundles of goods, and found \$531. Part of this sum was silver, part gold. The silver I buried at the foot of a pine tree, a little way from the camp. One of the lower branches of another tree reached down close to the ground, and appeared

to point to the spot. I put the gold in my pocket, and started to return to my cabin. I had spent one night at the Donner tents. On my return I became lost.

“When it was nearly dark, in crossing a little flat, the snow suddenly gave way under my feet, and I sank down almost to my armpits. By means of the crust on top of the snow, I kept myself suspended by throwing out my arms. A stream of water flowed underneath the place over which I had been walking, and the snow had melted on the underside until it was not strong enough to support my weight. I could not touch bottom with my feet, and so could form no idea of the depth of the stream. By long and careful exertion, I managed to draw myself backward and up on the snow. I then went around on the hillside, and continued my journey. At last, just at dark, completely exhausted and almost dead, I came in sight of the Graves cabin. I shall never forget my joy at sight of that log cabin. I felt that I was no longer lost, and would at least have shelter. Some time after dark I reached my own cabin. My clothes were wet by getting in the creek, and the night was so cold that my garments were frozen into sheets of ice. I was so weary, and chilled, and numbed that I did not build up a fire, or attempt to get anything to eat, but rolled myself up in the bed-clothes and tried to get warm. Nearly all night I lay there shivering with cold, and when I finally slept, I slept very soundly. I did not wake up until quite late the next morning.

“To my utter astonishment the camp was in the most inexplicable confusion. My trunks were broken open, and their contents were scattered everywhere. Everything about the cabin was torn up and thrown about the floor. My wife’s jewelry, my cloak, my pistol and ammunition were missing. I supposed Indians had robbed my camp during my absence. Suddenly I was startled by the sound of human voices. I hurried up to the surface of the snow, and saw white men coming towards the cabin. I was overwhelmed with joy and gratitude at the prospect of my deliverance. I had suffered so much, and for so long a time, that I could scarcely believe my senses. Imagine my astonishment upon their arrival to be greeted, not with a ‘good morning’ or a kind word, but with the gruff, insolent demand, ‘Where is Donner’s money?’

“I told them they ought to give me something to eat, and that I would talk with them afterward, but no, they insisted that I should tell them about Donner’s money. I asked them who they were, and where they came from, but they replied by threatening to kill me if I did not

give up the money. They threatened to hang or shoot me, and at last I told them I had promised Mrs. Donner that I would carry her money to her children, and I proposed to do so unless shown some authority by which they had a better claim. This so exasperated them that they acted as though they were going to kill me. I offered to let them bind me as a prisoner, and take me before the Alcalde at Sutter's Fort, and I promised that I would tell all I knew about the money. They would listen to nothing, however, and finally to save my life, I told them where they would find the silver buried, and gave them the gold. After I had done this, they showed me a document from Alcalde Sinclair by which they were to receive a certain proportion of all moneys and property which they rescued."

"These men treated me with the greatest unkindness. Mr. Tucker was the only one who took my part or befriended me. When they started over the mountains, each man carried two bales of goods. They had silks, calicos and delaines from the Donners, and other articles of great value. Each man would carry one bundle a little way, lay it down and come back and get the other bundle. In this way they passed over the snow three times. I could not keep up with them because I was so weak, but managed to come up to their camp every night. One day I was dragging myself slowly along behind the party, when I came to a place which had evidently been used as a camping ground by some of the previous parties. Feeling very tired, I thought it would be a good place to make some coffee. Kindling a fire, I filled my coffee-pot with fresh snow and sat waiting for it to melt and get hot. Happening to cast my eyes carelessly around, I discovered a little piece of calico protruding from the snow. Half thoughtlessly, half out of idle curiosity, I caught hold of the cloth, and finding it did not come readily, I gave it a strong pull. I had in my hands the body of my dead child Ada! She had been buried in the snow, which melting down had disclosed a portion of her clothing. I thought I should go frantie! It was the first intimation I had of her death, and it came with such a shock!

"Just as we were getting out of the snow, I happened to be sitting in camp, alone, one afternoon. The men were hunting, or attending to their goods. I was congratulating myself upon my escape from the mountains, when I was startled by a snuffing, growling noise, and looking up, I saw a large grizzly bear only a few feet away. I knew I was too weak to attempt to escape, and so remained where I sat, expecting every moment he

would devour me. Suddenly there was the report of a gun, and the bear fell dead. Mr. Foster had discovered the animal, and slipping up close to camp had killed it.

"I have been born under an evil star! Fate, misfortune, bad luck, compelled me to remain at Donner Lake. If God would decree that I should again pass through such an ordeal, I could not do otherwise than I did. My conscience is free from reproach. Yet that camp has been the one burden of my life. Wherever I have gone, people have cried, 'Stone him!' Even the little children in the streets have mocked me and thrown stones at me as I passed. Only a man conscious of his innocence, and clear in the sight of God, would not have succumbed to the terrible things which have been said of me—would not have committed suicide! Mortification, disgrace, disaster and unheard-of misfortune, have followed and overwhelmed me. I often think that the Almighty has singled me out, among all the men on the face of the earth, in order to see how much hardship, suffering and misery a human being can bear!

"Soon after my arrival at the Fort, I took charge of the schooner Sacramento, and conveyed wheat from Sacramento to San Francisco, in payment for Captain Sutter's purchase of his possessions. I worked seven months for Sutter, but, although he was kind to me I did not get my money. I then went to Sonoma and worked about the same length of time for Gen. Vallejo. I had a good position and good prospects, but left for the gold mines. Soon afterward I was taken sick, and for eight months was an invalid. I then went to Sutter's Fort and started a boarding-house. I made money rapidly. After a time I built a house, south of the Fort, which cost ten thousand dollars. In 1851 I purchased the Lady Adams Hotel, in Sacramento. It was a valuable property, and I finally sold it at auction for a large sum of money. This money was to be paid next day. The deeds had already passed. That night the terrible fire of 1852 occurred, and not only swept away the hotel, but ruined the purchaser, so that I could not collect one cent. I went back to Sutter's Fort and started the Phoenix Brewery. I succeeded, and acquired considerable property. I finally sold out for fifty thousand dollars. I had concluded to take this money, go back to Germany, and live quietly the rest of my days. The purchaser went to San Francisco to draw the money. The sale was effected eight days before the great flood of 1861-2. The flood came, and I lost everything."

After reaching the settlements himself and wife were reunited and

lived together until Jan. 30th, 1877, when she died. Eleven children were born to them, four of whom survive. One is married and lives in Sacramento, another is a widow and lives at San Rafael. Two are with their father at Brighton, Sacramento county, both hopelessly idiotic. Augusta is 15 and weighs 205; Ruth is 27 and never spoke an intelligible word. They are subject to violent epileptic fits and need constant attention. Should Bertha fall into the fire she has not sufficient intelligence to withdraw her hand from the flames. He is very poor and their shrieks and violence are so great that no hired help will attend them. The legislature will not give him aid, they scream so he can not live near others and so he lives isolated from all others and has to personally look after and care for them. He is the saddest, loneliest, most pitiable creature on the face of the earth and traces all his misfortunes to the camp at Donner Lake.

Let the God to whom he appeals be his judge. If guilty of all the crimes charged, his subsequent misfortunes and present lot, it would seem, ought to atone.

The story of this dreadful tragedy is nearly finished. Of the ninety persons composing the party forty-eight survived and with varying incidents and episodes all reached Sutter's Fort. Twenty-six or twenty-eight were living July 30th, 1879. As this history mainly concerns the Graves family only theirs will be continued.

Mary A. Graves married Edward Pile in May, 1847, two months after her rescue. He was murdered by a Spaniard the succeeding year, and the perpetrator was the first person hanged in California under the laws of the United States. In 1851 or 1852 she wedded I. J. Clark to whom were born seven children, five of whom survive. Her address is White River, Tulare County, Cal.

Eleanor Graves married William McDonnell in Sept., 1879, and had ten children, seven of whom are living. She lives in Knights Valley, Sonoma County, and her address is Calistoga.

Lovina Graves married John Cyrus, June 5th, 1857. They have five children and their address is Calistoga.

Nancy Graves married R. W. Williamson in 1855. They have five children, one of whom is teaching school and another is an artist in Virginia City. Their address is Los Gatos, Santa Clara County.

William C. Graves is a blacksmith and lives at Calistoga.

In the little work from which most of our information is derived the subsequent history of Sarah, formerly Mrs. Fosdick, is not given, and we

have been unable to gather it from other sources. The Murphys settled about three miles above Marysville and the town of Marysville was named in honor of their daughter Mary. Simon T. Murphy served in the Union army during the war. Wm. M. Foster gave his name to Foster's Bar on the Yuba river. He died in 1879.

The Reeds settled at San Jose, and the Breens at South San Juan. The orphan children of Mrs. Donner obtained an education, married and did well.

This sketch should not close without some mention of brave old Capt. Sutter who furnished the first supplies to the fugitives and aided them unstintedly. The first gold in the state was found on his place. He became wealthy and noted, and finally lost his property and returned to Lancaster County, Pa., where it is said he still lives.



BIOGRAPHICAL DEPARTMENT.

PUTNAM COUNTY.

HENNEPIN TOWNSHIP.

AMOS T. PURVIANCE.

The subject of this sketch was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1823, and removed to Illinois in 1847, locating in Hennepin. He learned the printing trade when young, but after coming to this State worked at farming, teaching school winters. In 1846 he married Mary M. Ong, their union being blessed with two children, Retta and Frank O., both born in Putnam County. Is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; was elected Sheriff in 1854, and County Clerk in 1857, which office he has since held. His place, known as "Hartzella," covers the site of the old trading house erected in 1817. It is a natural grove of twenty-two acres, beautifully situated on the bank of the Illinois River, one mile above Hennepin, and contains specimens of every native tree in Northern Illinois.

H. C. PIERCE.

H. C. Pierce, farmer, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1829, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1832, landing in Crow Meadow. Indians being troublesome at the time, they returned to Pekin, and remained until the spring of 1833, when they came to Hennepin Township, and have since remained here. In 1846 he married Mary Lansberry, who was born in Orange county, New York, in 1832. She died in 1874, leaving three children—Charles, Joseph H., and Benjamin F. In 1877 he was married again to Sarah Pierce. They are members of the M. E. church, in which he has been steward since 1865. Is a member of the Masonic order. Mr. Pierce has a vivid recollection of the Indians, and the good old times of early life in Putnam county.

LELAND BROADDUS.

Mr. Broaddus is a farmer living on section 23. He was born in Caroline county, Va., in 1826. In 1835 he, with his parents, located in Marshall co., and in 1849 removed to Putnam. In 1861 he married Harriet Crane, who died in 1858, leaving two children, Lundsford T. and Hervey E. He married Susan Case, a native of Indiana, and his present wife, in 1859, three children being the result of this union. John L., Irving, and Clara. Mr. B. is a member of the Baptist church and a school trustee. He owns 320 acres, mostly under cultivation, with good improvements.

HENRY CHILDS.

Mr. Childs is a farmer living on section 2, Hennepin Township. He was born in Lorraine, Germany, in 1829, and came to this country twenty years later, remaining a short time in New York State. In 1857 he married Mary Gashran, who was born in Summerhill, County Meath, Ireland, in 1837, and came to this country in 1856. They have five children—James, George H., Charles A., William and Mary J. Is a member of the Catholic church of Hennepin, owns 200 acres of land, with brick dwelling, and good improvements.

JAMES SHIELDS.

Mr. Shields is a farmer, living on section 24. He was born in Morgan county, Indiana, February 8, 1825, and came to this county along with his father when eight years old. The Shields family is one of the oldest in the county, and well known. In 1847 he married Mary Stateler, and to them two children were born, William Henry, and Catharine, who afterward became Mrs. Hiltabrand. Mr. Shields is a member of the Masonic order, and owns 215 acres of land, 120 of which is under cultivation.

NELSON SHEPHERD.

Mr. Shepherd is a retired farmer, living on section 31, who was born in Adams county, Ohio, December 6th, 1804. He came to Putnam county in 1829, and located on the place on which he still lives. Along with his brother, who had previously visited the country, he started from Ripley, Ohio, coming by steamboat to St. Louis. No steamers navigated the Illinois then; and transportation being carried on by means of keel boats, pro-

pelled by man power, he struck out for Bond county, where he had some friends, who furnished him with a horse, upon which he mounted, and, accompanied by a man named McCord, turned northward.

The first day they encountered a heavy rain, and the second suffered much from thirst. Seeing a cabin, they rode up and asked for a drink, to which the proprietor responded by giving them a gourd full dipped from a stagnant pool in the yard. They drank but little, but it made them deathly sick. Making for the timber, they lay down, McCord going into a heavy sleep. Shepherd presently recovered and strove some time vainly to waken McCord. Finally he opened his eyes, looking so ill that S. thought he would die. After some exertion he got him on his horse and they rode on. At Jacksonville they separated.

From here he had a Frenchman for a companion, with whom he traveled two days, reaching a place called the Rapids for breakfast. Enquiring how far it was to the next house he was told it was thirty miles. A deer path across the prairie was pointed out and his horse being tired he dismounted and drove it before him, reaching Jesse Roberts' place at sundown. His brother, who embarked on a keelboat, soon after arrived with his wife and goods. That winter all lived in a cabin together.

They all got the ague and suffered greatly. Their provisions gave out, and as they were too sick to go after more they had to subsist on potatoes and milk. Soon after he started to return to Ohio, where he married Miss Mary Beard, September 8, 1831. She was a native of Lincoln county, North Carolina. On their return they traveled in wagons, meeting with many mishaps and adventures incident to a new country. On his arrival he built a cabin, and has resided there ever since, the primitive dwelling giving way to a fine modernized residence, and the bleak prairie to a well cultivated farm.

They have five children living, and five who were born to them have passed over the river. The living are Lyle, Albert, John B., J. Harvey, and Austin M. Mr. Shepherd has served his township as supervisor, township trustee and road commissioner. Himself and wife have long been members of the Presbyterian church, and honored and respected members of society. He has a large farm and his old age is blessed with an abundance of this world's goods.

JOHN BOSST.

The subject this sketch is a farmer, born in Germany in 1820, and emigrated to this country in 1864, settling in Putnam county. His wife was formerly Miss Lucy Trierweiler. She also was born in Germany. They have two children, Theodore and Nicholas and own a good farm of 80 acres, well improved. Are members of the Catholic church, of Hennepin.

PETER SCHITZ.

Mr. Schitz is a farmer, and was born in Germany in 1814, emigrating to this country in 1864, and locating in Putnam county. His wife's maiden name was Karley, and she likewise came from Germany. Two children were born to them, Margaret and Herbert. She died in 1870. Mr. Schitz has since wedded Mary Schartz, a member of the Catholic church.

ANTHONY REAVY.

This gentleman, who is a thrifty farmer living on section 2, was born in this county in 1847. In 1869 he married Miss Catherine Mateer, also a native of the county. They have five children, Frank, George, Edward, Caroline and Mary. Both Mr. Reavy and his wife are members of the Catholic church. Mr. R. is treasurer of the school board. He owns 605 acres of land, 240 of which is under cultivation, and his residence is one of the most comfortable and home-like in the county.

FREDERICK SEBOLD.

Mr. Sebold is a farmer living on section 14. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1823, and came to the United States in 1849, first locating in Butler co., Ohio, whence he moved to this county in 1854. In 1849 he married Christiana Souft, also a native of Bavaria. They have six children—Barbara, Margaret, Conrad, Christiana, Eliza and Frederick. Mr. S. is a member of the Masonic order, was school director 16 years and road commissioner six years. He owns 280 acres, all in good state of cultivation, with very good improvements.

G. W. POOL.

This gentleman, now deceased, was born in Marietta, Ohio, in 1800, and died in 1857, leaving ten children. Henry died in a rebel prison in Cahoba, Alabama. Aaron was also in the army. His remaining children were George, Belle, Franklin, Sidney, Sarah, Edward, Charles, Lucy. Four children were born to him by a former marriage—viz., Mary, William, Albert and Charlotte. Mrs. Pool's maiden name was Sophronia Bascoos; she was born in Courtland county, N. Y., and married in 1838. Her estate comprises 380 acres. The farm is carried on by her son.

DAVID J. LEECH.

Mr. D. J. Leech is a dealer in agricultural implements and farm machinery in Hennepin. He was born in Pennsylvania, but brought up in Ohio, where he lived until twenty-one, when he removed to Illinois, arriving in Hennepin in 1849, and went to farming. In this he was successful, and continued to follow it to 1877, when he turned it over to his sons and took up his present business. In 1851 he married Miss Sarah A. Corson, also a native of Pennsylvania. Four children were born to them, Mary C., Harvey H., Ella S., and John W. Mr. Leech is an extensive dealer in farm machinery, buying his stock from twenty-three different establishments. His long experience as a farmer enables him to know just what is required, and he seldom makes a mistake. He has done much

to introduce the cultivation of sorghum, having raised it for many years and proved its value. He was personally acquainted with Shaubena, and has many ornaments, etc., obtained by himself from the grave of Shaubena's father, who was buried on the present site of the town. Mr. Leech's life has been long and useful, and he is a respected member of society.

L. B. SKEEL.

Mr. Skeel is a farmer, was born in New York state, March 28, 1811, and located in this county in 1830. Oct. 19, 1819, he married Miss Minerva Payne, a native of Indiana, who died March 27th, 1847, leaving three children—Albert M., Mary E. (Fisher), and Carrie (Cotting). Nov. 25th, 1847, he married Miss Flora Morrison, his present wife, who was born in Argyle, Scotland, in 1824. Five children have blessed their union,—Nathan, Olive (Folley), William L., John F., and Flora M. They are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Skeel owns 244 acres of land, under perfect cultivation and thoroughly fenced, principally with hedges. His mother died in October, 1879, at the advanced age of 91 years. His father built and introduced the first threshing machine in this section, taking his material from the logs of an old cabin at Pekin, the only thoroughly seasoned timber procurable.

PETER HOLLERICH.

Mr. Hollerich, a resident of the city of Hennepin, was born in Luxembourg, Germany, in 1846. In 1871 he came to the United States, and located in Hennepin shortly after his arrival in this country. In 1877 Mr. Hollerich married Miss Mary Sontag, a native of Mendota, Ill. They have two children, Colonel and William. Mr. H. and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

EDWIN R. SPENCER.

This gentleman, a livery proprietor and U. S. mail contractor, was born in Dutchess county, N. Y., in 1832. He came West in 1845, locating first in Terre Haute, Ind., but finally in this county. In 1874 he married Miss N. Jane Hailey, a native of Missouri. They have one child, Edwin, born in 1877. Mr. Spencer is a member of the Masonic order. He has been a mail contractor for many years. Mr. Thomas Hailey, father of Mrs. Spencer, moved to Ox Bow in 1829.

HENRIETTA THIEL.

Mrs. Henrietta Thiel, widow, is a successful farmer living on section 13. She was born in Germany, and came to this country in 1857, soon after her marriage. Her husband, Frederick Thiel, was also a native of Germany born in Saxony. He died December 10th, 1877, leaving six children, Frederick, Ludwick, Minnie, Henrietta, George and William. Mrs. Thiel's farm embraces 123 acres of land, in a good state of cultivation. She is an estimable woman, hard-working and industrious, and is raising her children in a manner creditable to herself and calculated to fit them for a life of usefulness.

JOSEPH ETSCHIED.

This gentleman is a farmer living on section 26, Hennepin township, and was born in Prussia in 1831. He came to this county in 1856. He was married to Catherine Kolf in 1856. She died July 31, 1866, leaving two children, Margaret and Peter. Afterward he married Mary Apel. He owns 520 acres of land of which 300 are under cultivation. Is a member of the Catholic church, road commissioner, etc. He is one of the most successful farmers in the township and a hard worker.

DR. A. M. VANDERSLICE.

The subject of this sketch is a physician and surgeon, likewise a farmer, living on section 32. He was born in Dauphin county, Pa., in 1833, obtaining his education in that state and graduating with honors at the medical institute of Philadelphia in 1860. He practiced two years in his native place and then moved to Florid in 1862, where he has since resided in the active prosecution of his profession. Of late years he gives more attention to farming. Before leaving his native place he married Rebecca Roach, who has brought him nine children, Anna M., John J., Frank R., Augustus M., James M., W. Hoyle, E. Rank, Ellen J., and Roy. He owns 180 acres of land, highly improved.

JOHN H. DININGER.

Mr. Dininger is a highly successful farmer living on Section 36. He was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, in 1827, and settled in Putnam county in 1859. In 1850 he married Caroline Zimmerman, also a native of Pennsylvania, and to them have been born ten children, still living, viz: Emma, Sarah, Ellen, Augustus, Kate, Lizzie, John S., Lincoln, Adam and William. He owns a fine farm of one hundred acres, under excellent cultivation, with first class improvements.

JUDGE AUGUSTUS CASSELL.

Augustus Cassell, ex-county judge, is a comfortable farmer and mechanic living on section 1. He was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, in 1813 coming west in 1836, and settling in Putnam county. His wife was formerly Miss Mary Bear, to whom he was married November 14 1833, she being also a native of Lebanon. They have seven children living, viz: John H., William B., Sarah A., Alson K., Rufus L., Mary Ellen and Isadore. Both himself and wife are respected members of the Methodist church. Mr. Cassell was a cabinet maker by trade, and very ingenious in the use of tools. For several years he owned and ran a steam mill, and was once in the mercan-

tile business at Florid. During the war he sent three sons to the army: one of whom—John H.—ran the Vicksburg blockade, served as a scout and spy for nine months visiting the rebel camps as a spy. He served three years, and then re-enlisted and remained until the close of the war. He was in the Twentieth Illinois cavalry. Mr. Cassel was elected county judge in 1872 and again in 1876, and was justice of the peace for twenty-seven years. His life has been long, honored and useful.

ROBERT LEECH.

Mr. Leech is a farmer living on section 19. He was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1814, removed with his parents to Pecria in 1832 and to Hennepin one year later. Has ever since resided on his present homestead. John Leech, his father, died in 1839, leaving nine children. His mother still lives, and is eighty-six years old. Mr. Leech never married, having dutifully remained with his parents, giving all his care to them. He has one of the finest farms in the township, containing 330 acres, his house occupying a beautiful location, skirted by a belt of timber on the north-west, interspersed with old oaks and other native trees.

W. S. BOSLEY.

Mr. Bosley, farmer and postmaster at "Cottage Hill," was born in Uniontown, Fayette county, Pa., in 1833, and located in Putnam county, April 5, 1851. October 31 1858, he married Miss Mary D. Nesmith, a native of the same county in Pennsylvania as himself. They have seven children, Thomas N., Nannie H., Lizzie M., Rebecca S., Minnie May, James Harry and Carl Edwin. Himself and family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which he has been an elder since 1860. He is secretary of the Magnolia Township Insurance Company, Vice President of the County Musical Association, and Road Commissioner. He is an extensive stock dealer, and "Cottage Hill" is a delightful residence, complete in all its appurtenances.

MRS. SARAH J. ROSS.

This lady, widow of James Ross, was born in Ohio in 1827, and came to Putnam county in 1849. Her husband was also born in Ohio. He came to Putnam county in 1839, and in 1850 they were married. One son was born to them, Frank S. Mr. Ross left four children by a former marriage, one of whom is deceased, and the others are named William, John and Grant. Mrs. Ross owns 130 acres of land and, her son owns 60, left by his father. Mrs. Ross is a member of the Presbyterian church and an estimable member of society.

PHILIP HAM.

Mr. Ham, one of the farmers of this township, is a native of the state of New York, born in 1821, but came to this county when only ten years of age. In 1854 he married Sarah Bear, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Dauphin county, that state, in 1834. They have seven children, Luella F., Leoria Estella, Anna E., William S., Clara Bell, (deceased), David and Laura May. Mr. Ham is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His farm embraces 145 acres of land.

DAVID B. MOORE.

Mr. David B. Moore is a farmer whose residence is in section 18, though a portion of his farm is in section 19. He was born in Washington county, Pa., February 7th, 1831, and located in this county in November, 1853. August 28th, 1856, he married Miss Martha Moore, a native of this county, born June 20, 1836. They have six children, Wilson S., Fannie E., Minnie A., Harry H., Perry O., and Howard. Mr. M. and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church of Granville. He has been a school director, and for a number of years trustee of the church to which he belongs. His farm comprises ninety acres of good land, well cultivated, and his improvements are excellent.

OTTO HALBLEIB.

This gentleman is a thrifty farmer living on section 11. He was born in Baden, Germany, in 1823, and came to the United States in 1837, locating in this county. He was married to Mrs. Catherine Hartenbower in January, 1852. She was born in Wertemberg, Germany, in 1834. They have nine children, viz: Victoria, Adam, John, George, Frank, Clara, Casper, Annie and William. Mr. Halbleib is school director, and owns three hundred acres of land. He has been in the bee business ten years, and has now about two hundred and twenty-seven hives in his apiary and will save about two hundred pounds of honey this year. He is a kindhearted, hospitable man, smart and energetic.

JOHN HUFNAGLE.

Mr. John Hufnagle, also a member of the farming community of this township, was born in Dauphin county, Pa., in 1850, but with his parents moved West in 1853 and located in this county. In 1873 he married Miss Maggie Sherring, a native of the State of Ohio. They have three children, John E., Winfield S. and Richard Walter. Mrs. Hufnagle is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOSEPH CASSEL.

Mr. Cassell is a veteran farmer on section 22. He was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, in 1815, and located in this county in 1837, where he worked at his trade as blacksmith for nine years. He discontinued this work in 1850 and went to farming, which he has continued since. He married Miss Sarah Lynch in 1833. She was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, and died in 1845, leaving five children, viz: Edwin, Esther A.

Calvin, Ephraim, Philip A. He was again married to Miss Laura Bosley in 1847, by whom he had four children, viz: Sarah, Emma A., Jennie and Sidney. He is an influential member of the Lutheran church, and was school director about twelve years and road master thirteen years. He had three sons in the army. Ephraim veteranized and was captured at Altoona. He was twice wounded, and was one of the first on the ramparts in the assault upon Vicksburg.

DAVID NIXON.

Mr. Nixon is a farmer, born in Scotland in 1816, and emigrated to this country in 1843, locating in Phoenixville, Pa., from whence he removed to Philadelphia, and staid one year, returning again to Phoenixville, where he lived until 1849. Disposing of his interests there, he embarked for the West, settling in Putnam county. He was married in 1838, and to them were born fifteen children. Seven of them are dead and eight living—viz., George, David, James, Emline, Cass, Nancy and Eliza. Two of his sons, William and Samuel, enlisted in the Union army, and lost their lives bravely battling for their country. Mr. N. is a member of the Presbyterian church, and township trustee.

JAMES A. PATTON.

Mr. Patton is an extensive farmer, who was born in this county in 1843, on the place he now occupies, and has ever since resided here. In 1864 he married Laura J. Blanchford, of Joliet, Will county, who has borne him three children, William A., Perlle A., and Claudia A. He owns three hundred and thirty-five acres of land, the greater part under a high state of cultivation. His improvements are first class, and his home very attractive.

JOHN NEWPORT.

Mr. Newport is a farmer, living on section 32; was born in Boone county, Kentucky, in 1832 and located in Putnam county in 1839. In 1855 he married Miss O. White, who has borne him twelve children, Lucy, Carrie, Alonzo, Ralph, Seymore, Julia, LaNora, Earl, Andrew, Lillian, James and Nathan. Mr. N. is a member of the Baptist church, and has been school director. He owns 160 acres of land, all of which is in a high state of cultivation.

MICHAEL CLAMENS.

Mr. Clamens is a citizen of Florid, born in Pennsylvania in 1806, and came to Putnam county in 1842. He is by trade a cooper, and followed it for fifteen years, when he turned farmer, and for some time run a threshing machine. He married in 1832 Miss Eliza Winters, and is the father of three children: Mary, Peter and Eliza. His wife was born in Pennsylvania. Mr. Clamens was for some time postmaster, and is a member of the Dunkard church. He owns forty acres adjoining Florid, and four houses in the village.

BENJAMIN SUTCLIFFE.

Mr. Sutcliffe first looked out upon the world in London, England, in 1835. When seventeen years old he enlisted and was sent with his regiment to the Crimea, where he participated in the hard fought battles of Inkerman and Alma, and took part in the memorable siege of Sebastopol. For gallant conduct and distinguished services he was personally complimented by Queen Victoria and presented with a medal, which he retains as a family heirloom. When the Indian mutiny broke out he volunteered in the Seventy-sixth Infantry, under marching orders for Delhi, in the East Indies, where he hoped to enter upon active service, but a letter from his mother, who had preceded him to this country, decided him to emigrate here, and with much reluctance the authorities granted him an honorable discharge. He arrived here in 1858 and in 1854 married Harriet L. Osborn, by whom he has two children living—Charles E. and John F., and four are dead. When the war of the rebellion broke out he promptly offered his services, enlisting in company K of the One hundred and fourth Illinois volunteer infantry, and was appointed ordnance officer of the Thirty-ninth regiment. Owing to poor health he was unable to assume duty, and was honorably discharged.

WILLIAMSON DURLEY,

The subject of this sketch is a farmer living on section 14, who was born in Colwell county, Kentucky, in 1810, and came to Sangamon co., in 1819, where he lived until 1831, when he emigrated to Putnam county, then recently organized. An uncle—John Durley, was associated with him, and together they embarked in the mercantile business, opening out a mile above the town. Their customers were principally Indians, though settlers were rapidly coming in. When the village was laid out they secured a lot and began the erection of a storehouse, to which they removed. In 1837 he purchased his present farm, and in 1844 retired from business and devoted himself to improving his real estate. His wife, whom he married in 1834, was Miss Elizabeth Winters, born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1810. They have eight children, one of whom is a prominent lawyer at Le Mars, Iowa. In politics Mr. Durley is a pronounced Republican, and has occupied advanced ground in politics, having been a leading member and organizer of the Union League. In pro-slavery times he was an active "free-soiler," in full sympathy with the leaders of the Liberty party, personally aiding in the escape of fugitives. He has been actively engaged in public life. For many years he was county commissioner, served as internal revenue assessor from the beginning of the war up to 1865. He has been an active promoter of the educational interests of the township, serving in all capacities; has served as justice of the peace, is often called to administer on estates and settle differences between neighbors. During the rebellion he was chosen to fill the township quota of enlistments, in which he was assisted by William Allen; is reporter for the Agricultural Bureau at Washington, and his opinions upon farming

matters are recognized authorities. In principle and practice Mr. Dur'ey is strictly temperate, and himself and wife members of the Congregational church of Hennepin. He owns one of the best farms in Putnam county, and takes pride in its management.

SIMON HEDRICK.

Mr. Hedrick is a merchant and farmer of Florid, who was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania in 1823, from whence he removed to Putnam county in October, 1850. For ten years he was a farmer, when he embarked in the lumber trade, and ran a saw mill for nine years. Began merchandising in 1871, and has followed it since. In 1852 he married Sarah J. Allen, a native of Pennsylvania. She died in August, 1864. There were born to them three children, who survive, George W., Thomas A. and John Wallace. Mr. Hendrick owns eighty acres of land adjoining the village of Florid.

R. A. RADLE.

Mr. Radle is a farmer living on section 26, born in Crawford county, Pa., in 1837, and emigrated to Illinois in 1856. Settled in Putnam county, where he began farming in 1862. He married Miss M. A. Patton in 1861. She was born and reared in Hennepin township. They have six children, Nettie L., Nina J., Carl A., Don A., Melissa A., and Reuben A. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a breeder of short-horn cattle, in which he takes much interest, and finds it very profitable. He is extensively engaged in the rubber bucket pump business, and is a dealer in pump supplies of all kinds.

GEORGE TAYLOR.

A farmer, living in section 24. He was born in Frederick county, Va., in 1811; came to this county in 1837, and permanently settled here two years later. He worked at his trade—that of a carpenter—for several years, but in 1849 turned his attention exclusively to farming. In 1841 he married Mrs. Amerilla Wycoff, a native of Ohio, by whom he has one child, Salina H. Mrs. Taylor has five children by a former marriage, Lucy, A. D., Harriet, Thos. R. and Hiram G., and one deceased. Mr. Taylor has served his township in the capacity of roadmaster, and is an estimable citizen. His home farm comprises 133 acres of land adjoining the village of Florid.

ASA CUNNINGHAM, J. P.

Mr. Cunningham was born in Virginia in 1812, but was raised in Washington county, Pa., where he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. In 1835 he came West and located in Magnolia, remaining there until 1862, when he was elected Sheriff of Putnam county, and removed to Hennepin, serving the county two terms in this position. In 1835 he married Mary Carpenter, a native of Lancaster county, Pa. He has three children, S. H., George M. and F. W. Mrs. C. died in 1878. Mr. Cunningham has been Justice of the Peace six years, and was collector four years. Both his sons, and William Rankin, his son-in-law, served in the army during the war of the rebellion, the latter being killed at the battle of Chattanooga.

WILLIAM A. KAYS.

Mr. Kays is a native of Indiana, where he was born in 1823, and came to Knox county in 1835, removing to Hennepin in 1837. In 1850 he married Miss Olive Hailey, who was born in Putnam county. They have eight children, Ellen, Jane, Sarah, James, Alice, William, Olive, and Wesley. He belongs to the Masonic order, and himself and wife are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Kays owns a hundred acres of land, is a good farmer, and breeder of fine blooded hogs. Three of his brothers served in the army, and one was killed in battle.

WILLIAM H. BROCK.

Mr. Brock is a wagon-maker, living in Florid. He was born in Rockingham county, Va., in 1836, and came to Putnam county in 1878. In 1870 he married Catharine Nixon, to whom four children have been given, viz., Nannie, David, Louis, and infant not named. Both himself and wife are members of the Dunkard church. He is a hard working man and good mechanic, owning two houses in town, a large outfit of tools, etc., and does all kinds of repairing and spring wagon work.

D. W. DANLEY.

Mr. Danley is a grain and produce dealer in Hennepin, who was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1820, and came to Peoria county in 1850. He engaged here in farming, and after six months removed to Marshall county, settling on the 'Reeves' property, whose story is told in this work. He purchased the place from Benjamin Lombard. He ran the farm until 1863, and then sold it to other parties. He began the grain trade in Henry in 1867, building up a large and extensive business. In 1865 he built one of the finest warehouses on the river, with a capacity of 130,000 bushels, which he sold in 1869. In 1868 he built the fine residence now owned by Mr. Wright. He then went to Ohio Station, in Bureau county, and built another warehouse at Bradford, in Stark county, and run both houses in connection with C. S. Loomis for two years. In 1873 he returned to Henry, and has been buying grain for Nicholson & Co. up to the present time. While the lock and dam were building Mr. Danley furnished large quantities of timber for it. In 1847 he married Nancy McCoy, daughter of Col. John McCoy, of Washington, Pa. She died in 1855. His present wife was Catherine A. Noe, of Elizabeth, N. J., whom he wedded in 1857. Three children are the fruits of this marriage, Eugenie N., born in 1860; Mary L., 1861; and Willis M., 1871. He was supervisor of Whitefield and Saratoga townships for six years, and in 1870 was elected supervisor from

Henry, which office he held until his removal from the county in 1878. Mr. Danley has taken a prominent part in everything pertaining to public interests, discharging the duties devolving upon him to the entire satisfaction of the public.

STEPHEN NEWBERN.

Mr. Newbern is a native of this county, having been born here in 1846, and married Miss Alvira Inks, a native of Pennsylvania, in 1867. They have two children, Albertus and Franklin. Mr. Newbern is president of the Protection Society of the township and cultivates one hundred acres of land. He is a breeder of and dealer in Chester White and Poland China hogs, having followed it several years.

J. M. COWEN.

Mr. Cowen is a prominent physician and surgeon of the city of Hennepin. He was born in Zanesville, Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1834, was a student in the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, from which institution he graduated March 2, 1858, and moved west, locating in Magnolia June 1, 1858, where he engaged in the practice of his profession until September, 1862, when he entered the army as assistant surgeon of the Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteers and continued in active service until February, 1865. He served with General Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley, was for about ten months surgeon in charge of the Twenty-eighth Illinois and Twenty-third Wisconsin, was almost continuously on detached hospital duty, was in charge of the transfer of the wounded from temporary to permanent hospitals after the battle of Cedar Creek, the occasion of Sheridan's celebrated ride, and was in charge of one hundred and twenty-five of the wounded after the battle of Winchester. September 27, 1860, he married Miss Amelia A. Dent, daughter of Judge Dent, of this county. She died November 3, 1875, leaving two children—Charles C. H. and Robert M. After his return to Magnolia he continued his practice in that place until March, 1869, when he moved to Hennepin. Mr. Cowen is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Masonic order,

DR. C. M. DUNCAN.

This gentleman is a practicing physician and surgeon of Hennepin. He was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 17, 1816, graduated from Beech Medical Institute in that city in 1837, and after practicing his profession in Philadelphia two years removed to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he also practiced two years. He then returned to Philadelphia. In 1842, at Louisville, Kentucky, he married Miss Jane E. Noxon, and in 1845 located in Hennepin. May 24, 1872, his wife died, leaving three children—Aspasia L., Zach. T., and Charles M. In 1875 he married Miss Vesta A. Turner, a native of Oxford county, Maine. He removed to Fairbury, Livingstone county, Illinois, in 1868, but returned to Hennepin in 1870, since which time he has followed his profession successfully, securing an extensive and lucrative practice.

JOSEPH B. ALBERT, J. P.

Mr. Albert is a Pennsylvanian by birth, having been born in Dauphin county in 1836, and came to Putnam county in 1842. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E of the One hundred and twenty-fourth Illinois volunteers, and served until the close of the war. At Lagrange, Tennessee, while on duty, he met with an injury that incapacitated him from further service, and he was honorably discharged May 15, 1865, and arrived home June 1. In 1867 he married Eliza Odehirk Davis, a native of Steuben county, New York, to whom one child has been born—Jessie Estelle. He has served several terms as school director and filled other public offices. He is proprietor of the Putnam county nurseries, and an extensive grower of trees of all kinds. Mr. Albert is building a fine residence the present season.

CHARLES O. TURNER.

Mr. Turner is a native of Hennepin, living on section 13. He was born in 1846, and in 1867 married Mattie Mowbery, also born in Hennepin, unto whom have been born four children, viz: May, Allie, Roy and Jennie. He enlisted in the One hundred and thirty-ninth regiment Illinois volunteers—one hundred day men—and was mustered in at Peoria. Mr. Turner is a farmer, and owns besides a portable saw mill, with which he manufactures large quantities of lumber.

DR. J. F. O'NEAL.

A resident of the village of Florid, and a practicing physician and surgeon. He was born in Juniata county, Pa., in 1843, was educated in Pennsylvania and studied medicine there, graduating from the medical institute of Cincinnati in 1874. He first located in Henry, where he began the practice of his profession in partnership with Dr. Kalb, with whom he had studied before graduating. In the fall of 1874 he removed to Florid, and by industrious and studious attention to the profession of his choice has built up a large and lucrative practice. He has recently erected a very pleasant residence, the best possible evidence that he has come to stay; and as he is an earnest student and lover of his profession, and withal a pleasant sociable gentleman who improves on acquaintance is a valuable acquisition to the community.

OAKES TURNER.

Mr. Turner lives on sections 13 and 14, and was born in Oxford county, in the state of Maine, in 1838, removed west in 1834 and located at Hennepin. He was an excellent penman and accountant and in 1836 was appointed county clerk and circuit clerk in 1838, which office he held by appointment until 1847. In the spring of 1848 he was appointed county treasurer to fill the unexpired term of Jos. Catlin who removed from the county, was re-elected

in 1856 and again in 1857. He served the county in different capacities until he refused to be a candidate any further. In 1841 he served as assignee in nearly all the cases of bankruptcy. Since his retiracy he has been engaged in farming and owns a fine place of 400 acres, well improved and under a high state of cultivation. In 1840 he married Rebecca Butler by whom he has five children, Virginia (Mrs. Leech) Charles O., Mac and James W. In 1847 he served as a member of the constitutional convention. In the summer of 1835 he put up a carding machine for Fairfield & Leeper on Little Bureau above Leepertown, and run it that season. It was the second enterprise of the kind in this part of the state. Mr. Turner has been in active business all his life, and made one of the best public officers the county ever had.

JOHN LEHMANN.

Mr. Lehmann is a farmer living on section 23, and was born in Germany 1824. He emigrated to Canada in 1854, and came to this county four years later, or in 1858. His wife was formerly Catherine Snover, to whom he was married in 1859 at Hennepin. Her native country was Germany. Their children are Amelia, Anthony, Christopher, Lena, John, Katie and Minnie. Mr. Lehmann owns 240 acres of land in a high state of cultivation and his buildings are first-class. He is one of the live men of the place and a warm patron of whatever promotes the interest of the community.

JOSEPHUS PHELPS.

Mr. Phelps is a native of Worcester, Mass., where he was born in 1804. In 1820 he enlisted in the regular army and served three years, after which he settled in Putnam county about 1833. In 1840 he married Miss Lydia Clark of Onondago county, New York and to them were born seven surviving children, Mary, Fabius E., Irene, Irvin, Flavius J. and Charles F. Mr. Phelps' patriotism was inherited in his sons, two of whom became soldiers in the late war. Fabius belonged to the 105th Ill. volunteers and shared with Sherman the glory of the march to the sea. At Atlanta he was taken prisoner and was confined in Andersonville two months. Another son, Arthur, was in the 100 day service. Mr. Phelps in the olden time occasionally assisted escaping negroes on their way to Canada. He owns and cultivates a small farm on which he resides.

JOSEPH FORNEY.

A prominent citizen of Florid, engaged in the grocery business. He was born in the State of Ohio in 1850, but with his parents came to Bureau county when only two years of age. In 1873 he married Miss Mary O'Neal, whose birth-place was in Dauphin county, Pa. They have two children, La Roy and Frank. Mr. Forney has been successfully engaged in business on his own account something over six years, and in Florid since March, 1879. He has a new store and dwelling, carries a large and well-assorted stock of goods, and is prepared to sell on as favorable terms as any other dealer in his line.

WILLIAM STEILL.

This gentleman is a blacksmith by trade, carrying on business at Florid, in Putnam county. He was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1854, and came to this county in 1872, staying two years in New York, and reaching Putnam county in 1874. The year after he married Maggie Hamel, a native of the same locality with himself. They have two children, Freddie and Lewis. Mrs. S. is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Steil is an expert mechanic, and does all kinds of repair work, horse-shoeing and jobbing. He owns a very pleasant home in Florid.

JOHN BRUMFIELD.

Mr. Brumfield is a farmer, who came from Wayne county, Indiana, where he was born in 1831, coming here with his parents when one year old, and has ever since lived in Putnam county. In 1862 he became a soldier, enlisting in Company E, One hundred and twenty-fourth Illinois volunteers, and serving until mustered out at Chicago in 1865. Returning from service he married Margaret Markley, born in Missouri, and to them have been born three children, viz: Cora, Jessie and Mary. Mrs. B. is a member of the M. E. church. They own a fine farm of one hundred acres, well improved. Mr. B. is industrious, careful and thrifty.

HENRY GRINER.

Mr. Griner is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Lancaster county in 1813, and emigrated to Putnam county in 1863, locating in Hennepin township. He married Martha E. Spalmon in 1839, also from Lancaster county. She died February 18, 1879. The names of their children were Mary E., Sarah J., Susan, Maria, Rachel, Annie and John.

ASAPH PARMALEE.

Mr. Parmalee is a farmer and was born in Putnam county, in the house in which he now resides, in 1851. He was married in 1872 to Miss Agnes Thomas, likewise a native of Putnam county. They have one child, Irton, born in 1875. Mr. Parmalee is a member of the local protection society and cultivates about one hundred acres of land.

JAMES L. PATTERSON.

Mr. Patterson is a farmer and mechanic, living in Florid. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1843, coming to Putnam county in 1860. When the rebellion broke out, he promptly offered his services, enlisting in the

531 Illinois Volunteers, and serving until mustered out at Springfield at the close of the war. While on forage duty at Moscow, Tenn., he was captured by the rebels, but made his escape three days later. Again he was captured at Jackson Miss. July 12th, 1863 and confined in Libbey prison, Castle Thunder and Belle Isle for four months. Came home on a furlough; and though never having been exchanged, and legally not compelled to serve, he went, and at the hard-fought battle before Atlanta was captured while on a charge to recover the body of Gen. McPherson. This time he was sent to Andersonville, where he endured a living death for ten months, suffering all that man could and live. He helped construct the great tunnel, and was one of the first who passed through. Himself and two others had got seventy-five miles away, when they were tracked by blood-hounds and captured by Texas Rangers. When returned, they were hucked and gagged, and the most inhuman tortures inflicted upon them. From Andersonville they were removed to Macon, Georgia, and from thence to Jacksonville, Florida, and retained until after the surrender of Lee, April 9 1865. He married Lorinda Cole, a native of Illinois. He is a member of the Andersonville Association of the U. S.

WILLIAM ALLEN.

Mr. Allen is a farmer and stock raiser, who was born in Devonshire, England, in 1812 and came to America in 1832. He first located in Philadelphia, where, after a stay of seven years, he came to Putnam county, reaching here in May, 1839. In 1838 he married Mary Fairgraves, of Edinburg, Scotland. They have five children living, John, Mary, Martha, Annie J. and Willie. His family are members of the M. E. church. He has been a successful stock raiser and dealer for twenty years; is a good farmer, and is president of the Buel Institute. He has served as supervisor of the township several times. Mr. Allen is also an apiarist, and has about fifty stands of bees.

MRS. FLORA ZENOR.

Mrs. Zenor is widow of the late H. K. Zenor, deceased, who came to Hennepin in 1831, nearly fifty years ago and embarked in farming, at which he was very successful. Their children are Mary, who became Mrs. Thorn; Dillie, Mrs. Seaton; Milista, Mrs. Shepard; George, Richard, Henry, John and Harley B. The latter is the only one now at home. He was born where he now resides, in 1855, and is a member, as also was his father before him, of the I. O. O. F. The homestead embraces 340 acres, under a high state of cultivation, and the parties own two other farms up the river.

WILLIAM WAUGH.

Mr. Waugh, deceased, was born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1798, and in 1833 married Amelia Frazer, a native of Somerset county, born in 1815. They arrived West in 1839, locating at Peru, and came to Putnam county in 1853. They have eight children living—viz., Mary, Ellen, Richard, Jane, William, James, Edwin and Armstead. Mr. Waugh died in 1873, having lived a long and useful life, and been very successful in his undertakings. They have a finely cultivated farm of 300 acres. Four sons, each with families, live at home.

GEORGE McLEAN.

Mr. McLean is a farmer living in section 36, and was born in New York in 1835; came West in 1853, and located in McHenry county, removing to Putnam county in 1862. In 1861 he was married to Elizabeth Lincoln, who was born in New York State. They have five children, George W., Cora J., Charles H., Jennie B. and Elizabeth. He owns 200 acres of land, one half of which is well improved. Mr. McLean is a member of the Masonic order, a skillful farmer, and receives a large income from his labors.

MRS. MATTIE BRUMFIELD.

Mrs. Brumfield, widow, was born in Putnam county. She married Mr. Augustus Brumfield in December, 1869. He was a native of Wayne county, Indiana; went to California in 1850, and remained until 1866, when he returned and located in this county. He died April 28, 1869. Mrs. Brumfield is a daughter of Mr. William Allen, of Hennepin. She is a lady of unassumed delicacy, and is deeply grieved by her great loss in the death of her late husband. She owns over 200 acres of land in the neighborhood of Hennepin, the county seat of Putnam county.

MARTIN NASH.

Mr. Nash was born in Morgan county, Illinois in 1830, and came to this county, where (with his parents in 1835), he has ever since resided here. His father and mother died in 1876 and 1878 respectively. In 1859 Mr. Nash married Miss Charlotte Noble, a native of Ohio, who died in 1872, leaving four children, Charles N., Leonard W., Henrietta B. and Nellie. His present wife, Sarah J. Mead, he married in 1874. She is a native of New York city. Mr. N. is a successful farmer, and the duties of the house are well cared for by Mrs. N. They are members of the Congregational church.

THOMAS W. SHEPARD.

Mr. Shepard was born in Mason county, Kentucky, in 1812, and when still a boy removed to Indiana. He came to Putnam county in 1835, and married Miss Catherine Ham in 1844. She was born in New York. Seven children have been the result of the union, Rachel, James, Thomas, George E., Ella, Richard and Eli Grant. Mr. Shepard has always taken an active interest in public schools, having served 14 years as director, and several as road commissioner. He is a large landholder owning 335 acres, besides other property; is a member of the Local Pro-

tective Society, organized for the apprehension of horse-thieves and the protection of property. In early life he followed boating and after coming to Illinois worked at wagon making; was in the lumber business some time, and one year sold goods in Florid; has been extensively engaged in the ice trade, following it seven years; has been a farmer thirty-five years, and, in addition to his home farms, owns a section of land in Kansas and lands in Wisconsin.

W. S. BENEDICT.

Mr. Benedict is a successful farmer, who was born in Marion township, Linn county, Iowa, in 1848, and came to Putnam county in 1878. In January of that year he married Ada Wilde, who was born in this county in 1854. They have one child, Lyman E. They own 264 acres, which, under his energetic management, is being put in first-class condition. They also have an interest in the unsettled estate of Mr. Benedict, grandfather of Mr. W. S. Benedict.

JACOB ZENOR.

Mr. Zenor (deceased) was a native of Louisville, Ky., and was born in 1812. He came to this county in 1831 and up to his death was engaged in farming. May 1st, 1838 he wedded Alvina Skeels, a native of Ohio, and their union was blessed with nine children, Lucy E., Emeline, Charles A., Francis, William E., James H., Nancy A., Annie May, and Lewis A. Mr. Zenor died August 16, 1879. The father of Mrs. Zenor (Skeels) was one of the earliest settlers of Hennepin, coming here in 1830. He died in 1841. Her mother lived until Sept., 1879, dying at the good old age of 90.

LAMBERT WINTERSCHIEDT.

Mr. Winterscheidt is a farmer living on section 1, and was born in Prussia in 1820, coming to this country in 1845. He came to Hennepin in 1847 and married Mary Dreasen in 1848. She was born in Prussia on the river Rhine, Dec. 12, 1828. They have had nine children, Elizabeth, William H., Mary J., Wilhelmina, Josephine, William Augustus, Georgie, and two deceased. Mr. Winterscheidt possesses all the industry and thrift of his people and owns a finely cultivated farm of 214 acres. Has served several terms as school director and filled other offices. Before coming to this country he served three years in the Prussian army.

JOHN CAROTHERS.

Mr. Carothers is superintendent of the Putnam county poor house which he manages to the satisfaction of those concerned. He was born in Canada in 1825 and moved to Boston, Mass., where he lived several years, emigrating to Putnam county in 1866. In 1859 he married Mary Ann Buchanan, of Boston, to whom one child, James A., was born. Mr. C. and wife are members of the M. E. church. Mr. C. attends the county farm of thirty acres paying a rental of \$155 yearly, and furnishes the paupers board at an agreed on price, the county providing suitable quarters.

JACOB J. CROISSANT.

Mr. Croissant is a farmer and was born in Bureau county in 1849. He moved to Peru with his parents in 1862 where he resided until March 1879, when he purchased his present farm and moved to Hennepin. Married Miss Elizabeth Orth in 1869. She was born in Pennsylvania. They have three children, Caroline, Aramina and Annie. Mr. C. is a member of the German Benevolent society, of Peru, of which he was secretary five years, up to March 1879. He owns 170 acres of land, well improved. He is a ship caulker by trade which he followed part of the time, and served several years in a store.

ARCHIBALD GERROW.

Mr. Gerrow was born in county Antrim, Ireland, in 1857, from where he emigrated in 1863, coming to Putnam county and locating in Hennepin township, where he remained four years and then moved to Livingston county, Ill. In 1875 he returned to Hennepin and married Miss Rachel Shepherd. She was born in Florid, Hennepin township. They have two children, Eddie and Carrie. Mr. Gerrow farms 60 acres, well improved, and is one of the most promising young farmers in this prosperous township.

WILLIAM S. COLEMAN.

The subject of this sketch was born in Putnam county in 1845, and moved with his parents to California in 1847, being among the first emigrants to the "sunset lands." They journeyed with ox teams and their trip was long and eventful. On the way Mr. C. met with an accident, the consequences of which have followed him through life. The family returned from California in 1851 and in 1871 he married Margaretta Ranch, by whom he has two children living, Francis M., and Albertus. Mr. Coleman owns 100 acres of land and his farm is under a high state of cultivation.

BARNERD CALEY.

Mr. Caley is a farmer of Hennepin township and was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, in 1840. In 1861 he enlisted in company C. of the 1st Lancaster Light Artillery and participated in much of the heavy fighting of the peninsula. Owing to wounds received in action he was discharged at Harrison's Landing July 20th, 1863, and returned home. Feb. 20th he enlisted in the cavalry and became a member of company G. of the 20th Pennsyl-

vania cavalry, serving until the close of the war. When mustered out of the artillery he was orderly sargent and his commission had been made out as Lieutenant. He was 1st duty sargent in the cavalry. After the war was over he married Fannie Ellinger in 1867 and turned farmer. She was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH ALLEN.

Mr. Allen has been postmaster of Florid twelve years. His native state is Pennsylvania where he was born in Danphin county in 1826. He came to Illinois in 1841, locating in Putnam county. His first job was shaving oak shingles at which he worked three years, and then began coopering, following it eight years. Then he tried farming, following the plow fifteen years, and next became a merchant. After four years service he sold out and went to butchering and dealing in produce. For some time he worked for Mr. Hedrick in the store. Is a member of the Methodist church and of the Local Protection Association of Putnam county.

JOHN BUNGES.

Mr. Bunes is a farmer, living on section 36, Hennepin township. He was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in 1828, and came to this country in 1852, locating at Aurora, Illinois, from whence he came to Putnam county in 1866. He was married to Susannah Bedesheim (born in Prussia), in 1857, by whom he has four children, August, Maggie, Mary and Lizzie. They are members of the Catholic church of Hennepin, and own eighty acres of land.

HULDAH BOYLE.

Mrs. Boyle is the widow of Burns Boyle, who died in 1860, leaving five children, their names being as follows: Albert, Joseph, Emery, Isaac and Emily. Isaac lives at home with his mother, and manages their farm of 183 acres, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation. He was born in this county in 1857.

CHARLES COLEMAN.

Mr. Coleman is a farmer, who was born in Huntington county, New Jersey, in 1817, and emigrated West in 1814, locating in this county. The gold fever of 1847, that carried so many men off, took him to California, where he remained four years. He married Jane L. Laue in 1845 the results of the union being five children, William S., John B., Richard S., and Charlie and Jennie (twins). Mr. Coleman has been very successful in his undertakings, has a pleasant home, and owns 390 acres of land; has seen much of the world, is a close observer and good judge of human nature.

JOEL WHITAKER.

Mr. Whitaker is a farmer, living on section 36, in Hennepin township. He was born in Cumberland county, New Jersey, in October, 1815, and located in Putnam county with his parents in May, 1835, where he has lived ever since. February 2, 1854, Mr. W. married Mrs. Jane Noble (Leech), who bore them seven children, Harriet, Louis, Adda, Frank, Lucinda, Jennie, and Joel Henry. Mr. W. is commissioner of Highways, and treasurer of the school board, and himself and wife are members of the Baptist church of Granville. He owns a fine farm of 220 acres, with good improvements, and is regarded as one of the solid men of the county.

WILLIAM WEEKS.

Mr. Weeks is a stock dealer, and has a meat market in Hennepin. He was born in Devonshire, England, in 1854, and came to this country in 1875, locating in Hennepin, where he commenced business for himself. He was married June 6, 1879, to Miss Ida Doye (born in Henry, Marshall county, Ill.) Himself and wife are members of the M. E. church. Mr. W. has for some time been a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge; and by close application and thoroughly understanding the wants of the public, has built up a good business, and his market is a popular resort for all desiring anything in his line.

JOHN H. RAUCH.

Mr. Rauch is a farmer, living on section 35. He was born in South Hanover township, Danphin county, Pennsylvania, in 1847. Came west in 1866 and located in Putnam county. He married Miss Marian J. Stouffer in 1871. She was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. They have two children living, Annie L. and Jennie M., and two deceased twins. He is school trustee and a member of the local protection society, of which he has been treasurer. He owns ninety-seven acres of land, with good improvements and in a high state of cultivation.

BENJAMIN COOK.

Mr. Cook is a native of Dupage county, having been born in Joliet in 1852, and moved to Livingston county in 1869. From thence he went to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1875, and came to Putnam in 1878. He married Miss Susan Dysart in 1875, a native of Putnam county, and to them have been born two children, Harvey and Bartie. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Hennepin. Mr. C. cultivates 230 acres of land adjoining Hennepin.

CHARLES TRIERWEILER.

Mr. Trierweiler is a carriage painter by trade and an extensive manufacturer of carriages, wagons, etc. He is a Prussian by birth, and was born in the town of Welschbillig, December 26, 1824. He came to the United States in 1847, locating at first in Michigan, whence he removed to Chicago, and after a short stay he started for St. Louis, taking steamboat at Peru. The boat on which he embarked stopped awhile at Hennepin, and going ashore he be-

came interested in the ineffectual attempts of several men to shce a wild horse. Remarking he could do the job he was invited to try his hand, which he did and succeeded. Tempting offers were made for him to remzin, which he did. He worked one year for wages and another as partner. In 1850 he began business with John Hughes, and has been here ever since. In 1853 he married Susan Kneip, and is the father of five children, Lizzie, Margaret Mary, Annie P and Charles M. Another Louis, died in 1879. Mr. Trierweiler is an ingenious mechanic and good workman, and does a large amount of repairing.

GEORGE W. ELLINGER.

Mr. Ellinger was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, in 1839, and came west in 1868, locating in Putnam county. Was married to Anna Mary Rauch in 1868 a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania. When the call went out for "six hundred thousand more" Mr. Ellinger enlisted in the One hundred and twentieth Pennsylvania nine months men, and served until discharged. Enlisted again in the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania for three months, and was mustered out; enlisted in the one hundred day service and served his time, and then enlisted again, and was finally mustered out at the close of the war. Was slightly wounded at Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he participated in two fights.

JAMES S. ZENA.

Mr. Zena is a farmer, living on section 33, in Hennepin township. He was born in Jefferson county, Kentucky, in 1820, and came to Putnam county with his parents in 1830. He has followed farming all his life, except two years spent in California (1850 and 52), on the Central Railroad two years, and in the blacksmithing business three years. In 1857 he married Miss Maria Leech (born in Ohio and raised in Putnam county). They have five children, Francis M., Robert E., Arthur, Charles J., and Katie. Mr. Zena and wife have been members of the Methodist church for the past twelve years, and Mr. Z. has faithfully discharged the duties of school trustee for about twelve years.

C. WOOD.

Mr. Wood is a retired farmer, living in Hennepin. He was born in Brownsville, Fayette county, Pa., in 1820, and moved to Warren county, Ohio, with his mother, when he was only two years old, and came to Putnam county in 1854, locating in Magnolia township, where he remained until 1869, when he moved to Hennepin. He was married to Miss Martha Cresley in 1862. They have only one child, Ida, who was born in 1859. Mr. W. still owns his fine farm in Magnolia township, which he rents out. He has been a successful farmer, taking a lively interest in everything pertaining to agriculture, and is now living on the income from his property.

MARTIN BAUMAN.

Mr. Bauman is a manufacturer and dealer in furniture, and a Prussian by birth, having been born in the principality of Hesse-Darmstadt November 24 1819. Finding little chance for a man to rise in the old world he determined to emigrate to the United States, and landed at New York April 14. 1851. He worked at his trade there four and a half years and came to Hennepin in 1856, where he established himself in business and has continued it ever since. In 1855 he was married to Miss Anna Reinhardt, in Columbia county New York, a citizen of his native place, to whom have been born two children, Mary and Philip. Before coming to this country he served six years in the army.

ALFORD MONROE.

Mr. Monroe is a merchant of Hennepin. He was born in New York City in 1815, moved to Putnam county in 1845, located in the village of Hennepin, and started a grocery store. In 1842 he married Margaret J. Condit, who was also a native of New York City, and three children have blessed their union,— George, Frank L. and Marietta. Mr. Monroe belongs to the Society of Quakers, while his wife is of the Universalist denomination. He followed steamboating many years, was an outspoken anti-slavery man in the exciting times during the operation of the Fugitive Slave Law, and refused to let a slave-holder preach the Gospel to his deck hands.

G. R. S. BURNEY.

Mr. Burney is proprietor of the leading confectionery, oyster and ice cream saloon in the place, established in 1879. He is a son of W. H. G. Burney, a well known printer and editor of marked ability; who died in 1869. Mr. B. keeps a large supply of fruits, nuts, oysters, candy, cigars and tobacco, and his rooms for ice cream and oyster parties are elegantly furnished.

GEORGE F. STANTON.

Mr. Stanton was born in Fountain City, Wayne county, Indiana, in 1856, and came to Hennepin along with his parents in 1857, where he received his education and thoroughly qualified himself for his profession. He is a son of Dr. Stanton, an old and experienced physician and present treasurer of the county. George Stanton has been conversant with the drug business since he was fourteen years old, and is a careful, competent prescription clerk. At present he is in the employ of Mr. McCook.

C. P. TOWLE.

Mr. Towle is a harness maker by trade and was born in Brunswick, Rensselaer county, New York, in 1828. When two years old his parents came to Gallatin county, Illinois, and from thence they went to Hickman, Ken-

tucky. From there they removed to Arkansas in 1850. After some stay at each place, working at his trade, he returned to Kentucky, and from thence came to Illinois in 1853. Here he married Miss S. J. Story, of Granville, and they began housekeeping. They have seven children, John, Clara, Ada, Mattie, Jennie, Charloin and Walker. Is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders.

THEODORE CLASSON.

Mr. Classon was born in Prussia in 1844, and came to the United States in 1864, locating on section 12 of Hennepin township. Concluding it was not good for man to be alone, he married Miss Christina Clef in 1875. She was born in Bavaria, Germany. They have one child, William, born in Hennepin. Mr. C. owns and cultivates one hundred acres of land. Himself and wife are members of the Catholic church of Hennepin.

W. B. BARMORE.

Mr. Barmore is a stock dealer and the proprietor of a meat market in Hennepin. He was born in New York in 1818, and located in Hennepin in 1852. He commenced business in January, 1853, and has continued in business since. He married Miss Henrietta V. Anderson, who was a native of N. J. They have three children, Watterilla, Edward H. and Henry C. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and a Mason, and is the longest established butcher in Hennepin.

WILLIAM EDDY.

Mr. Eddy is one of the very few men who make merchandising a success. He was born in Wilmington, Windham county, Vermont, 1831, came to Hennepin in 1844 as a clerk, and established his present business in 1853. Two years later, in 1855, he married Elizabeth B. Casson, a native of Brownsville, Fayette county, Penn., to whom four children have been given, William E., Mary L., Alice C. and Harry C. Mr. Eddy is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. of twenty-five years standing, having been initiated the first night of its organization. He has the finest store room in the counties of Marshall or Putnam, and does a heavy trade. He is a progressive citizen, and the man to succeed where others fail.

G. A. McCORMICK.

Mr. McCormick is in the drug and medicine trade at Hennepin, doing a good business. He was born in Davis county, Indiana, in 1845, enlisted in Co. B, 120th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in 1863, and was discharged in 1864 through disability. After his discharge he settled in Indiana for a short time, but came to Illinois in 1866. He married Miss Angeretta Simpson in 1870, and in 1876 she died, leaving three children, Ira, Ida and Edna. In 1877 he married Miss Mary Fitzpatrick. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and an active, energetic and successful business man.

J. W. MARKLY.

Mr. Markly is a native of Hennepin, and first saw light here in August 30, 1855. He received his education at Bloomington, and having decided upon his present business, established himself here in 1877. His next move was to look about for a helpmeet, and very happily he found one in the person of Jennie Greiner, whom he married in 1878. He is a liberal dealer and carries a large stock of hardware, stoves, shelf goods, guns, ammunition, etc. He is one of the five business men of Hennepin.

J. H. HYLER.

Mr. Hyler was born in the city of New York in 1833. When the war broke out and a call was made for soldiers to put down the rebellion, he enlisted in the Ninth New Jersey Infantry, and served three years and three months, participating in some of the hardest battles of the war. At Kingston, N. C., he was wounded in the hand. He came West in 1864, and located in Hennepin. In 1870 he married Jennie Glass, by whom he had five children, Henry, Jennie, Hester, Maggie and Florence. He has been in the saloon and billiard business here since May, 1879.

L. T. LEECH.

Mr. Leech is proprietor of the City Hotel of Hennepin and was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, January 19, 1833. He came to Putnam county Sept. 15th, 1849. In 1872 he embarked in the restaurant business and has ministered to the public ever since. In 1871 he married Elizabeth A. Davis, formerly of Morgan county, Ohio, to whom two children have been born, Charles E. and William L. By a former marriage he has two daughters, Jennie and Kate M. Himself and wife are members of the Congregational church of Hennepin. Mr. L. keeps a good house in which he is ably assisted by his wife. Mrs. Leech was the daughter of Mrs. Ellis, well remembered among the older citizens of Lacon as a milliner and dress-maker. His table is well supplied and it is popular with the traveling public.

WM. H. LUCAS.

Ferryman at Hennepin. Mr. Lucas was born in Davis county, Ind., in 1812, and located in Hennepin in 1861. In 1862 he enlisted at Chicago in company D, of the 68th Ill. Volunteer Infantry and was mustered out after four months service. In 1863 he re-enlisted in company H., 20th Ill. Volunteers and served until the close of the war. On the 22d of July, 1864, he, with the entire command to which he belonged, about 1700 in all, was captured at Peach

Tree Creek, taken to Andersonville, thence to Charleston, thence to Florence, S. C., where he remained until paroled on the 13th of December. April 13th, 1865, he was exchanged, mustered out of service and returned to Indiana. In September, 1865, he married Nancy Lester, also a native of Indiana. They have one child living, Minnie May, and four dead. They are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Lucas lost his health by long confinement in rebel prisons, and deserves from the government more substantial recognition than he has received for this irreparable loss sustained in defense of the country and its flag.

P. B. DURLEY.

A native of this county, born in the village of Hennepin in 1839. He received his education at Wheaton college, and during the last twelve years has been engaged in the mercantile business. In 1866 he married Miss Ada Untback. She died in 1876, leaving one child, Ada Kate. July 29th, 1862, Mr. Durley enlisted in company E, 124th Ill. Volunteer Infantry and served as quarter master's sergeant during his term of service—three years, being mustered out at Chicago at the close of the war. In December, 1875, he received the appointment of postmaster at Hennepin, which position he still holds.

RICHARD BENTLEY.

Mr. Bentley is a barber and hairdresser in the city of Hennepin, where he was born in 1855. He has been engaged in business for himself since 1877. In 1876 he married Carrie Kessler, a native of Harrisburg, Pa. They have two children, Mary and Della. Mr. Bentley is a son of William and Cerena Bentley, who came to Hennepin in 1861. He is an industrious and enterprising young business man.

L. M. G. NOYES.

Mr. Noyes is a painter residing in the city of Hennepin. He was born in Minott, Maine, in 1820, but in the same year his parents moved to Baltimore, Md., where he resided until 1833, when he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, to attend school. In 1838 he went to St. Louis, remained there until 1843, and then located in Hennepin, which has since been his home. In 1845 he married Mary E. Brumfield, a native of Wayne county, Ind. They have one child, Augustus T. For seventeen years Mr. Noyes was engaged in steamboating on the western and southwestern rivers. Mrs. Noyes' with her parents, resided in Putnam county during the Indian wars, and found refuge in the block house at Ottawa during those troublesome times. Her father moved to Putnam county and located his farm in 1833. Her mother is still living.

AUGUST NEY & Co.

Photographers. These gentlemen came to Hennepin and established their present business in 1879, coming from Galesburg where they run a similar business. Mr. Ney, the principal operator, has very few equals in his profession, being an artist of rare merit whose work readily commends itself. They possess the only gallery in Hennepin, where pictures in the latest styles can be had, and have received a liberal patronage. Prices for cabinet size \$5 per dozen, and small size \$2.

JOHN GOWDEY.

Mr. Gowdey is a dealer in boots and shoes in Hennepin. He was born in Orange county, New York, in 1816, moved to Newark, New Jersey, in 1829, and to Hennepin in 1855. He followed farming for about fifteen years, realizing a net profit in that time of about \$15,000 over all expenses. He then in 1870 retired with a comfortable income, but like thousands of others he tried his luck on the grain board in Chicago, and lost his \$15,000 in a short time, not through lack of judgment, but by the trickery of the professional operators. He took his loss like a philosopher, and went to work at his trade, at which he has worked steadily since 1871. He married Miss M. V. Russell in 1836, who is a native of New Jersey. Their children are James H., John B., Sarah E., and Jane A. His oldest son, Russell, was killed in the late war in Georgia, after re-enlisting as a veteran, having been in twenty-three battles. His two younger sons also served in the army, as well as Mr. Gowdey himself, who enlisted in the First Illinois Cavalry, July 3, 1861, furnishing his own horse and equipments. He was captured at Lexington, Mo., under Colonel Malligan, and was robbed of all his clothing except his underclothes, in which condition he was sent to procure transportation for the sick and wounded after the capture and parole. He met an old negro woman, who was very anxious to find one of Price's rebel officers, for whom she had a basket of clean clothes. She asked Mr. Gowdey if he knew the officer. He replied, "Oh, of course I do. I will take these clothes to him. How much do you want?" He paid her seventy-five cents, and got a suit of clothes and a good supply of clean linen, worth about \$40.00. He returned to camp so dressed up that his Colonel did not know him. He was discharged at St. Louis in 1862. Mr. Gowdey discovered and assisted to capture the burglar Holbrook, an account of which is given in full in this work. His family are members of the M. E. church, is a Good Templar, a man of more than ordinary information, and qualified for a more prominent position in the ranks of humanity.

PATRICK DORE.

Mr. Dore is a native of County Kerry, Ireland, and came to Hennepin in 1850, having walked from Chicago to Peru, and traveled thence by stage. His destination was Peoria, but meeting with a chance for an engagement with John Ware, proprietor of the hotel, he engaged at \$8.00 per month, which was soon after raised to \$10.00, and finally to \$13.00. Though the wages were small, he was economical and saved his earnings, thereby laying the foundation of the very comfortable independence he now enjoys. After leaving there he engaged with Minihan &



Mrs Arvilla Howe

WENONA, ILL.

Simpson, lumber and grain dealers, with whom he stayed over four years. In 1858 he began business in a small way for himself, first familiarizing himself with its details and the wants of the public, and increasing it as his means allowed and the public demanded. His business to-day is second to none in Putnam county, and his great success is due to strict integrity, inflexible honesty with the public, square dealing and meeting his obligations promptly. His large store and warehouse are filled from cellar to garret with seasonable goods, one floor being devoted exclusively to the wholesale and retail sale of clothing; the main floor to dry goods, groceries and notions, and the basement to boots and shoes. In the decoration of his store Mr. Dore is unexcelled, his fine room setting off his rich goods to great advantage. His stock of clothing is not excelled west of Chicago. He owns 720 acres of land in this county, most of it under cultivation; 160 acres in Iowa, and city property in Nebraska. In 1857 he wedded Margaret Rooney, and they have four surviving children, John, Thomas, Margaret, and Ellen. Mr. Dore and wife are members of the Catholic Church, and he is a respectable, public spirited citizen.

ANDREW C. NOXON.

Mr. Noxon was born in New York City in 1840, and came west when thirteen years old, making his home in Hennepin. By profession he is a civil engineer, and his services as a surveyor are often in demand. He embarked in the drug trade in 1867, and has built up a fine paying business. In 1875 he was elected surveyor, and has since filled the position. He is thoroughly competent, and well up in the theory and practice of civil engineering.

SAMUEL H. SMITH.

Mr. Smith is an attorney at law and lumber dealer in Hennepin. He was born in Trenton, N. J., in 1835, and with his parents came to Putnam county the same year. In 1858 he married Mary J. Schooler, a native of this county, and daughter of Hugh N. Schooler, one of the first settlers. They have four children, Collins D., Mary L., Collie S. and Hugh N. Mr. S. was admitted to the bar in 1869, since which time he has been engaged in the practice of his profession. Commenced the lumber business in 1876. Is a member of the Masonic order.

M. SCHILZ.

A manufacturer of boots and shoes and dealer in ready-made clothing, in Hennepin. Was born in Prussia, in 1824, came to the United States in 1850, and located in Hennepin in 1851. He worked at his trade as a journeyman until 1853, when he started in business for himself. In 1853 he married Agnes Waggoner, a native of Bavaria. They have four children, George, Mary E., Modasta T. and Josephine. Are members of the Catholic church.

J. G. BELL.

This gentleman, senior member of the firm of Bell & Son, millers, of Hennepin, was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1829. He located in this county in 1856, followed farming one year, and then moved to Ottawa, where he engaged in the milling business until the spring of 1879, when he and his son took the Union Mill of Hennepin, put it in thorough repair, and are now successfully running, with a capacity of sixty barrels per day. In 1854 Mr. Bell married Mary Henning, a native of Ireland. They have six children, Alfred, Ada, George, Anna, Cora and Jane. Mr. B. is a member of the Lutheran church.

GEO. C. READ.

Mr. Read was born in the town of Strong, in the State of Maine, in 1838, and came to Putnam county in 1845. By trade he is a painter, which business he followed up to 1861, when he threw down the brush and took up the saber, enlisting in Company E., Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and was detailed as musician, in which capacity he served until mustered out. Returning to Putnam county, he married Lizzie Bowman in 1870, who was born in Virginia, and has two children, Bessie and Willie. Mr. Read was elected Sheriff in 1876, and still holds the position, making an energetic and reliable public officer.

C. B. GREINER.

Mr. Greiner was born in the province of Alsace, France, though his native place now is a component part of the great German empire. Wishing to become a citizen of the United States, he embarked for this country in 1852, and engaged in business in Hennepin in 1856. In the same year he married Sophia Ehmler, who is a native of Prussia, and to them six children have been born, Annie Charles O., Jennie, Ida, Charlotte and George. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and belongs to the Masonic order.

ADAM DECK.

Mr. Deck is a watchmaker and jeweler, born in Pennsylvania, and brought here by his parents in 1851. He was educated here, and likewise learned his trade, establishing himself in business in 1875. Few men are more competent to handle and repair fine watches and jewelry. He is conscientious in business, and personally attends to all matters. He carries a large stock of goods, is prompt, energetic, and will win success if any man can.

W. H. BENTLY.

Mr. Bently was born in Bond county, Ill., in 1845, and came here in 1850. In 1863 he enlisted in Co. H, Twentieth Illinois Volunteers, and served until the end of the war; was wounded at the battle of Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, and sent to the hospital. When he recovered he rejoined his command at Raleigh, N. C.; was mustered out at Louisville and paid off at Chicago. After the war he returned to Hennepin, and married Jennie

Campbell in 1867. She died in January, 1869. He established his present business in March, 1879, and has been very successful thus far, proving that good soldiers usually win success in whatever they undertake. It should be stated that Mr. Bently enlisted when but eighteen years of age.

E. UNTIANK.

Mr. Unthank is a native of Guilford, North Carolina, where he was born in 1814. He came to Indiana in 1829, and to Hennepin in 1865-6 and established himself in business. In 1837 he married Catherine Curtis, born in Ohio. They have two children, William C. and Bartlett B. Both are members of the Congregationalist Church of Hennepin. He is a thorough master of the trade and a careful workman, making his own harness, saddles, etc. His only daughter wedded P. B. Durley, postmaster of Hennepin, and died in 1876.

H. B. STOCKDALE.

Mr. Stockdale was born in Philadelphia in 1852 and comes from a family of more than average ability. His father was a noted educator and for several years presided over the public schools of Peru. He gave his sons a thorough business education and through them controls a larger grain business than any firm along the Illinois river, having houses at Hennepin, Bureau Junction, Peru, and elsewhere. They own several boats running upon the river and canal and have very favorable connections east. While often selling in the Chicago and Peoria markets their principal shipments are to the seaboard and to Europe direct. Mr. Stockdale was married in 1879 to Minnie L. Eddy, of Hennepin. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

WILLIAM H. CASSON.

Mr. Casson is a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Brownsville, Fayette county, in 1838. Since 1848 he has been a citizen of Putnam county where he obtained his education. He is a lawyer by profession, having been admitted to the bar in 1871. In 1862 he married Mary McMahon and to them have been born two children, Margaret L. and Robert O. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. In 1864 he was elected circuit clerk and served two terms. In 1872 was elected State's attorney for four years and re-elected in 1876. He is a lawyer of acknowledged ability, a good counsellor and has a patronage that is constantly increasing.

DR. J. H. SEATON.

A physician and druggist of Hennepin, was born in Indiana in 1836, and educated at the Wabash college. August 15th, 1862, he enlisted in the 6th Indiana Cavalry and served until the close of the war, two years of which time he occupied the position of hospital steward. In 1866 he married Ardelia Zenor, a native of this county, adopted Hennepin as his permanent location, and started in his present business. They have four children, Nellie, Alice, Annie and Ida. Dr. S. is a member of the I. O. O. F. is superintendent of schools, and a member of the board of town trustees.

HENRY DECK.

A prosperous merchant of Hennepin. Was born in Burke county, Pa., in 1838, and located in this county in 1852. He commenced business for himself in 1867. In 1866 he married Annie Ahnler, a native of Germany. They have one child, Minnie L. Mrs. Deck is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He carries a full stock of groceries and queensware and is one of the successful business men of Hennepin.

WILLIAM SMITH.

Mr. Smith, of Smith & McCormick hardware dealers in Hennepin, was born at Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1832. He came to the United States in 1849 and located in this county in 1868. He followed the avocation of a clerk until 1877, when he went into business for himself as a member of the firm of Markley & Smith, which connection continued one year, at the expiration of which time he formed a partnership with Mr. McCormick. In 1862 he enlisted in company E, 124th Ill. Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war, most of the time as a non-commissioned officer. In 1856 Mr. Smith married Caroline Wire, a native of Pennsylvania, though raised in Ohio. They have four children, Jennie E. (now a teacher Abingdon), Philip A., Mary B. and Carrie Irene. Mr. S. is a member of the M. E. church and Mrs. S. of Congregational church. He is now general dealer in stoves, tinware and glass.

BENJAMIN F. WHITAKER.

Mr. Whitaker is a farmer, living on section 35, and was born in Magnolia township in 1830. His parents are numbered among the earliest residents of old Putnam. In 1869 he married Nancy J. Peterson, also a native of Putnam. They have four children living, Frances L., Mary E., Grace A. and Ruth J. Five children have died. Mr. Whitaker served one term as assessor. He owns a well improved farm of one hundred acres, with good dwelling, etc., and is comfortably fixed so far as this world goes. His father—Aaron Whitaker, was one of the first settlers in the county, coming in 1829, and serving in the Black Hawk war.

CAPT. JEFF DURLEY.

Captain Durley was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, December 7, 1822, and came to Putnam county in 1844, where two years later he married Eleanor Seaton, a native of Kentucky. Her parents died while she was young, and she fell to the care of an uncle, who moved to Indiana and subsequently to Illinois. They have five children, Leslie, Rosalie, Francis A., Helena and Annie. When the war broke out he was in the far west, but finding his ser-

vices were demanded he came home, shouldered his musket, and enlisted as a private in the 139th Illinois volunteers. He was chosen captain, and his command designated as company B. The 139th was a "short time" regiment, and the term of enlistment having expired it was mustered out. Captain Durley next organized company I of the 47th regiment and was elected its captain. With this command he served until the close of the war, doing good service. They were mustered out at Demopolis, Alabama. In 1876 he was chosen circuit clerk, which he still retains. Mr Durley is one of the solid men of the township, and is withal genial, obliging and popular.

JAMES N. DURLEY.

Mr. Durley belongs to a family prominent in the history of Putnam county for enterprise and patriotism. He was born in 1837 and in 1864 enlisted in the Forty-seventh Illinois volunteer infantry, was captured at Gay's Landing on the Alabama River, and was mustered out at the close of the war. His present business was established in 1863. In 1871 he married Lucy Eddy, of Vermont, and they have one child, Mabel, born in 1875. In business he is both energetic and conservative, pushing his enterprise, but keeping it well under control. Such men rarely fail.

A. H. TURNER.

Mr. Turner is a farmer and mechanic of Hennepin. Was born in Oxford county, Maine, January 9, 1810. He went to Aroostook county in 1831 where he had charge of the farm department and issuance of all supplies for the contractor of the military road in that county, which position he held three years, when he resigned and came west. He located in Putnam county in 1845, and engaged in farming. He married Ann Law in Sept., 1837. She was a native of Frederick, New Brunswick. She died in 1847 leaving five children, Hamblin, Laura, Mary, Salome, and Beaul. He married Elizabeth Nash, his present wife, on August 26th, 1848. She was born in Albany, N. Y. The fruits of this marriage are Daniel B., Cornelia, Henry, Frank, Lizzie and Warfield. They are members of the Presbyterian church. He was coroner one term, overseer of the poor two terms and school director some 24 years. He is a natural mechanic having studied out nearly all the mechanical arts and is proficient in many.



MAGNOLIA TOWNSHIP.

JUDGE JOHN W. LAUGHLIN.

A Justice of the Peace at Mount Palatine. He was born in Bond county, Ill., in 1820, moved to this county with his parents when only ten years of age, and in 1845 married Miss Jane W. Reid, who moved with her parents to Brown county, Ill., when a child. With the exception of about three years' residence in Versailles, they have lived in this county since their marriage and in Mount Palatine twenty-four years. They have four children living.—Henry R., Fannie C., Mary E. and Ebert H. They are members of the Congregational church. Mr. L. has been justice of the peace about twelve years. He has 220 acres of land in his home farm, and also a farm of 160 acres in La Salle county.

GEORGE GALL.

Mr. Gall is a farmer, living on section 6, Magnolia township. He was born in Highland county, Ohio, in 1822, and located in Putnam county in 1867. In 1847 he married Mary Ward, who was born in the same state. They have six children, Thomas R., Anna B., William McLelland, Mary M., Andrew, and Jessie. Mr. G. and wife are members of the M. E. church. He owns seventy-nine acres of land, mostly under good cultivation.

T. F. LASH.

Mr. Lash is a merchant, living in Magnolia. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1846, and located in Magnolia in 1865. He has been in the mercantile business since 1876. He was married to Miss Sarah C. Wabel in 1873. Mr. L. is a member of the Masonic order, and is also a member of the Retail Jewelers Association of Illinois. He enlisted in the 170th Ohio Volunteers in May, 1864, and was discharged in the fall of the same year. He came to Magnolia with less than \$10.00, and has now a general stock of goods worth about \$2,000, besides 160 acres of land in Nebraska and 480 acres in Missouri, also his store. He owns a residence, and another house and lot in Magnolia, and has been a member of the Town Board for two years.

ELZY DOWNEY.

Mr. Downey is a farmer, living in Magnolia township. He was born in Greenbrier county, Va., in 1810, and moved to Belmont county, Ohio, in 1814, thence to LaSalle county, near Ottawa, in 1832, locating in Putnam county in 1838. He married Mrs. Nancy Johnson in 1838, who was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1814. Mr. D. has one child by a former marriage, Robert; and Mrs. Downey one by a former marriage, Sarah J., (Gowman). They are members of the Methodist church. Mr. D. is a man of diversified ability; is engaged in butchering part of the time, and has also run a cider mill for several years past; and was constable for two terms.

J. H. TAGGART.

Mr. Taggart is a farmer, living in Marshall county, near Magnolia. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1840, and located in Marshall county in 1863. He married Miss Josephine Murdough the same year, who is a native of Mount Pleasant, Jefferson county, Ohio, and is a lady of refinement and good education. They have four children, Lewella H., Maud R., Harry M., and Fred S. Mr. Taggart is extensively engaged in stock raising, is an energetic business man, a deep reader, and well posted on the general topics of the day.

MRS. ELIZABETH HILTABRAND.

This lady, widow of George Hiltabrand, one of the pioneers of Putnam county, was born in Caswell county, N. C., in 1801. She was married in 1824, and in 1829 moved with her husband to the then almost unbroken prairie of this section. They located a claim on section 20, upon which Mrs. H. still resides. Mr. Hiltabrand died October 20, 1870, leaving ten children, viz.: Jerusha Simeon C., Henry H., Edward C., Josephus, George W., Emily E., Benjamin F., Ella J. and Melissa A. Mrs. H. has been a member of the old school Baptist church since she was fourteen years of age. Her homestead farm comprises 340 acres of land. Her post office address is Caledonia.

WILLIAM HAWES.

Mr. Hawes has the honor of being the earliest living resident of the two counties. He was born Sept. 23, 1800, in Orange county, Va., and with his parents moved to Warren county, Ohio in 1805, two years later to Clinton county and thence to Sangamon, Ill., where he followed driving team until 1826, when he visited the lead mines at Galena, passing on horseback through Putnam Co., and selecting the place he afterward made his home. The next year he returned, built a cabin and broke a piece of land and put in a crop of corn. James D. Willis was the next

man to locate in the neighborhood and Lewis Bailey the third. When the Indians discovered Hawes' presence they warned him to leave, making dire threats of what the consequences would be in case he did not, but he refused to desert his property and was not molested. In 1823 he married Lucinda Southwick, a native of New York, who came to Sangamon county, in 1816. She died July 4th, 1867. In 1868 he married Mrs. Louisa Moffitt and to them were born, viz: Andrew, Lillian, Mary. Clifford and Joel. When the Black Hawk war broke out he was chosen captain of a company of rangers who did scout duty but saw no real fighting. He has led a long and active life and at the age of eighty is smart and active like a man of forty. In his younger years he was a great traveler, having dug lead in Galena, gold in California, and silver in Mexico. He owns nearly two thousand acres of land in Putnam and Marshall counties and a half section in Minnesota, most of it under cultivation. The father of Mrs. H. came to Putnam county in 1848. She married Mr. Moffitt in 1861 and he died the following year from wounds received in the army.

TOWNSEND G. FYFFE.

This gentleman, formerly a resident of this county, now deceased, was born in Mason county, Kentucky, in 1800. He located in Putnam county in 1829. He filled the positions of county commissioner and supervisor several terms and was also elected to other important local offices. In 1832 he married Zella Boyle, also a native of Kentucky. They had nine children, seven of whom are living.—J. D., Ara, Mary B., Franklin, Martha, Emma and Helen. Mrs. Fyffe is still living. J. D. is a member of the Masonic order.

JOEL HAWES.

Joel Hawes is a farmer residing on section 22, and one of the early settlers of Putnam county. He was born in Madison county, Va., August 15, 1796, moved with his parents to Clinton county, Ill., in 1805, and thence to Putnam county in 1838. In 1824 he married Elizabeth Gibson, a native of Kentucky. Their children are Mary A., Thomas Elizabeth (deceased), William, John, Sarah, Eunice, George and Asa. Mrs. Hawes died in January, 1874. He owns 193 acres of land part of which he entered in 1835. A portion of this is located in Roberts Tp., Marshall county, in section 3, range 1, west of the third principal meridian. In 1861 he married Mrs. Mand Gustav Otto, by whom he has five children, James, Helen, William, Maud and Grace.

HENRY C. MORRIS.

Mr. Morris is a farmer living on section 6, Magnolia township. He was born in Union Town, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in 1817, and came to Putnam in 1845. In 1849 he married Elizabeth McLaughlin, born in West Newton, Westmoreland county, Pa., and to them have been given two children, Herry R. and Fannie L.; are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He is a firm friend to education, and has served as director for thirty years; was also supervisor of his township, road director, etc. He has a well cultivated farm of 167 acres, and 36 acres of timber, good dwelling and pleasant surroundings.

S. C. MORRELL.

Mr. Morrell, merchant, was born in Caledonia county, Vt., in 1828, and located in Hennepin in the fall of 1837; came to Magnolia in 1841, and engaged in the mercantile business in 1857. He married Mary Baker in 1854, who was born in Vermont. They have three children living, Ella L., Mary F. and Josephine. Mr. Morrill is a member of the M. E. church. He was township collector in 1864-5. He carries a full stock of goods suitable to his trade.

GEORGE S. PARK.

Mr. Park is a farmer, whose homestead is on section 25 and 26, and was born in Windham county, Vermont, October 28, 1811. He came west in 1832 on a tour of investigation. He visited Missouri and Illinois and selected for his future home the neighborhood in which he now resides. He taught school in Sangamon county for a while and returned to Vermont in the fall of the same year. His father soon after came west and located near Pekin, while the son preferred his first selected location, in what is now Magnolia township. He purchased a claim of 160 acres from Cornelius Hunt for \$300 which is part of his present homestead. He and his father then entered 800 acres more in the same neighborhood. He attended the Illinois College at Jacksonville two years, where he was a class mate of the late governor of Illinois—Richard Yates. Being obliged to leave college in consequence of poor health, he went to Texas in 1835, and while there the war for independence began, so young Park volunteered in the army of General Houston. By treachery on the part of the Mexicans his division of 250 men were obliged to capitulate to the army of Santa Anna, and were disarmed. The prisoners were to have been embarked on a ship for Galveston, but while on the march to the vessel they discovered preparations for their slaughter by their captors. Young Park suggested an attack on their guards, but before he could get any concerted action of his men, the guard drew up and fired on the disarmed prisoners. He saw their movements, and fell upon his face, the murderous volley passing over him. The next instant he was on his feet and flying for the river. It was a race for life; the treacherous guards loaded and fired again and again, the bullets flying thick and fast, but fortunately never hit him. When he thought himself safe and on the verge of freedom, he found himself confronted by a line of sentries along the river bank, but did not stop, and when within a few feet of the river two Mexicans crossed muskets in front of him. He then turned to one side and made for a single sentry, whose gun he turned aside and jumped into the river, bullets flying round him. He floated down some distance until he got under the bank, when he rested and recovered breath. He then ran along the shore under the protection of the friendly bank until he got out of range, when he again took to the river and swam to the other side. He saw three of his comrades running for life the same course he had come, closely

pursued by the Mexicans. He started across the prairie in the direction of Gen. Houston's army, which was about seventy miles distant. He was soon intercepted by mounted scouts sent out to capture such as might have escaped, but being on the alert he saw them and hid himself in a hole concealed by long buffalo grass so the horsemen could not ride over him. They came close to him several times but gave up the hunt at night, when he started for his headquarters, which he reached safely. Texas gained her independence, the Houston troops soon disbanded, and young Park returned north, or rather to Missouri, where he located land. He married Miss Mary L. Holmes, July 12, 1855. She was born and educated in New York city. They have one child, a very accomplished young lady, Miss Ella, who was born in Missouri 1857. Mr. Park located about ten miles above Kansas City, in Missouri, and was the founder of Parkville, Platte county, Mo. He has donated a large tract of land and a suitable building, worth \$35,000, for the purpose of a college, in which young people of both sexes can receive a practical education—boys in the art of husbandry, and girls in the duties of perfect housekeepers, in addition to other necessary branches of education. Mr. Park has always been a consistent Republican, though not an Abolitionist. He maintained, while editor and proprietor of his paper, that the people of Kansas had the right to say whether they would have a free or slave state: and for boldly and fearlessly advocating those principles, he was mobbed, his press thrown in the river and his life threatened. In fact, he had to barricade himself in his house, determined to defend himself to the last against any odds rather than be driven from his home, having been guilty of no crime. He provided himself with firearms and laid in a good store of ammunition, with a keg of powder ready to blow up the building had the mob of border ruffians succeeded in breaking in, determined to die in the ruins rather than abandon his home. When they could not persuade him by threats or otherwise to leave, they told his young wife that as they had passed resolutions in their "Blue Lodges" that he must leave on account of his Republican principles, they would be ruined if they did not carry out the resolution, and if he would promise to leave in two, three or six weeks, all would be satisfactory; but if not, that blood would surely be shed, as there were several hundred men waiting only for the signal to attack him. The reply of his brave young wife was that Mr. Park and she were going to Texas in the winter, but she was not in the habit of letting strangers and enemies set the day she should go; that she would go with Mr. Park, and that he would go when he was ready. This was the end. He afterwards sued the ringleaders of the mob who destroyed his press and type, and they settled with him satisfactorily. He held his ground, showing the grit of a Napoleon, and was afterwards elected to the Senate. He moved to Magnolia in 1873, where he has the finest residence in the county, with 480 acres in his home farm; also 2,000 acres in LaSalle and other counties in this State, and large tracts in Missouri, Kansas and Texas.

LEWIS I. BECK.

Mr. Beck is a farmer on section 15 his post-office being Clear Creek. He was born in Muskingum county Ohio in 1818, and located in this county in April, 1831. Nov. 18, 1841, he married Cynthia A. Winters who was born in Miami county, Ohio. They have seven children living, Harrison W., Lewis M., Stella A., Mary L., Lenora, Harry E. and William E. Harrison W. served three years during the war of the rebellion in the 124th Ill. Volunteers and afterwards located in Butler county, Kansas, serving one term in the legislature from that county. Mr. Beck owns 140 acres of land in his homestead farm.

J. A. ELLIS.

Mr. Ellis is a farmer, residing in Magnolia township. He first gazed upon the wonders of this world in Green county, Ohio, in 1842. He located in this county in 1854. He married Miss Ura Hardesty in 1848. She is a native of Brown county, Ohio. They have eight children living, Nancy, Cornelia, Elma, Newton, Robert, Hattie, Sadie and Irene. They have three children dead. Mr. and Mrs. E. are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN VAN HORN.

Mr. Van Horn is a farmer, residing on sections 35 and 36. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1808, and located in Putnam county in the fall of 1841. He married Mary Hibbs in 1832. She was born in Pennsylvania. They have eight children living, Isaac, Sarah J., Samantha, Samuel, Joseph, Mary A., Julia and Cynthia. He was school trustee several terms, and was an able and efficient officer. He owns two hundred and fifty acres of land, all improved except eighty acres of timber. He is a thrifty farmer and has a very beautiful residence, immediately adjoining the village of Magnolia, and is considered a first class farmer.

EPHRAIM SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a farmer living on section 33, Magnolia township. He was born in North Carolina in 1805. His parents came to Sangamon county in 1815. He came to this county in 1830, and located on his present farm in 1831. He married Harriet Thurman in 1810, who was born in New York State. She died July 19, 1858, leaving six children, Irvin O., Ellen A., Franklin, Laura M., Harriet M. and James C. In March, 1869, he married Mrs. Jemima Kays (Reed), by whom he has two children, Katie R. and Eva M. He has been school director several times, owns 320 acres of land in Putnam county, and also 320 in Clark county, Iowa.

ANDREW B. GURNEA.

Mr. Gurnea was born in Mayfield, Montgomery county, New York, March 15th 1815, and moved to Michigan where in 1841 he married Cornelia Wallace, who was born in Orange county, N. Y. They have four children, Margaret A., (Mrs. Stainbrook) Nancy J., James C. and Harriet E. Mr. Gurnea comes from Quaker ancestors, and is perhaps indebted to them for a certain sturdy honesty, born of a desire to observe so far as man

can the golden rule of doing unto others as we would they should do unto us. At a time when abolitionists were looked upon as little better than horse thieves he voted for James G. Birney for president, and rightly regards it as the noblest act of his life. The confidence reposed in him by the community is shown in the official trusts confided to his care. In 1859 he was elected justice of the peace and has held it ever since. He has been a notary public 16 years, township clerk 10 years and assistant postmaster 18 years. He has been agent of the Hartford fire insurance company 13 years and in all these positions acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of all parties including his own conscience.

H. C. MILLS.

Mr. Mills was born in Magnolia township March 21st, 1849, and received his education at the State Normal school and Lincoln University. His father, Capt. Ely R. Mills, was a well known steamboat captain who along with Capt. Price, owned the boats he ran and died many years ago. Mr. Mills chose farming for a profession and in 1877 married Hester Badgley, of Anglaize county, Ohio. He owns a very nice farm of 220 acres under cultivation and is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

CAMPBELL SHIELDS.

Mr. Shields was born in Morgan county, Indiana, and came to this county with his parents in 1833, was raised and educated on a farm, and through his own exertions has made himself wealthy and the owner of one of the best farms in Putnam county. In 1852 he married Jane Harris, born in Schuyler county, who became the mother of eight children, Laura E., Franklin P., Clara A., Jennette E., Bernard M., Sarah E., James W. and Araminta B. Mrs. S. died April 16, 1876. In 1878 he married Rebecca P. Smith to whom one child has been given, Harry C. Mr. Shields is a member of the Masonic order and among his friends liberal, hospitable and social. He has served his township as supervisor, assessor etc., besides filling several minor offices. He owns a finely cultivated farm of 386 acres.

EDWARD PHILLIPS.

A farmer residing in section 34, his post-office being Magnolia. He was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1834, and located in this county in 1842 with his Uncle George. October 8, 1857 he married Mary Jane Smith, who was born in Schuyler county, Ill., in 1838. They have eight children, John H., Elizabeth J., Clara A., Mary E., Charles E., Martha A., George T., and Mand. Mr. Phillips owns and operates a water-power saw and grist mill, with ample facilities for doing the custom work of the surrounding country, and can manufacture any description of lumber required for ordinary purposes. He owns 240 acres of improved land.

JOHN H. PHILLIPS.

Residence, section 34. Postoffice, Magnolia.

WILLIAM A. SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a farmer born in Grant county, Indiana, in 1829, and settled on Oxbow prairie in 1851. His wife who died in 1872, was Margaret Trone whom he wedded in 1860 and who bore him three children, Alvah H., Willie D. and Maggie P. In 1876 he was married to Mrs. Annie Williams, by whom he has one child, Bertha E. He owns 50 acres of land and cultivates 136 acres besides.

CALVIN SHIELDS.

Mr. Calvin Shields is a farmer living on section 26, of Magnolia township. He is a native of Indiana, having been born in Morgan county in 1829, but removed here with his parents in 1833. In 1844 he married Rachel German, born in Ohio. They have eight children living named as follows: Ann, Ellen, John, Douglas, Marshal, Rachel Henry and Robert. He has been supervisor two terms and held other minor offices. His homestead embraces 425 acres and he owns 1000 acres elsewhere in this state. He is energetic, pushing and clear headed.

MRS. RACHEL KAYS.

Mrs. Kays is the widow of Henry Kaya who died in February, 1877. She was born in Kentucky, in 1820, and came to Indiana with her parents when four years old. Mr. Kays was one of the most successful farmers in the county and owned at the time of his death 887 acres of land. They had six children living.—Jane (Mrs. Bobbit) Marcus V., Columbus, John A., Emery, Clara E., and three are dead. Mr. Kays was supervisor of his township two terms and was a man of more than usual ability. Before his death he gave each of his children 80 acres of land. His family are members of the M. E. church.

AMOS WILSON.

The subject of this sketch lives on section 23, and was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1794, and is now eighty-six years old. In 1824 he settled in New Castle, Delaware, and in the fall of 1826 moved to Belmont county, Ohio, where he lived until the spring of 1851, when he located in Putnam county, Illinois. He was married to Hannah Brown, born in Chester county, Pa., in 1818, by whom he had five children, Joshua R., Margaret, David, Thomas and Hannah. Mrs. W. died in 1826. In 1828 he wedded Anna Morris, of Columbiana county, Ohio, who brought him nine children, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Morria A., Mary, Amos B., Olive, and three who have gone to another

world. Himself and family are members of the Society of Friends. His home farm embraces 440 acres, and besides he owns 320 acres in LaSalle county, and the same in Saline county, Kansas. With a single exception he is the oldest citizen in the two counties. Mr. Wilson is a self made man, and owes his success to his own exertions, through the aid of the Great Master above.

OLIVER SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a farmer, living on section 15, who was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1841 and came West with his parents the succeeding year. In 1878 he married Huldah R. Mills, a native of this county. They have one child, William Eddy. Mrs. S. is a member of the Society of Friends. Mr. Smith owns fifty-nine acres of improved land in this county, in addition to which he cultivates a rented farm. He also owns 160 acres of land in Kansas.

MRS. LYDIA GRIFFITH.

This lady, widow of the late George Griffith, was born in Adams county, Pa., in 1816. In 1842 she came with her parents, Samuel and Susannah Comley, to this county, and the succeeding year was married to Mr. Griffith, who died in 1867, leaving three children,—Hiram, Frank and Isabel—and three by a former marriage—Isaac, Martha J. and Sarah. Mr. G. located in this county in 1836. Mrs. Griffith owns one hundred acres of excellent land, with very fine improvements. Herself and family are members of the Society of Friends.

ABNER BOYLE.

Mr. Boyle is a farmer living on section 22. His Post Office is at Clear Creek; was born in Bedford county, Va., in 1808. He moved to Madison county, Kentucky, with his parents in 1810, and to Todd county in 1815. He moved to Putnam county, Ill., in 1829, and located in Magnolia. He married Matilda Wilson in 1831 who was born in Kentucky. They have five children, William A. Caroline (Griffith), Edward H., A. T. and Virginia. He was the first postmaster in Putnam county, which was located at Magnolia. He has served as assessor and supervisor. He owns his home farm 190 acres of improved land, 60 acres of timber, and 600 acres in LaSalle county.

THOMAS FLOWERS.

Mr. Flowers is a farmer in Magnolia township, whose post office is at Clear Creek. He was born in Washington county, Pa., and came to Putnam county in 1844, disembarking at Hall's Landing. He married Phebe Hartley in 1842, also a native of Pennsylvania, by whom he had three children, Elizabeth (Mrs. Price), Martha, Emma (Price). Mrs. Flowers died in 1850, and he was married the second time, in 1852, to Phebe Conly, who was born in Adams county, Pa., in 1815. Both are members of the Society of Friends. Previous to settling here Mr. Flowers lived fifteen years in LaSalle county, where he was school director and held other offices.

WALTER TRONE.

Mr. Trone lives on Oxbow Prairie, where he settled in 1854. He was born in York county, Pa., July 19, 1831, and in 1861 married Malvina Huber, a native of Trumbull county, Ohio. They have five children, and two adopted. The names of the five are Charles W., John L., Sarah A., Grant O., and William H.; their adopted children are Mary J. Quinn, and Mary E. Moore. All are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Trone owns 240 acres of well improved land, and deserves the blessings the Father of All has given him.

CARVER TOMLINSON.

Mr. Tomlinson is an old citizen of Putnam county, coming here in 1852. He was born in Philadelphia in 1816, and when three years old accompanied his parents to Jefferson county, Ohio, where he obtained his education and in turn became a teacher. In 1844 he moved to Washington county, Pa., where he married Mary A. John, a native of that county. To them six children have been given now living, viz., Josephine, Mary, Josiah, Isaac, Alice E. and Willis. He has served as school treasurer twelve years, was a teacher many years, and always took a deep interest in educational matters. He is well informed in the political and religious literature of the day, does his own thinking, and stands high in the estimation of the community. He owns 228 acres of land in Magnolia township.

ELIZA W. SMITH.

This lady, widow of Mr. Jesse Smith, resides on her farm in Section 13, her postoffice being Clear Creek. She was born in Adams county, Pa., in 1809, came west with her mother and brother in 1837, locating in Putnam county, and in 1845 was married to Mr. Smith. In 1869 her husband died, leaving two children by a former marriage, Henry R. and Oliver, and three deceased. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Society of Friends, is a pleasant, matronly old lady, young looking and active for one of her age. She owns one hundred acres of well improved land.

WILLIAM WHEELER HOLMES.

Mr. Holmes was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1806, but spent the most of his life in New York city while here he was engaged in mercantile enterprises that took him over all parts of the Union, and enabled him to make the acquaintance of most of the leading men. He has a vast store of information, and is an entertaining and instructive talker. In 1853 he came to Magnolia, and his pleasant residence, one mile west of town, has since been his home. In 1829 he wedded Julia P. Vivoort, who died in 1848, leaving him eight children, viz., Mary L., William

B., Percelia V., Vernon, Julia R., Lawson C., Geo. N. and Grace. In 1857 Mr. Holmes wedded Mrs. Mary Murphy by which marriage he has four children, Charlotte, Margaret, Emma and Oliver. Mrs. Holmes had one son, John Murphy, by a former marriage. One of Mr. Holmes' sons learned the printing business with the late William Trench, and all of his children have shown marked ability in their various avocations.

JOSHUA POLING.

A farmer residing on section 34. His postoffice address is Magnolia. Mr. Poling was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1828, and located in this county in 1854. In the year 1856 he was married to Miss Sarah Hunt, a native of Putnam county, who was born in 1831. They have five children, John W., Phillip, Clara Bell, Mary E. and Willis. Mr. Poling's homestead consists of seventy acres of land, all improved. George Hollenback, Mrs. Poling's uncle, lived in Kendall county at the beginning of the Black Hawk war, and with others was warned off by Shabbona, but did not leave until the enemy appeared. He hid his money in the ground outside his cabin when he left, but after going a short distance returned for it, when the Indians discovered and pursued him. He escaped by taking to the swamp, spent one night in a tree top, and finally secured safety and shelter under the roof of a friend. He soon returned and found his house in ashes but his money was all right where he had hidden it.

DR. LARNED DAVIS.

This gentleman, postmaster at Palatine and a merchant, was born in Franklin county, Mass., in 1811, and located in this county in 1841. Sept. 5th, 1833, he married Mary Parmenter who was also born in Massachusetts, in 1814. She died July 29th, 1848, leaving five children, one of whom has since died. The living are John, Dwight, Otis and Mary. April 5th, 1859, Mr. Davis married Keziab Loughlin a native of Brown county, Ohio. He has been in the mercantile business and occupied the position of postmaster since 1859. He owns 80 acres of land adjoining Palatine, beside his residence and business property. Mrs. D. is a member of the Congregational church.

JOHN HAWES.

Mr. Hawes is a farmer, born in Clinton county, Ohio, who, along with his parents, came to Putnam county in 1838 and located in this township. His wife was formerly Ella Z. Keller, born in Fayette county, Penn., whom he married in 1862. They have three children, John E., Mary L. and Lizzie H. Mrs. Hawes died March 13th, 1879. She was a very estimable woman and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Although a comparatively young man Mr. Hawes has been fortunate beyond the majority of persons, owning 300 acres of fine farming land in this county and Marshall, and a beautiful residence near Magnolia.

JOSHUA S. MILLS.

Mr. Mills is one of the wealthiest real estate owners in Putnam county, and a very successful farmer. He was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1821 and came to Putnam county in 1842. In 1850 he married Hannah S. Hoyle, born in Ohio, and to them have been given Mary L., S. F., Edith Ann and Ruth E. They belong to the Society of Friends. Mr. Mills owns 910 acres under cultivation and 110 acres of timber. His home is one of the pleasantest in a township noted for its fine residences, and his farm shows what intelligent management can effect in a country like Illinois.

MOSES DUGAN.

The subject of this sketch is a farmer, located on section 5, Magnolia township, though his postoffice address is Hennepin. Mr. Dugan was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1820. With his parents he located when a child in Harrison county, Ohio, where he resided until 1836, when he took up his residence in this county. He owns 290 acres of land in Putnam, and 80 acres in La Salle county, and his farm is one of the neatest in the county.

DENNIS SPRINGER.

A farmer located in section 4, his postoffice address being Cottage Hill. Mr. Springer was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1852, settled in Putnam county in 1875, and the same year married Miss Sarah A. Dinninger, who is also a native of Pennsylvania. They have two children, Druailla H. and Carrie May. Mr. S. owns 95 acres of land in a good state of cultivation.

WILLIAM P. HOYLE.

Residence in section 4. Postoffice, Mount Palatine. Mr. Hoyle was born in this township July 4th, 1849. In 1874 he married Miss Alvira Hoyle, a native of Ohio, born July 15, 1851. They have three children, Elizabeth J., Sarah W. and J. Warren. Mrs. Hoyle is a member of the Society of Friends. Mr. William Hoyle, father of the subject of this sketch, came to Putnam county in 1832, and was one of the organizers of the Friends' church at Clear Creek. He died in 1875. Mr. Hoyle owns 600 acres of improved land, and is one of the school directors of his district.

ABEL MILLS.

Mr. Mills is a farmer, born in Pennsylvania in 1829 and came to Illinois when eleven years old. He was married to Elizabeth Bosley in 1850. She died in 1865 leaving seven children, two of whom have since followed her to the grave. The living are Martha, Milton, Huldah R., Oliver P. and William L. In 1866 Mr. M. was married again to Elizabeth, daughter of Amos Wilson, born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1835. They have five children, Charle'

W., Clarence, Albert L., Amos P., and Le Roy A. They are members of the Society of Friends. Mr. Mills has held several minor offices and is president of the Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He owns a fine farm of 160 acres with first-class improvements.

MASON WILSON.

Mr. Wilson was born and has always lived in this township, his existence dating back to 1844. His wife was formerly Laura E. Bell and her native place was Belmont county, Ohio. They have two children, James F. and Blanche E. His father, Bird Wilson, came to this county in 1831 and died in 1872. He was a gold hunter in California in early times, having made the trip across the plains in 1859. Mr. Wilson has a very pleasant home on a farm of 80 acres.

JOHN SWANEY.

Postmaster, Clear Creek, Magnolia township, Illinois.

WILLIAM S. SCHMID.

Mr. Schmid is a merchant, residing and doing business in Mount Palatine. He was born in Switzerland, in 1838, came to the United States in 1855, and located in Peru, Ill. In 1866 he married Mrs. Barbara Kleinsmitz, a native of Bavaria. She has one child by a former marriage, Mary R. Kleinsmitz, born September 24, 1860. Mr. S. is a Lutheran, while his wife and daughter belong to the Catholic church. August 9, 1861, Mr. Schmid enlisted in Co. K, 11th Ill., Vol. Inf., as a corporal, and served under General Grant until 17th October, 1865. He carries a general stock of goods suitable to his trade.

HENRY DOSE.

Mr. Dose is a farmer, living in Palatine. He was born in Alsace, France, in 1823, came to this country in 1847, and located in Putnam county in 1867. He married Miss Catherine Errick, a native of Bavaria, Germany, their union being blessed with seven children,—Christiana, Philip, Theodore, Lawrence, Mary, Theresa, and Michael. They are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Dose owns 157 acres of land, all improved.

JAMES G. LAUGHLIN.

Mr. Laughlin is a farmer, living at Mount Palatine, who was born in Bond county, Ill., October 6, 1824, and with his parents came to Putnam county in 1830. He married Julia Smith, born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1850, lived a while in Orange county, and came to Illinois in 1847. They have eight children—Marion E., Charles Emmett, Antoinette, John R., James A., Jennie, Samuel F. and Chester H., and one (Mabel) deceased. They are members of the Congregational church. He owns an improved farm of 160 acres, and other land, and is one of the leading citizens of the place.

ADAM MATERN.

A farmer, living on section 12, post office, Mount Palatine. Mr. Matern was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1826. He came to this country in 1844, and located in this county, on section 13, range 2. In 1854 he married Miss Theresa Amrahn, also a native of Bavaria, by whom he has seven children,—Michael, Elizabeth, Joseph, Barnard, Theresa, William and Henry, and three deceased. They are members of the Catholic church. Mr. M. has served the community in the capacity of a school director for a number of years. He owns 265 acres of improved land, with good buildings.

YOUNG A. GLENN.

Mr. Glenn is a farmer, born in McLean county, in this State, in 1828. His father was an early settler here, coming in 1822. Mr. Glenn, Sr., was well known, and stood high in the community. He raised several sons, who settled in the vicinity, and made themselves comfortably independent. The subject of this sketch was married in 1854 to Elizabeth German, born in Ohio in 1832. They have four children living, viz., Isaac D., Cordelia B., Clara E., Ann E., and Young Sherman. He takes a marked interest in schools and educational matters, having been a school director since twenty-two years of age. Although unable to perform manual labor, he is one of the most successful farmers in the county, owning 365 acres of improved land in the very garden of Illinois. He is extensively engaged in stock raising, owning a fine herd of blooded cattle.

JACOB MAULFAIR.

The subject of this notice is a farmer living on section 5, whose post office address is Florid. He was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, in 1834, came to Putnam county in 1856, and in 1869 married Mary A. Chsnce, a native of Putnam. They have four children—Seitzer, Early, Chauncy and Jacob. He is a large land-holder and good farmer, owning 280 acres of improved land in Putnam, and 120 acres elsewhere. He is a good farmer, industrious and prosperous.

EDWIN GAYLORD, M. D.

Dr. Gaylord was born in Tioga county, Pa., February 5, 1834, and completed his education at Judson College, Mount Palatine. Choosing the medical profession, he qualified himself for practice by a severe course of study, attending lectures at the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, and at Rush College, Chicago, where he graduated at the age of twenty-one. Three years he devoted to practice at Kewanee, and then entered the Med-

ical College of Tennessee, where he received a diploma. He was promoted a surgeon in the army, and served until he resigned. He comes from an old family, and traces his lineage in a direct line back to 1630. He is the youngest son of the late Aaron Gaylord of Marshall county, and grandson of Lemuel Gaylord, a soldier of the Revolution, whose honored remains rest in Cumberland cemetery, on Sandy Creek, Marshall county. Here likewise rests his father, who was born in 1792, and died in 1834. The doctor is wedded to his profession, and well read up in the medical literature of the day. He is both progressive and successful in business.

WILLIAM NEWBURN.

This gentleman is a farmer living in section 4. Postoffice, Hennepin. Mr. Newburn was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1824, and located in this county when eighteen years of age. In 1852 he married Leah Harley, who was born in Lancaster county Pa., in 1828. They have seven children, Samuel H., John W., Mary E., Amy, Martha A., Irene and William. Mr. N. has served in the district in which he resides in the capacity of a school director for several years. He owns 200 acres of improved land, with good residence and other buildings.

JOHN McNABB.

Mr. McNabb, as his name indicates, is a Scotchman by birth, born in 1809, and came to the United States in 1826. He first landed in the state of New York where he enlisted in the regular service and served against the Indians in Florida, under Gen. Scott, where he was disabled and discharged from the service with a pension. He came to Putnam county in 1838 and married Margaret Morrison in that year, a country woman of his, by whom he has had six children, David, Robert, James, John, Orella and James. He owns 160 acres of land and attends the Congregational church.

WILLIAM HAWES, JR.

Mr. Hawes was born Clinton county, Ohio, in 1833, and came to Putnam county with his parents when five years old. In 1858 he married Ellen Klisbee, born in Lacon, by whom he has one child, now Mrs. Roberts. Mrs. Hawes died in 1864. In 1865 he was married again to Mary J. Trone, of York county, Pa. Mr. Hawes has served his township two terms as supervisor, has been a school director seven years, and is now serving as a member of the town council and President of the Board. He owns two farms, embracing 360 acres, with a fine residence and grounds adjoining town.

S. T. ENGLAND.

Mr. England is a farmer, living on section 2, in Mount Palatine. He was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1835, and located in Putnam county in 1865. In 1860 he married Miss Theresa Larimer, who was born in Westmoreland county, Pa. They have four children living—Laura, James, Emma and George. The family attend services at the Friends church. Mr. E. is very pleasantly situated, and his farm of one hundred acres is valuable.

DAVID SWANEY.

Mr. Swaney is a farmer, residing on section 9, postoffice, Clear Creek. He was born in Dauphin county, Pa., in 1827, and came to this county with his uncle in 1840. In 1853 he married Mary A. Hoyle, a native of Belmont county, Ohio, their children being three in number, Joseph H., Willis H. and Clarence C. Mr. S. owns 440 acres of land, all improved. He furnished a substitute during the war. Mrs. Swaney is a member of the Society of Friends.

L. STUDYVIN.

Mr. Studyvin lives on section 8, and his postoffice is at Hennepin. He was born in Fayette county, Ohio, in 1825, and came to Putnam county when a child of seven in 1832. In 1856 he wedded Abbie Mullens, born in Preble county, Ohio. They have seven children, Calvin Jr., Inez M., Samuel W., Clara A., William E., Isaac A., and Maggie A. He owns 177 acres of well improved land, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

FRED WOLF.

Mr. Wolf is a native of Bavaria, Germany, where he was born in 1841, and came to the United States in 1848. He landed first in Putnam county, then removed to LaSalle, and finally returned to Putnam in 1865, where he has since resided. In 1863 he wedded Clara Mardia, born in Putnam county, by whom he has seven children, George, Emma, Edward, Clara, Louis, Fred. and Martin. They are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Wolf is a first-class farmer and a hard worker, owning 200 acres of well improved land in Putnam, and 100 in La Salle county.

JAMES ANDERSON.

Mr. Anderson was born in Delaware county Pennsylvania in 1828, moved with his parents to Ohio in 1829, and from thence to Putnam county. He married Mary B. McCabe, of Trenton, New Jersey, in 1852, who was born in 1826. They have two children living—Ann E. and Philip B. Mrs. Anderson is a member of the M. E. church. He owns eighty acres of land under excellent cultivation, with good improvements, and was one of the first to see and appreciate the advantages of using drain tile.

MICHAEL WOLF.

The subject of this sketch came from the "Fatherland," having been born in Bavaria in 1832, and emigrated to this country in 1848, first locating in LaSalle county. He married Eva M. Herrmine in 1854. She was born in

Germany. They have six children—four sons and two daughters, viz., Theodore F. Jacob, Theresa, Frank, Peter, and Lizzie, and belong to the Catholic faith. Mr. Wolf is energetic and pushing, a good manager, hard working and industrious. He owns a finely cultivated farm of 240 acres a good brick dwelling house and first class improvements.

ISAAC S. HAM.

Mr. Ham is a farmer residing on section 17. Postoffice, Ox Bow. He was born in Kennebec, Maine, in 1807, moved with his parents to New York in 1811, thence to Adams county, Ohio, in 1819, where Mr. H. remained until 1845, when he moved to this county, located on his present homestead, and built a water mill, which he has run up to the last year, cutting about two million feet of lumber. In 1849 he married Miss Maria Cynthia Murch, a native of Courtland county, New York, born in 1828. They have three children living, — Mary E., Harry C. and Wayne I. They attend the M. E. church, in the Sabbath school of which Mrs. Ham has been a teacher many years. She is a lady of refinement and intelligence, and a most pleasant neighbor. Mr. Ham is a millwright, and has built several mills in other sections of this state and in Kentucky. He owns 122 acres of improved land, and has a very pleasant residence, romantically situated in the timber on Clear Creek, near Caledonia.

EDWARD JAKES.

Mr. Jakes is a farmer, whose postoffice address is Ox Bow, although he resides on section 13, Hennepin township. He was born in Northamptonshire, England, in 1817, came to this country in 1835, and after a brief sojourn in New York state, enlisted in the Fourth Infantry, regular army, under Col. Zach. Taylor, and served three years in the war against the Seminole, Creek and Cherokee Indians in Alabama, Florida and Tennessee. He was discharged at Paducah, Ky., in 1838, and in 1843 married, in that state, Mrs. Margret Dunbar (Young). She was a native of Ohio, and had three children by a former marriage,—Clarissa, Elizabeth and Cl. rinda. Mr. Jakes owns 180 acres of land in a good state of cultivation.

NEWTON J. MATHIS.

Mr. Mathis is a farmer living on section 30. Postoffice, Ox Bow. He was born in Champaign county, Ohio, November 22, 1837, located in Putnam county in 1842, and in 1858 married Miss Mary J. Seybold. She was born in Warren county, Ill., October 14 1839. They have three children living,—William Leslie, Edward A. and James N. They are members of the M. E. church, and he is a member of the board of school directors in his district. He has 225 acres of land, with good improvements.



GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP.

JOSEPH REINHARDT.

Mr. Reinhardt is an adopted American citizen, born in Hesse Cassell, Germany, in 1828, and coming to this country in 1852 and locating on the place where he has since resided. He visited his native country in 1859, returning the following year, more than ever satisfied with his choice of a home. In 1852 he married Bertha Brenneman, a countrywoman of his, and to them have been born five children, viz., Adolph in 1853, Emma in 1855, Mary in 1857, Helen in 1859, and Lena in 1861. Mr. Rheinhardt represented his district in the 27th General Assembly, and proved himself a safe, sagacious and popular legislator. Mr. Rheinhardt is a large farmer, owning 770 acres of land under excellent cultivation, and is a man of unusual intelligence and refinement. He is a representative man of a large class of German citizens in this county.

LUTHER D. GUNN.

Mr. Gunn was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, on July 28, 1814, and came to Putnam county in June, 1836. He is a carpenter by trade, and the first year worked in Hennepin, after which he went into the country, and located at Granville in 1839. In 1840 he married Miss E. Collins, one of the early settlers of the county, whose recollections of the deprivations and discomforts of the pioneers are full of interest. Her native town was Granville, New York. They have eleven children living and three deceased—Joel C., Amos D., Fannie, Lucy, Eva C., Sarah, Mary A., Ellen L., Henry D., Nellie L., and Clara C. Are members of the Congregationalist church of Granville. Mr. Gunn owns 200 acres of land, and the finest residences in the county.

ROBERT W. MOORE.

Mr. Moore is one of the first settlers in the county. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, October 3, 1803, moved with his parents to Bond county, Ill., in 1819, and in 1829 located in Putnam (then Tazewell) county, where he has since followed farming. His residence is on section 8, Postoffice, Granville. March 28, 1830, he married Miss Fannie Leeper, daughter of Judge Leeper, of Jacksonville, Ill. She died March 10, 1842, leaving six children.—Elizabeth, John A., James H., Martha, Mary A. and Sarah. John died in 1860, and Sarah in 1868. In 1846 he married Miss Nancy McClung. The only child by this marriage, Francis E., was born in April, 1848, and died June 4, 1850. They are members of the Granville Presbyterian church, of which Mr. M. has been an elder fifty-one years, being one of the twenty-two original members. In 1824 the synod of the Presbyterian church for the States of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri met at Shoal Creek, traveling on horseback, and the attendance was so great and the country so sparsely settled that adequate accommodations could not be provided. Mr. Moore owns 453 acres of land.

HIRAM COLBY.

Mr. Colby is a farmer residing in Granville. He was born in Genessee county, New York, in 1825, came West in 1855, located in this township and followed his trade of carpenter until 1870, since which time he has devoted himself exclusively to farming. In 1851 he married Miss Sophia E. Clark, a native of the same place as himself. She died in 1876, leaving four children.—Newton H., Emma J., Archie L., and L. Isabel. In 1878 Mr. Colby married Mrs. G. A. Goldsmith (Wykoff), a native of Knox county, Ill. They are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Colby served his community as supervisor two years, and has been a member of the board of school directors some fourteen years. He owns 430 acres of land, all under cultivation, with good improvements.

WILLIAM W. SHEPHERD.

Mr. Shepherd lives on section 8 in Granville township, and was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1832. He emigrated to Winnebago county, in this State, in 1856, and settled in Putnam county in 1859. He married Mary A. Moore in 1860, born and reared in this county. They have had four children born to them,—Etta M. L. Verner, Harry L. and Sarah. Are members of the Congregationalist church in Granville. Mr. Shepherd owns eighty acres of well cultivated land, which he farms in person.

THOMAS WARE.

A farmer, residing in Granville. He was born in Franklin county, Mass., in 1806, came West in 1833, and with his brother Ralph located in this township and commenced farming, which avocation he has successfully followed to the present time. In 1833 he married in Worcester, Mass., Miss Nancy L. Shepherd, also a native of that state. She died in 1846, leaving five children, two of whom have since died, Thomas S., Nancy L. (Mrs. Farwell), and Charles K. are still living. May 6, 1847, Mr. Ware married Miss Mary A. Stewart, a native of Bond county, Ill.,

his present wife. The children by this marriage are William S., Mary A., Sarah E., Henry M., James W., Joseph E., Lucy E., and Justin P. They are members of the Congregational church, and consistent and energetic workers in the cause of temperance. Two sons-in-law of Mr. Ware and his son Charles K., served in the army during the war of the rebellion, two of them being wounded. As one of the first settlers of the township Mr. Ware was prominently identified with the establishment of schools and churches, and was an active and cheerful worker in providing suitable accommodations for these indispensable adjuncts of civilization. He owns 375 acres of land, all under cultivation save the timber, and his improvements are pleasant and substantial.

BAZDALE ISH.

The father of Mr. Ish was a soldier in the war of 1812, and at its close he settled in Wayne county, Indiana, where the subject of this sketch was born in 1820. Two years later he removed to the vicinity of Peoria, and in 1829 came to what is now Putnam county, and selecting as a homestead the place his son occupies to-day. Here he grew to manhood, and his remembrances of those pioneer days are well worth commemorating. In 1848 he married Miss Lucia Servis, born in Meigs county, Ohio, who has brought him six children, with names as follows: George, Francis, Alice, Herman, Lyman, and Irene. Mr. Ish has served the people in various public capacities, and his industry and enterprise has been rewarded with a comfortable independence. He owns 214 acres of valuable land, has a comfortable house and pleasant surroundings, and is a genial, hospitable gentleman.

J. F. SHEPHERD.

Mr. Shepherd is an old resident of Granville, coming here in 1834. He was born in Norton, Mass., in 1824, coming here with his father, who purchased from government the present site of Granville, at \$1.25 per acre. When sixteen years of age Mr. Shepherd began farming, and September 16th, 1849, consummated the most important event of his life by marrying Miss Juliette Richardson, in Peoria—a native of Muskingum county, Ohio. They have four children living,—Levi L., Eliza (Mrs. Penfield), Daniel, Franklin L. and Eva; and two deceased, Lucy and Juliette. Are members of the Baptist Church, of which Mr. S. is trustee. Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd are always found on the right side in any movement whose object is to benefit mankind. They take a deep interest in Sabbath school and temperance work, and are outspoken in the condemnation of wrong. They have achieved a comfortable independence, and in their pleasant home, surrounded by books and papers, enjoying the companionship of friends and children, their days go happily by, and their lives are

"Free from woes that vex the poor,
And griefs that haunt the rich man's door."

ANDREW C. MOORE.

Mr. Moore is a native of this county, and born on the place he now occupies—something that can be said of very few Americans. His father came from Brown county, Ohio, where he was born in 1798, moved to Illinois in 1819, and to this county in 1832. He died here January 24, 1880. Mr. Moore was married in 1865 to Mary C. Hawkins, who was born in Washington county, New York, and they have three children—Elma C., Olive and John A. Are members of the Presbyterian church of Union Grove.

J. D. HULLINGER.

Mr. Hullinger is a farmer, born in Champaign county, Ohio, who emigrated with his parents to La Salle county in 1833 and came to Putnam in 1840. He married Sarah B. Church, a native of Stamford, N. Y., in 1846. She died in 1874 leaving seven children, Caleb B., Frank W., Mary F., Charles S., Henry H., Phebe G. and John D. Mr. H. takes a deep interest in education, giving his children all the benefits to be derived therefrom, and serving as school director sixteen years. He owns 200 acres of well improved land, takes pride in fine cattle and fat hogs and has filled various minor offices. His father died in 1836 and his mother two years later.

FRED T. BEERS.

Granville, Putnam County, Illinois.

DAVID FESSLER.

Mr. Fessler is a native of the Keystone state (Pa.) where he was born in Lebanon county in 1833, and ten years later moved to Indiana. He came to Putnam county in 1867. Three years previous he married Carrie Bear, of Lancaster county, Pa. They have six children, William Clara, Mattie, Theodore, Harris and Harvey. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and owns seventy acres of well improved land.

W. B. NEWPORT.

Mr. Newport was born in Boone county, Kentucky, in 1828 and came to Putnam county, with his parents in 1836, returning the same fall for the purpose of completing his education. He remained there until 1840. In 1859, he married Sarah Pipes who died in 1876, leaving three surviving children, Virginia, Laura and Henrietta. Mr. N. is well informed on all topics of the day, is well read up politically, and asks no man what he shall believe or how he shall vote. He owns 160 acres of land under good cultivation and is a model American farmer.

S. H. MUMMA.

Mr. Mumma was born of German parentage in Dauphin county, Pa., in 1835 and came to Granville in 1863. Three years before he married Anna A. Vanderslice, a towns woman of himself. In 1875 he embarked in the mer-

cantile business and is the leading tradesman of the place, carrying a very complete assortment of well selected goods. He is the father of ten sons and daughters, viz: James V., Harry L., Willie D., Gracie E., Warren S., Herbert A., Mary E., Charlie L., Richard and Fannie. Are members of the Congregational church, of Granville. He is township collector and member of the council, has held other minor offices, and stands well in the community.

CHRISTIAN BRUDER.

Mr. Bruder is a blacksmith living in Granville. He was born in Germany in 1828, came to the United States in 1852 and located in Granville. He has followed his trade continuously since coming here. In 1872 he married Barbara Mea, also a native of Germany. By this marriage Mr. Bruder has three children, Leonard, Lena and Fritz, and two by a former marriage, Mary and Theodore. Himself and wife are members of the Lutheran church. He owns 240 acres of land in Livingston county and his residence, shop and one block in Granville.

E. C. SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a teamster residing in Granville. He was born in Frederick, Md., in 1820, removed to Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1852, but remained there only a short time, coming to Hennepin the same year. In 1848 he married Sarah J. Davis, a native of Ohio. They have three children living, William F., Amos P. and Oscar. Mr. Smith has filled the position of street commissioner, and has been three years a constable, an office he still holds. He owns a house and three lots in Granville. In 1862 he enlisted in company E. 4th Ill. Cavalry, and served to the close of the war. He was captured by the rebel General Forbes in 1862 and paroled on the field. He participated in all the actions in which his regiment was engaged during the war.

ALANSON WHITAKER.

Mr. Whitaker is a retired farmer living in Granville, and is one of the pioneers of Putnam county. He was born in Cumberland county, N. J., March 24th, 1810, and in 1835 started "overland" for the far distant west, arriving at Hennepin after a journey of four weeks. May 28, 1839, he married Maria J. Taggart, a native of Pennsylvania. She died in 1845, leaving two children, Emma, born January 17, 1840, and Otis N., born July 31, 1844, the latter of whom died July 28, 1845. June 19, 1851, Mr. Whitaker married Hannah Boxandale, his present wife, a native of Lancastershire, England. They have two children, Mary R., born September 15, 1852, and Sarah C., born March 2, 1857. Mr. Whitaker and wife are members of the Baptist church, of which he has been 30 years a deacon. He has also been treasurer of the school fund fifteen years. He owns valuable property in the village.

JOEL W. EAMES.

Mr. Eames is a farmer residing on section 35, postoffice, Granville. He was born in Whitingham, Windham county, Vermont, September 6, 1814, and came west with his mother and sisters in 1839, locating in Granville. In 1873 he Mrs. Elizabeth Hoeffnickle (nee Vanderslice), a native of Pennsylvania. He has four children by a former marriage, Charlie H., George B., Mary E. and Judson T. Mr. Eames and wife are members of the Congregational church. He owns 340 acres of land, all under cultivation, with good improvements.

WILLIAM DUNN.

This gentleman is a resident of Granville, and is engaged in the manufacture of carriages. He was born in Greenwich, Washington county N. Y., in 1828. In 1854 he came to Putnam county, remained one year and returned to New York. In 1863 he located here permanently, since which time he has been engaged in his present business. In 1868 he married Sarah M. McFarland, a native of Salem, N. Y. Mrs. Dunn is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. Dunn belongs to the Masonic order. He has been a member of the town council for several years, during the last two years occupying the position of president of that body. He owns a comfortable residence and shop. In 1864 he enlisted in the 139th Ill. Volunteer Infantry and served until the expiration of his term of enlistment. Was also deputy sheriff in Washington county, N. Y., before coming to this county.

ROBERT McSMITH.

Mr. McSmith is a blacksmith by trade, born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1834 and came with his parents to Putnam county the same year. He married Isalbah Ring in 1863, who was born in Louisiana and brought up in New York. They have two children, Charles G. and Mamie Belle. They are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. McSmith is a member of the town council. Is also a member of the A. F. and A. M. Mr. McS. entered the three months service in 1861, served four months and re-enlisted in the 10th Ill. Volunteers in 1863 as regimental blacksmith, but was taken sick and upon recovery detailed for hospital duty. At the trial of Bowles Milligan and others for treason served as messenger and private detective and performed valuable service. On one of his adventures the train on which he embarked was run into and all but himself and attendant killed. He was mustered out of service in 1865.

ELI V. RALEY.

Mr. Raley is a farmer and stock dealer, living on section 9 of Granville township. He was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1823, and came to Illinois in 1849. When the discovery of gold in California was heralded over the land, he joined a party of explorers, and with suitable outfit journeyed across the plains. They endured severe hardships, lost much of their stock, but finally made Southern California, and remained several years in the coun-

try, meeting with varied success. His love of adventure satiated, he returned to the States, content to become a tiller of the soil, and settled in Putnam county. In 1855 he married Miss Frances A. Murphy, born in Jefferson county Ohio, who became the mother of five children—Charles R., Arvilla K., Harry E., Howard B. and Franklin Hyatt. Mr. Raley is a Democrat in sentiment, and has represented his district in the General Assembly, where he proved himself a clear-headed, intelligent Representative, opposed to class legislation and monopolies, and ready to lend his influence and vote for whatever was promotive of the public good. He has served his township as supervisor, and in other capacities is a promoter of peace, and stands high in the community. His farm and surroundings are among the pleasantest in the county and indicate both wealth and culture. He owns 220 acres in Granville, and considerable land in Kansas, attends personally to the details of business, and buys and sells large quantities of cattle, hogs, etc.

THEODORE HOLLY.

Mr. Holly is a farmer and drain tile manufacturer, whose residence is in Granville township, and his post-office Peru. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1845, came to this county in 1849 with his parents, and married Miss Bertha Brenneman in 1869. They have five children, Julius D., Willie, Eliza H., Laura H. and Clara M. Seeing the great advantage of thorough draining, and finding by experiment his farm was underlaid with clay of remarkable tenacity and adaptability he embarked in the business of manufacturing, and turns out a large amount yearly, acknowledged to be without an equal in the vicinity. He manufactures and keeps on hand in large quantities the following sizes at these prices:

2½ inch per M	\$11 00
3 " " "	14 00
3¾ " " "	18 00
4 " " "	21 00
5 " " "	30 00
6 " " "	45 00

SILAS HURIN.

Mr. Hurin was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1822, and died in 1877. He was married in 1850 and came to Putnam county in 1863. His wife's maiden name was Mary Lane, her native place is Brown county, Ohio, where she was born in 1827. They had eight children born to them, Albert, Martha B., Charles L., Jeremiah T., William W., Purdy M., Jennie N. and Ida L. Are members of the M. E. church, Mr. N. held various minor offices and was well thought of in the community. Mr. H. owns 130 acres under good cultivation.

JAMES A. HARPER.

Mr. Harper is yet a young man but a large farmer and extensive grower of fine stock. He was born in Granville township in 1852 and in 1879 married Mary Darley, likewise born in Hennepin township. He owns 320 acres of fine tillable land, and is a son of James and Nancy Harper, who came here in 1832 and began improving the place where they afterward lived. His father died when his son was but a few months old and his mother in 1852. He is one of the most prosperous young men in Putnam county.

MOSES A. ELLIOTT.

Mr. Elliott was born in Hubbardton county, Mass., in 1811, moved with his parents to New Hampshire, and thence to Vermont where he lived until 1834 when he came to Lorrain county, Ohio. He lived there thirty-three years, rearing a large family. He was married Sept. 17, 1853 to Louisa Holton, who became the mother of five children. Joseph B., Alonzo B., Hannah A., Fred G. and John E. In 1867 Mr. Elliott came to Putnam county where he has since resided. He owns a very pleasant farm of 210 acres.

ADAM KUNKEL.

Mr. Kunkel is a farmer on section 33, and his postoffice address is Granville. He was born in Germany in 1812 and came to America in 1856. He married Anna Mary Stonas in 1838 and to them have been given five children, John Mary, Peter, Tracy and Henry. They are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Kunkel is a large farmer and owns 300 acres of tillable, pasture and timber land. His home is very pleasant and finely situated.

JULIUS BRENNEMAN.

Mr. Brenneman represents a well known family, often met in the annals of Putnam county. He was born in Germany but came here with his parents when three years old and was reared and educated in this county. In 1875 he married Emma Reinhardt, born in this county, and to them has been born one child, Myra, in 1877. He is a farmer by profession and is enterprising and industrious.

C. C. PENNIMAN.

Mr. Penniman was born in Bellows Falls, Vermont, in 1832, and was among the first to offer his services to his country in the dark days of 1861, enlisting in the Ninth Vermont Volunteers, Company K. He saw service in the Shenandoah Valley, and was captured by the rebels at the disgraceful surrender of Harper's Ferry by Colonel Miles, where 11,500 brave men laid down their arms. He was first sent to Annapolis, Md., and then to Chicago,

where he remained until exchanged. May 6th, 1863, he moved with his command to Little Rock, Arkansas. His regiment was the first to enter Richmond at the capture of that city. At the close of the war he settled in Putnam county, where he pays special attention to the breeding of fine horses.

MONS. OLSON.

Mr. Olson was born in Denmark, in 1840, and came to this country in 1857, locating in LaSalle county, where he still lives, and is engaged in farming. His residence is on section 6, Eden township, LaSalle county, but his postoffice is Granville. In 1876 he married Mary Leech, a native of Putnam county, by whom he has two children, Jennie Zu and Harry L. They are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Olson enlisted in Co. D, 104th Illinois Inf. in 1862, and served until the close of the war. He was captured at Hartsville, Tenn., in 1862, and paroled on the field; was wounded at Petrie Creek, Ga., in 1864, and at Bentonville, N. C., in 1865. He owns eighty-three acres of land all under cultivation, with good improvements.

SAMUEL BROWN.

Mr. Brown is a retired farmer, living in Granville, who was born in Lexington, Ky., in 1799. He removed to this country in 1835, and engaged in farming. In 1821 he married Lavina Akers, of Shelbyville, Ky., who died in 1845, leaving eleven children, viz., Martha, William M., Sarah, Mary, Anna, Nancy, Lavina, Prudence J., Louisa, Achsa, and Albert. Albert died in the army from wounds received in the battle of Franklin; William M. from disease contracted in the service, and his son Marion was killed in action. Besides his two sons, three grandsons lost their lives in defense of their country. Who can show such a record? All of the remaining children but one are married.

JAMES DUNN.

Mr. Dunn is a mechanic, and was born in Washington county, New York, in 1825. He came to Illinois in 1855, working in Granville at the carpenter and joiner business two years, and then embarked in the manufacture and sale of carriages, continuing it until 1870. He married Lydia L. Whiting, in 1858, and to them one child, Charles E. was born in 1866. All are members of the temperance organization, and active workers and promoters of the cause. He owns two fine farms of 160 acres each, under cultivation, also his residence in town and other property.

FRANK WHITING, *Attorney at Law.*

Mr. Whiting is a farmer and lawyer, born in Lockport, New York, in 1836, removed with his parents to Michigan in 1838, and to Putnam county in 1853. He married Caroline Packerham in 1856, born in Granville. In 1861 he was a soldier in the rebellion, enlisting in the 20th Illinois Volunteers, and was elected Lieutenant. He served until discharged through disability, occasioned by disease contracted on duty. He has five children, Fred. H., Mary L., Lincoln E., Lucy A. and Cornelia J. He has filled various offices, has a lucrative practice, and is regarded as a safe advisor and a rising man.

ENOCH F. HINMAN.

Mr. Hinman is a native of Massachusetts, where he was born in 1813, and came to Illinois in 1849. In 1844 he married Paulina Ingersoll, born in New York. The fruits of this union were Geo. E., Albert F., Marshall, Ella and Lansing. Mr. H. had one son by a former marriage, who was killed in battle at the siege of Vicksburg the night preceding the surrender. Albert F. married Maggie Batten in 1877, born in Canada. They have one child—Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Hinman are members of the Congregational church, and have long resided in the neighborhood.

JAMES HANNING.

A native of Ireland, born in County Antrim in 1826. In 1845 he immigrated with his parents and other members of the family to this country, locating first in Chester county, Pa., whence he came to Putnam county in 1849, returned to Pennsylvania, and located here permanently in 1855. He is a farmer, residing on section 22, and owns 300 acres of land all under cultivation, with good improvements, beside an additional tract of forty acres, which he recently purchased. He is one of the most enterprising farmers in the county.

JEREMIAH CLEMENS.

A farmer residing on section 16. Postoffice, Florid. He was born in Lebanon county, Pa., in 1819, located in Rockingham county, Va., in 1835, where he married Elizabeth Brock, a native of that county, in 1843; in 1854 moved to Madison county, Ind., and thence to this county in 1865. They have eleven children living—George W., B. Franklin, John E., Samuel P., Sarah E., Jacob P., Mary A., William H., Charles A., Rebecca A. and Jeremiah, and one dead. Mrs. Clemens is a member of the German Baptist church. He has been a school director several terms. Owns 214 acres of improved land, and 464 acres of land in Roy county, Missouri.

PETER DAHL.

Mr. Dahl is a Dane by birth: having been born in Denmark in 1838. He left his native country in 1861 and located in Granville in that year. His wife was formerly Mary Blake, born in Granville. They have three children—Nettie T., Mary L., Percy E., and are members of the Baptist church, of which he is one of the trustees, likewise a member of the town council three years. During the war he enlisted in the 104th Ill. Volunteers and was discharged through disability in 1863. J. P. Dahl, a brother of the above, was born in 1822, came to the United

States in 1866 and to Granville in 1879. He married Abigail H. Davis in 1868. They have one child, Adda J. He was formerly a shipwright and sailed in a Danish ship to Australia, where he followed mining several years and then made several voyages between Boston and China in an American vessel. Was shipwrecked on his last voyage and went to Vermont where he bought a saw mill, sold it in 1879 and with his brother went to keeping bees in Granville. They deal in Italian bees, hives and pure honey, at wholesale and retail.

JOHN FOLEY.

A farmer, residing on section 20. Postoffice, Granville. He was born in Alleghany county, Pa., in 1819; in 1845 married Rachel Burnside, a native of the same county, and in 1851 immigrated to this county. They have eight children living—Mary D., James B., Henry M., William C., Mattie H., Annie M., Elmer E. and Edward F. They are all members of the Presbyterian church, in which Mr. Foley has been an elder for the last 21 years. He has also been school director some fifteen years, and road commissioner six years. He owns 267 acres of land.

JOHN F. KUHNE.

Farmer, Granville, Putnam County, Ill.

JOHN I. PETERSON.

A farmer, living on section 23. Postoffice, Hennepin. He was born in Putnam county in 1839, being a son of the late Isaac Peterson, one of the pioneers of the county, who died in 1875. In 1864 Mr. Peterson married Jane Elizabeth Waugh, a native of Pennsylvania. They have four children—Nellie A., William A., Armelia L. and Frank I. He has occupied the position of road commissioner for the last three years. Owns in partnership with his brother 360 acres of improved land and 190 acres of pasture and timber land.

WILLIAM B. SILL.

Mr. Sill is a farmer living on section 17. Postoffice, Granville he was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1838, came to Illinois in 1852, locating in La Salle county and thence moved to Granville in 1860. In 1864 he went to Montana, engaged in mining four years, followed stock raising about eight years and in 1876 returned to Granville. In 1874 he married Mattie A. Harper, a native of this county. They have one child, Minnie Montana. Mrs. Sill died in 1879. Mr. Sill is a member of the I. O. O. F. He owns a finely cultivated farm with first-class improvements.

B. H. SMITH.

Farmer, born in New London, Conn., in 1803, he resided in his native state and in Herkimer and Orleans counties, New York, until 1847, when he came west and located in Magnolia township. In 1829 he married Philena Morton, who was born in South Deerfield, Mass., in 1811. They have had eight children, of whom there are now living Julia (Laughlin), Charles E., Edward, Sarah A. (Warlaw), Chester M. and Augusta. They celebrated their golden wedding in 1879 and have twenty-five grand children living. Mr. Smith was for several years commissioner of highways and a member of the board of school directors. He also served as commissioner of highways while a resident of New York. He has been a member of the Masonic order for fifty years. Owns 360 acres of land.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

Florida, Illinois.

GEORGE PACKINHAM.

Granville, Illinois.

CHRISTIAN OPPER.

Mr. Opper, comes from the province of Hesse Cassell in Germany when he was born in 1838. He emigrated to this country in 1855, locating in Granville began his present business which he has followed for twenty-five years. In 1858 he married Elizabeth Schneider, a countrywoman of his, and together they have five children living, Helen E., Emma A., Henry W., Mary A. and Bertha. Are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Opper is a hard worker and a good mechanic.

HENRY AND JASON L. HAWKINS.

These individuals are farmers on Section 9, and their postoffice address is Granville. They were born in Vermont and settled in Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1855 and in this county in 1862. J. L. Hawkins married Lydia Harkness in 1867, born in New York. They have one child. Himself and father are in the creamery business and agents for Cooley's creamery. They make a very superior article of butter and are demonstrating that our rich prairies are just the places for dairying.

STEPHEN HARRISON.

Mr. Harrison is a native of Dauphin county Pa., which seems to have furnished a liberal proportion of the citizens of Putnam county. He was born in 1824, came to the state in 1837, locating in Putnam county which has since been his home. In 1850 he married Mary E. Dunleavy, a man well known in the early history of the county. They have ten children—Ellen F., Mary C., Charles D., Clara E., Jas. D., Olive N., Richard H., Hattie V., Gracie F. and

Stephen R. Are members of the Congregational church in Granville in which Mr. Harrison has served as deacon for many years. He owns 368 acres in his home farm under thorough cultivation and 124 at Union Grove. Mr. Harrison's fine residence is very pleasantly located and the country surrounding is singularly beautiful.

JOHN HOLLY.

Mr. Holly lives on section 33, in Granville township. He was born in Germany in 1822 and emigrated along with his parents to this country in 1832, living in Butler county, Ohio, until 1840, when he came to Putnam county. In 1855 he married Eliza Noffzinger, a countrywoman of his who bore him seven children, Emma, Helen, Albert, Theodore, Ida, Charles and William. He has served several years as school director, and owns a finely cultivated farm of 110 acres. He is an intelligent and enterprising German American.

JOHN MOORE.

Mr. Moore was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1809, came to Bond county, Ill., in 1819 and to Putnam county in 1830. He was one of the first settlers in the county and lives upon the farm he located fifty years ago. He owns 240 acres of land under good cultivation. Alexander Moore, a brother of the above, likewise was born in Ohio in 1815 and came to Illinois in 1831. He married Mary Bowman in 1879, born in Washington county, Pa. They are members of the Presbyterian church. He owns 180 acres of land. Andrew Moore, father of the above, was born in Pennsylvania, moved to Putnam county in 1832 and died in 1845, leaving nine children.

MICHAEL SKOWENA.

The subject of this sketch lives on section 35, and was born in Germany in 1844 and came to the United States 1868. He first located in La Salle county and remained there eight years after which he settled in Putnam. In 1867 he married Effie Novolk, born in Poland. They have four children, John, Joseph, Martin and Frank. Are members of the Catholic church in La Salle. He owns one hundred acres under cultivation and in timber, and has very good improvements upon it.

C. W. DYSART.

Mr. Dysart was born on the place he now occupies in 1847, his father being one of earliest settlers of Putnam county. His wife was formerly Mary E. Haywood, a native of Massachusetts. To them were born four children, Hannah J., Archibald H., Lucy M. and Joseph W. They are communicants of the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. D. is an influential member, being trustee and elder. He owns two hundred acres of land under good cultivation.

HENRY SCHNEIDER.

Mr. Schneider is a Prussian by birth, from whence he emigrated in 1857, when thirty-one years old. His wife was a fellow countrywoman with himself, to whom he was married in 1859. They have two children, John and Katie, and are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Schneider is a teacher in the Sabbath school, and takes a deep interest in church and educational matters. He owns a good farm of 80 acres, and is an unusually intelligent and well read German American farmer.

DAVID L. PACKINGHAM.

The father of Mr. Packingham came to Putnam county in 1834, and shared in all the hardships attendant upon settling a new country. The subject of the present sketch was born in 1850, and in 1879 married Myrtie Fuller, born in Sansfield, Massachusetts, in 1861. He owns a well cultivated farm of 120 acres.

JAMES C. PACKINGHAM.

Mr. Packingham lives on section 16, and was born in Granville township. His wife was formerly Miss Gracie Penniman, and her native place Vermont. They were married in 1872, and two children bless the union, Frank F. and Lucy May. He owns 120 acres of finely cultivated land, and is thrifty, energetic and successful.

TALLMAN SELLEY.

The subject of this sketch is a farmer, born in Oneida county, New York, in 1844. When the war broke out he was living in this state, and was one of the first to offer his services, going out in the 13th Ill. Vol., and participating in all the hard fought battles in which it was engaged. When his term of service expired he went into the Board of Trade Battery, Chicago, and served until the close of the war. Receiving his discharge, he returned to Illinois, and settled in Granville, where he married Cornelia Ham and turned farmer. They are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. S. cultivates 140 acres of land, and proves that good soldiers make good neighbors and generally succeed in their undertakings.

JOHN PIERCE BLAKE.

The subject of this sketch was born in Warwick, Franklin county, Mass., July 2, 1803. He attended the ordinary schools of the place, and after two years of preparation at the academy in Mendon, N. H., he entered Amherst College, but severe attention to studies ruined his health and compelled him to leave after three years study. He chose surveying as a profession and removed west at an early day, and was appointed trustee of school lands by the circuit court of Putnam county in 1833. He was also elected trustee of Granville township school funds, which po-

sition he held until 1877. Was commissioned judge of probate court in 1883, was appointed deputy surveyor in 1836, and served either as official or deputy surveyor up to 1867, and was actively engaged in the business 31 years, until obliged by increasing infirmities to discontinue his labors. Has been twice married, his first wife being Zilpah Atwood, whom he wedded June 11, 1833. She was born in Warwick, Mass. They had eight children, John A., Aaron A., (killed in the Confederate army in East Tennessee), Mary A., (Mrs. Dahl), Edward E., Theodore D., Ellen C., Amelia and Jeannette. Mrs. Blake died March 8, 1845. In 1847 he married Mary Smith, his present wife, born in Lancaster county, Pa., 1823. They have five children, Kersey S., a graduate of Oberlin College, and now a teacher in a school for boys in New York; Martha D., a graduate of the Woman's Medical College of Philadelphia; Orella, a graduate of Wheaton College; Ella C. and Theda Pierce. Mr. Blake has been a prominent member of society in church and school for many years, has been actively connected with Sabbath schools all his life, and having performed his full duty is ready to lay aside the harness when his Master calls. He gave his children the benefits of a thorough education and provided for them in other ways. Few men can show a more honorable record than he.

BEECHER W. NEWPORT.

A farmer, born in this township, in 1825, on the farm he now occupies, in section 32. Postoffice, Hennepin. In 1875 he married Nettie Gunn, also a native of the township. They have two children.—Mary Irene and Leander Collins. Mrs. Newport is a member of the Congregational church. He owns 200 acres of land, all under cultivation. His father was one of the first settlers in this county.

PRICE PURVIANCE.

This gentleman was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, January 5, 1830, and when fifteen years of age came with his parents to this county. They located on section 33, Granville township, and the claim and dwelling are still occupied by the subject of this sketch. His parents were James and Margaret Purviance, the former of whom was born at Red Stone, Pa., and died in 1877. Mrs. Purviance, who is still living with her son on the old homestead, is a native of Maryland. Mr. Purviance is a member of the school board and clerk of that body. His postoffice address is Hennepin.

R. S. ROBINSON.

Mr. Robinson was born in Bond county, Illinois, in 1830 and came here with his parents in 1831. The county was a desert then and roaming bands of Indians peopled the river bottoms. In 1862, Mr. Robinson having arrived at man's estate, married Sarah Weeks, born in Caldwell county, Ky., They have ten children, Henry, Lee, Frances W., Robertus S., Mary A., Helen M., John W., Charles A., Joseph E., Silas M. and William L. Mr. Robinson is a large farmer, owning 290 acres of land under cultivation.

THOMAS C. THORN.

Mr. Thorn is a tinsmith by trade and carries on the business in connection with the sale of groceries at his store in Granville. He was born in Trenton, N. J., in 1835 and came west in 1855. In 1857 he married Mary E. Zenor, of Hennepin, and to them eight children have been born, John, George, Laura, Elizabeth, Willie, Absalom, Fern and Harley. Mr. Thorn has long filled the office of town clerk, has served as justice of the peace, member of the town council and director of schools. He is a good citizen, well informed upon matters of public importance and comfortably supplied with this world's goods.

D. L. CHILD.

Mr. Child (deceased) was born in Windsor, Vt., in 1818. He came to Putnam Co. in 1836, and purchased the place where he afterward lived in in 1841. Two years previous he married Margaret L. Dysart, born in York county, Pa., in 1813, and there was born to them six children, Susan E., Clarinda, Lucinda, A. P., Kate L. and David W., the latter no longer living. A. P. married Miss Henshaw, a native of Athens county, Ohio, in 1872, and has three children, William L., A. B. and Edwin H. Mr. Child was a leading man in the community, served as justice of the peace many years, and held five offices at the time of his death. He presided at the Ramsay inquest when the latter was hung by a mob, as detailed elsewhere. He served several terms as supervisor, and was a very popular auctioneer, in which capacity his son promises to excel him.



SENACHWINE TOWNSHIP.

AARON JEFFERS.

Mr. Jeffers was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1836, and is a son of Isaiah and Elizabeth Jeffers. He came to Michigan in 1857, and enlisted in the 19th Michigan Vol. Inf., served nearly three years, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. March 6, 1863, he was captured at Thompson's Station, and paroled the following month from Libby prison. Re-entering the service after exchange, he took part in the fight at Resaca, Ga., at Cassville, at Burnt Hickory, and at Peach Tree Creek, where Hood was so severely whipped, the captured Johnnies reporting he had but "one good killing left." After this he followed Sherman "to the sea," and thence to Goldsboro, N. C., Richmond, Washington, and finally home. In 1865 he came to Chillicothe, Ill., where he lived until 1869, when he went to Iowa, and returning went into the service of the T. P. & W. at Peoria, where he lived until coming to Putnam county. He married Celia Ann Thompson and has one child, born in 1875. (Since the above was written Mr. J. has died.)

HENRY HUNTER.

Mr. Hunter was born in Cortland county, New York, June 4, 1815, and was a son of Edward and Rhoda Tuttle Hunter. His father came from Vermont and was of Scotch descent, while his mother claimed a German ancestry. Was married Jan. 1, 1840, to Henrietta Turrell, daughter of Abel B. and Susan M. Turrell, of Tompkins county, New York. They have two sons and one daughter living.—Mrs. Mary B. Orr, of Mahaska, Iowa, and Henry E. and Wm. A., living at home. Their eldest son, Stephen Hunter, enlisted in the 113th Reg., serving under Gen. Sherman, and died of smallpox March 7, 1864, at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill. Mr. H. came west in 1856, and the following spring purchased the farm where he now resides. In 1859 went to Pike's Peak and tried mining, returning in December of the same year. In 1860 he went again, and after a few months experience returned and resumed farming. During the rebellion he served his township as supervisor, and sent 34 substitutes to the field. Is a member of the M. E. church, and held the position of elder therein since 1853.

CHAUNCEY D. HAWKINS.

Was born in Wallingford, Rutland county, Vt., March 31, 1829. Son of Isaac B. and Betsey Hawkins, who moved to St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1832, where they lived about twelve years, thence moved to Buffalo, N. Y., at which time Chauncey commenced his trade of carpenter and joiner. In the summer of 1847 moved to Lake county, Illinois, and lived there six years. Thence to Clintonville, and in 1860 came to this town, where he still resides, carrying on his vocation of carpenter and joiner. Was married in June, 1849, to Christina Soule, daughter of William and Angeline Soule, of Antioch, Lake county, Ill. Has five children, Amanda, Rosemer, Nettie, William and Minnie. Amanda married Charles Grubbs, and Rosemer George Griswold. Both live in this township. Mr. Hawkins belongs to the Masonic order, and is a member of the Henry Lodge, 119, A. F. & A. M.

NORMAN I. PETERS.

Mr. Peters was born in Cato, Cayuga county, N. Y., in 1839. Son of Norman and Mary E. Peters. Lived there until 15 years of age. Came to this state, town and county in 1854. In 1862 he enlisted in the 113th Ill. Vol. Infantry. Served about three years in the army of the Tennessee under General Sherman. Was discharged at Memphis in 1865 at the close of the war. Since then he resided eight years in Bureau county, carrying on a farm of 160 acres. Removed to Iowa, and returned to Senachwine three years ago, where he has resided, doing a general merchandizing. Mr. Peters contemplates moving to Caledonia, this county, and will engage in mercantile pursuits as here. He married in 1866 Susan L. Merritt, of Bureau county. Has six children,—Flora A., Joseph N., Eber F., Hulda J., Edith and Ira.

CLARA E. MORGAN.

Mrs. Morgan was a daughter of Ebenezer Cook and Leonora Comes, of Herkimer, Oneida county, New York, and granddaughter of Ebenezer Cook, of Augusta, Oneida county, born January 21, 1818, and came to Hennepin in 1836. At the age of eighteen she was united in marriage to Thomas Morgan, of Hennepin, formerly of New York, the wedding being long noted for the large party assembled, the elaborateness of the display, the number and value of the bridal presents and the richness of the toilettes. Mr. Morgan was a carpenter in early life, but in 1838 began farming in Senachwine township, where he resided until his death in 1868. Eight children were given them—six died in infancy and two survive—Helen Josephine, born in 1840, and Dwight Ellston in 1846. Both reside in

Senachwine village. Mr. D. E. Morgan wedded Sarah Whitney, daughter of Brooks Whitney, of Henry, and has had seven children—Fred, Thomas, Clara Esther, Nellie Leonora, Charles Dwight, Frank Brooks, Lewis Cook, and Geo. Byron. Nellie Leonora died when eight years old. W. E. Cook, of Lacon, whose portrait is given elsewhere, was a brother of Mrs. Morgan. Another brother, James Watson, died in Henry in 1859; William Francis in 1852, of cholera. Hobart C. Bacon was killed at a steamboat explosion in 1856. Another half brother died Nov. 3, 1850. A sister, Mrs. Captain L. N. Packard, lives in Oregon. Mrs. Morgan is very pleasantly situated in Senachwine village, where she is honored with the position of post mistress, which she holds to the entire satisfaction of the Department. Her life has been a busy one, and she has ably conducted her business affairs.

THOMAS M. PURCELL.

Mr. Purcell was born in Medina, Orleans county, N. Y., April 8, 1858. Son of Morgan and Ellen Purcell. His grandfather, Thomas Purcell and wife Mary, as also his maternal grandfather, Michael and Elizabeth Whalen, came from Tipperary county, Ireland. Came to this township in 1861. Has resided here ever since in the occupation of farming, as also has his father, Morgan Purcell. Has five brothers and sisters, as follows: Mary, Libbie, Ellen, John M. and Joanna, all of whom are now living with Mrs. Ellen Purcell, their mother. Mr. Purcell, senior, died in 1871.

EDWARD L. COOK.

Mr. Cook was born in Madison county, N. Y., in 1825. Was a son of Barnabas and Lydia Cook. Was married in 1847 to Letitia S. Trask, of New York, and have three children living,—Martin W., Fred C., Walter E. Until 1848 was engaged in farming in Chautauqua county, N. Y. Then was engaged for four years in lumbering on the Western Reserve of Ohio. Returning to his old homestead, resumed his former vocation as farmer until 1860, when he moved west to his present home in Senachwine. Was among the first in building up the village. Entered the mercantile business and remained in it until 1865. Occupied various positions, as express agent, insurance agent, etc., until 1871, when he was appointed postmaster. Has been justice of the peace, notary, etc.

HENRY D. WINSHIP.

Mr. Winship was born in Princeton, Bureau county, Ill., May 19, 1837. He was a son of Ralph and Lucetta Cooley, formerly of New Hartford, New York. At nineteen years of age he left home for Minnesota, and entered a lumber camp; afterward engaged in Government surveying. In 1861 he raised a company of volunteers in Livingston county, and entered the service under Colonel Hovey, in the 33d Illinois Infantry; participated in all the battles of the Western Department, under Generals Steel and Curtis; in 1864 was promoted to a Captain in the Army of the Tennessee, 23d Army Corps, under General Schofield; was transferred to the Army of the James; served in the sieges of Petersburg and Richmond, thence to Texas under General Sheridan; was honorably discharged March 6, 1866, having served four years and eleven months. He was married on July 4, 1860, to Clara S. Cox, of Manlius, Bureau county. They have four children—Clarence, Lee, James M. and Sidney. Mr. W. followed farming and engineering for several years subsequent to the war, and during the last two years has been manufacturing tile and brick.

JOHN FRANK MOKLER.

Mr. Mokler was born in the city of Boston, in 1831, being a son of James and Margaret Bailey Mokler. He was educated at the Catholic College for the priesthood, in Worcester, Mass. After leaving college he learned the carriage ironing trade in Sudbury street, Boston, came west in 1857, and located at Aurora, Ill.; thence to Wilmington; thence to Oxbow, Putnam county, where he resided thirteen years; thence to Whitefield Corners, Marshall county; thence came to Senachwine, where he has resided four years. Mr. Mokler retains his old tastes for literary pursuits, and spends his leisure in reading and writing. Under the nom de plume of "Sampson," in the *HENRY REPUBLICAN*, will be found many racy articles from his pen. Is correspondent under other noms de plume. Was married in the year 1857 to Elvina Biedleman, daughter of Dr. R. B. Biedleman, formerly of Henry, Ill. Has ten children, five boys and five girls,—Mary E., Herbert R., Alfred J., Charles A., Wilson, Elvina Francis, Harriet B., Victor, Clara, baby.

DON C. SMITH.

Mr. Smith was born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1820 and is a son of William M. and Hannah Smith. He learned the ship carpenter's trade for a profession and in 1843 sailed a vessel on the lakes, of which he was part owner. In 1845 he sailed for Liverpool as ship captain, in 1846 was at Hayti during the Spanish insurrection, visited most of the West India Islands, following the sea for 12 years. Came to Chicago in 1847 and to Bureau county in 1853 where he lived sixteen years. He enlisted in the 66th Regiment and served until disabled by a gun shot wound when he was mustered out. In 1859 he married Margaret E. Cox, and moved to Senachwine in 1875. They have one son.

JAMES ALFRED WOOLEY.

Mr. Wooley was born May 6, 1811, in Chesterfield, England. In 1832 left home, and while on his voyage to this country was wrecked on the Fayal Islands. Reaching New York, he went directly to Albany, where he was employed in Dr. Nott's foundry. Found employment in various places; thence proceeded to Philadelphia, where he resided nearly six years, following his usual vocation. He came to the State of Illinois in 1842, and located in Senachwine township, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres directly from the Government; afterward two

eighty-acre farms, one of which he sold, and built a store at Senachwine. He was married in 1836 to Martha Ann Williams, daughter of Thomas and Frances Hunter Williams, of Philadelphia. Mr. Wooley has six children living as follows: Susanah, William F., Kate James Alfred, Fanny and Priscella Angeline. William resides in Iowa; and James A., a physician, in Occident, Sonoma county, Cal. As an oculist Mr. Wooley has had much practice and experience, and has been most successful in his treatment.

JOHN CLAYTON ROLLEY.

Mr. Rolley was born in Manchester, England, in 1819, and was a son of Charles Hanson and Margaret Clayton of the same place. In the spring of 1843 he came to America, and to Hopewell township, Marshall county, Ill. In 1851 he became a grain buyer, shipping the first full cargo of wheat from the town of Henry to Chicago, and previous to that time, in 1848, loaded the first boat that came south from LaSalle at Hall's Landing. From time to time he has been engaged in the grain trade and occupying various places of trust. In 1849 married Belinda Jane, daughter of William and Effie Bowman, of Magnolia, this county. They have four children, three sons and one daughter—Charles William, who resides in Missouri; Clayton Eugene, Wichita, Kansas; Mary Jane, Henry, this State; Tulasco Harrison, also of Henry. Mrs. Rolley died in the year 1863.

SAMUEL H. CONDIT.

Mr. Condit was born in New York city in 1831, and was a son of Courtland and Mary L. Teneich Condit. Mr. Condit, senior, was a merchant, dealing in groceries, on the corner of Broom and Bowery streets. Making a trip into Illinois and as far as Madison county in 1834, with the intention of locating, returned home and with his family came back in 1835, where he remained one year; thence moved to Putnam county in the autumn of 1836, and pursued farming until he died in August, 1870. Mr. Samuel H. Condit remained on the farm with his father until he was married in 1855 to Rachael A. Bacon, daughter of Samuel C. and Deborah A. Morgan, of New York State. Mr. Condit has nine children—Martin L., Ann A., Pluma C., Charles R., Emma E., Minnie E., Belle M., Samuel C. B. and William B. Mr. Condit has held several offices of the town, as supervisor, town clerk, and at the present time is justice of the peace. It is due to Mr. Bacon, father of Mrs. Condit, to state that as an old citizen of this place, from 1837 to 1869, he was largely interested not only as a landholder, but as a man who was identified in the welfare and prosperity of the place. He now resides in Anstin, Minnesota.

WILLIAM WHEELER.

Mr. Wheeler was born in Licking county, Ohio, February 24, 1842. He is the son of Ira and Susan Lee Wheeler, who came from New York state in 1832 and settled in Ohio, where they lived until 1848, when they moved to Fulton county, Ill., lived there until 1863, and moved thence to Putnam county. In 1864 he married Malvina Read, daughter of Philip and Tryphena Davis Read, formerly from Fall River, Mass. They have four children—Charles W., Chettie T., Lizzie M. and Olo. Mr. Wheeler owns one of the best farms in the county, embracing 320 acres and the Samuel Bacon place. He purchased it about six years ago.

ADAM B. HENKINS.

Mr. Henkins was born in Green county, Pa., in 1826, and was a son of Elijah and Elizabeth Brown Henkins. He came to Illinois in 1852, with his family, consisting of Rawley, Andrew P., Elijah, Christina, Catherine, Susan, Margaret, Elizabeth, Martha Jane, Mary and Amanda. Adam and Elijah reside in this township, and Rawley in Missonri. Mr. H. owns about 500 acres of land in this township. He was married in 1860 to Sarah Jane Dawson, daughter of Mercer and Cassandra Dawson, of Monongahela county, Va. They have six children—Jahu, Commodore F., Jacob S., Adam, Miles W. and Susan L. All are at home or at school.

HIRAM STICKEL.

Mr. Stickel was born July 6, 1822, in Columbiana county, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob and Sarah Neill Stickel, who came to Illinois in the fall of 1834 and located in Bureau county. In 1849 Mr. Stickel married Sarah J. Bracken, daughter of Adison and Mary Bracken. They have six children, all living—Adison Marion, Marietta, Albert, Cyrus H., William and Lina. Marietta married William Brown, and is a resident of Dallas county, Iowa. November last Mr. Stickel moved to Princeton, Bureau county, for the purpose of giving his children the benefit of the best schools there. He has served as school director for many years; has also been supervisor, road commissioner, etc. He owns 1080 acres of land in this state and 500 acres located in the state of Iowa, and deals largely in cattle.

JAMES R. TALIAFERRO.

The subject of this sketch is probably the oldest resident living in the township. He was born in Claremont county, Ohio, Oct. 10, 1810 and was a son of Richard and Rebecca Riddle Taliaferro, both from Virginia. He lived in Ohio until 18 years of age and then worked his way on a keel boat to New Orleans where he lived three years. Returning north he settled in Peoria county where an elder brother had preceded him and was the first to settle where Roma now is. In 1833 he married Charlotte Cleveland, a daughter of Resolve and Betsey Cleveland, of Peoria county, and to them was born eight children, but two of whom survive—Mrs. Isabel Worley, of McLean county, and Mrs. Alice J. White, at present living at the old home. Mr. T. has been a leading citizen in his township and county and has a very extensive acquaintance. He was well acquainted with the Reeves gang and chiefly instrumental in bringing them to justice. When Cam Reeves and Allison were wanted by the authorities, and

none dare make their arrest he followed them to Pekin alone, caught them ten miles below and compelled them to return. He was known to be a dead shot with the pistol' was cool in action and quick in execution and utterly fearless of consequences, which these men well knew and when he overtook them and made known his business they surrendered, though he had not even a warrant to back up his authority. When the gang was finally broken up and driven away he was present counselling and assisting. Mr. Taliaterro settled upon his place in 1834. In the rear of his residence upon a picturesque bluff covered with pre-historic remains is the grave of the noted Indian Senachwine, whose name is given to the township. The place was long a favorite resort for the Indians and in the winter of 1845 Shaubena and a portion of his tribe were camped here. Mr. T. has a pleasant home and a kindly greeting for all who have claims upon his friendship, and though he has reached the age allotted to man by the psalmist, he is still hale and hearty and bids to live for many years.

IRA BARNHART.

Mr. Barnhart was born in Marshall county, January 11th, 1836, and was a son of Peter and Ann Hines Barnhart, who were among the early settlers of the township. March 29, 1865, he married Sarah Frances Sheldon, daughter of A. M. and Mary J. Brightman Sheldon, who were from old New England stock. Mr. Sheldon, a carpenter by trade, was a native of Providence, and Mrs. Sheldon of Fall River, Mass. They came West and located three miles south of Tiskilwa, Bureau county, pursue farming as an occupation, and own about five hundred acres of land. To Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart have been born four children, two of whom are living, Hattie and Charles Albert. The deceased are Henry and Jennie Maud.

JAMES NEVIN DERR.

The subject of this sketch was born in Lancaster, Pa., June 22 1853, in a house then owned by James Buchanan. His parents are natives of Pennsylvania, and his mother is a great-granddaughter of Gen. Jos. Reed, of Revolutionary fame. His father, the Rev. J. H. Derr, is a minister in the Reformed church of N. A., at present preaching at Williamsport, Pa. Mr. Derr served about two and a half years in the regular army, and is a graduate of the Artillery School of U. S. A., at Fort Monroe, Virginia. Since his discharge from the army in 1874, he was engaged in teaching in the States of Pennsylvania and Ohio until 1877, when he came to this State, in which he is still engaged as teacher in the public schools. He was married December 29, 1875, to Julia A. Howarth, daughter of Thomas and Caroline Howarth, of East Norwalk, Huron county, Ohio. The other members of the family are two daughters—Julia Hays, and Mabel.

JOHN GALVIN.

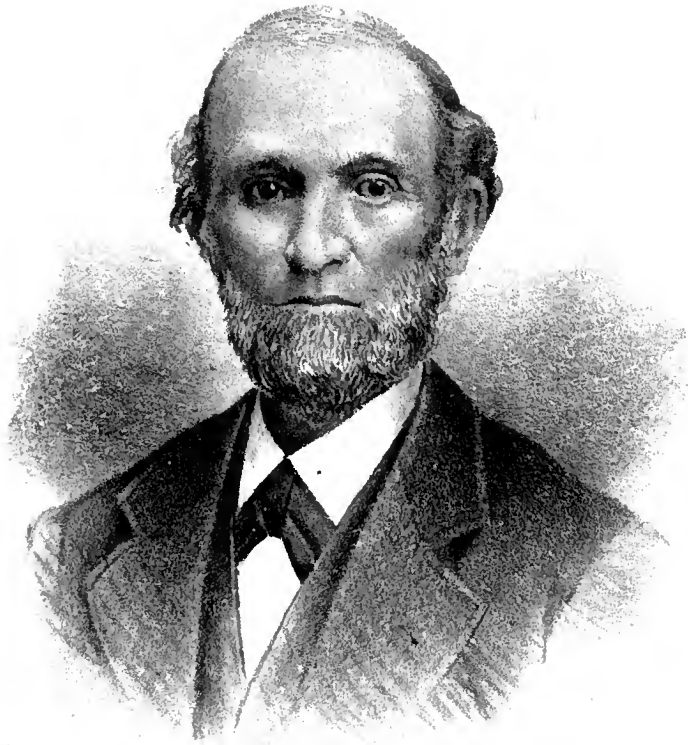
Mr. Galvin was born in Medford, Mass., June 12th, 1836. He is a son of William and Ellen Charlton Galvin, of Longford county, Ireland, who had eleven children, of whom seven are living, viz.: William, Ellen, Julia, Peter, Thomas, Margaret and John, William, who resides in Ottawa, Ill., served three years in the army in Cogswell's Battery, was wounded, and honorably discharged; Ellen married John Burke, and resides in Ottawa, Ill.; Julia married Dennis Walsh; the others live at home with their parents. John Galvin when a boy five years old moved with his father to the city of Boston, where they lived about eight years. In June of 1849 they came to Illinois and located in Chicago, where the father carried on the manufacture of gentlemen's silk hats; remained there about a year and a half, and thence removed to Ottawa, Ill., where he purchased the farm upon which he now resides. Here John learned the blacksmith trade, which he carried on after locating in Senachwine in 1859 until 1875, when he commenced farming on section 13. In February, 1879, he moved to his present farm, where he owns 260 acres. Dec. 1, 1860, he married, in Ottawa, Ill., Margaret Murphy, daughter of Thomas and Margaret McCristal, of Irish descent. They have five children—Virginia G., Thomas F., Mary L., Margaret, and John Charlton, all living at home. Three brothers of Mrs. Galvin served in the late war—John in the 6th reg't, Thomas in U. S. Grant's reg't of sappers and miners, and Michael in the 6th Wisconsin battery. The latter died in Huntsville, Ala.

CHARLES DODD.

Mr. Dodd was born in Shenandoah county, Va., August 20, 1823; son of William and Mary Stump Dodd. In 1834 he moved to Warren county, Ohio, and came to Illinois in February, 1857, where he engaged in farming, which he pursued for fourteen years; then embarked in the grain, produce and general merchandizing business. Has held the offices of school trustee and school director. In September, 1857, he married Emily Perkins, daughter of Jesse and Amy Perkins, of Kentucky, pioneer settlers of Leeper township, Bureau county, at that time embraced in Putnam county. Mrs. Perkins still survives, in a fair degree of health, at the advanced age of 78 years, and lives with her son Alvin, of this township. To Mr. and Mrs. Dodd have been born six children, four of which are living, Cyrena, Rachel, Alice, Mary E. and Henrietta. Cyrena, now Mrs. Albert Stickel, resides in this township. Mrs. Dodd died January 7, 1871. At the present time Mr. Dodd is out of business, except that of negotiating loans and trading in Western lands.

O. P. CARROLL.

This gentleman was born at Sheffield, Bureau county, Feb. 23, 1845. Moved to Annawan, Henry county, about the year 1850. Lived on a farm in that county until 1861, and at that time engaged in the grocery business at Annawan, in which business he continued until the spring of 1863, when he again engaged in farming until March, 1867, and then engaged in the lumber business with his brother, C. W. Carroll, at Chillicothe, Peoria county. Married Miss Clarissa F. Buttemore, of Annawan, Oct. 26, 1868. In February, 1872, sold out his lumber interests and engaged in the grain business at Green River, Ill. At that place his wife died, June 15, 1873. Was appointed agent



Peter Howe

for the C. R. I. & P. R. R. Co. at Green River; Nov. 1, 1873. Married Miss Jennie M. Overmyer, of Henry county, Dec. 26, 1875. In February, 1876, resigned his position as R. R. agent at Green River, and was appointed at Putnam Station, Putnam county. Here he engaged in the grain and R. R. business. October 1, 1876, was reappointed agent at Green River, and since that date has been engaged in the grain and R. R. business at Putnam and Green River Stations. Is serving his second term as supervisor of the town of Senachwine, and at the present time is school director of district No. 4, township No. 14. Has one child—Lotta.

THOMAS REAL.

Mr. Real was born in Limerick county, Ireland, Oct. 23, 1833. Son of Thomas and Winifred McGrath Real, who came to this country January 1, 1850; landed at New Orleans and came directly to this county and township, where they still reside. To them were born eight children, five of whom are now living, as follows: John, Michael, Thomas, Patrick and Philip. John resides in Livingston county, Michael in Bureau county, Patrick in Fillmore county, Neb., and Philip in San Francisco, Cal. James Joseph was killed in the battle of Shiloh under the Confederate flag, while his brother Michael, under the stars and stripes, commanded a company of Union soldiers in the Irish Legion, 90th I. R., and led them in the same battle. Martin, another brother, died at Philo, Champaign Co., this state. In 1857 Thomas married Bridget Griffin, daughter of John and Elizabeth Prout Griffin, who came from Tipperary, Ireland, in 1852, and located in Marshall county, this state. His homestead consists of 80 acres in sec. 25 in this township, and he owns 80 acres in sec. 34. Has been living upon his farm since 1860. Has served as collector of taxes. Has an adopted daughter, Lizzie Griffin Real, seven years of age.

JEREMIAH DRAKE.

Mr. Drake was born in Clinton county, Ohio, October 15, 1838. Son of Drury and Lydia Fergusson Drake, who had born to them six children, four sons and two daughters, four of whom survive, namely: William, of Hennepiu, Calch, of Davenport, Iowa, Emily Haselton, of Cass county, Iowa, and Jeremiah, who resides in Senachwine. Jas. P. Drake, a brother of the above, enlisted in 1861 in the 45th Reg. Ill. Vol., and died of fever in Alabama. William and Caleb served throughout the war, and were mustered out at the close. October 25, 1860, Jeremiah married Miss Cirena Perkins. Has three children living.—William M., Ida May and Lillie Lu. He came west in 1845 with his parents and located in Bureau county, and in 1863 moved to Putnam county. Is a member of the Christian church of Senachwine.

JAMES GILTNER.

Mr. Giltner is the son of Andrew and Susannah Giltner, and was born in Clark county, Indiana, December, 1825. In 1849 moved from there to Marshall county, and came to Senachwine, Putnam county, in 1852. Is a very prospering farmer. In 1851 he married Henrietta Rommal, daughter of Henry and Susannah Rommal, of Saxony, Germany. To them were born five children.—Sarah E., Henrietta, Abraham L., Anna Euren and Mary Jane. Sarah E. married Samuel Case and resides in Bureau county, and Henrietta married Henry Downey and resides in Senachwine. The bank of Holland holds in trust an accumulated fortune of \$140,000.000 belonging to the heirs of the family. It came through an ancestor who died intestate, and evidence is being collected to substantiate the claims of the present heirs.

CHAS. W. READ.

Mr. Read was born in New Bedford, Mass., in 1827, and was a son of Philip and Tryphena Davis Read. Mr. Read, senior, was a native of Dartmouth, Mass., and Mrs. Read of Fall River. Half a century ago Mr. and Mrs. Read left their old homes in Massachusetts and went west as far as Herkimer county, New York. Leaving that State they came to Illinois and located in Putnam county, and followed farming until Mr. R.'s death in 1843. Mrs. Read still survives in excellent health to enjoy the prosperity that has come to her and her children. Four are now living, namely: Mrs. Winship, Mrs. Wheeler, Roselia and the subject of this biography. In 1852 in company with Mr. Winship and other acquaintances left Princeton with an ox team, crossed the plains and the Rocky Mountains for California, and returned home in the autumn of 1855, having spent nearly three years: was engaged in mining, and had fair success in his operations. Has held the offices of collector several times, assessor, constable, and is a member of the Christian church, Senachwine.

WILLIAM HUNTER WILLIAMS.

Mr. Williams lives on section 19, township 14 west, range 10 east, Putnam county, Ill. The ancestors of the subject of this sketch were John Williams, a native of Wales, and Ann Williams, his wife, a native of Plymouth, England, resided previous to the war of the American Revolution, in the colony of New Jersey. During the war their domicile was burned by the British army, causing a separation of the family, and at which time it is supposed their family record was lost or destroyed. Their son Thomas Williams was bound for a number of years to a farmer, after which he moved to the city of Philadelphia, Pa., where he learned the business of house painter, and on May 2, 1807, he married Frances Hunter, daughter of William and Frances Hunter, of Philadelphia, of which union was born on the 15th day of January, 1811, William Hunter Williams, the subject of this sketch. When he was about seven years old his father removed with his family to the city of Baltimore, Md., where on the 17th day of October, 1822, his father died, leaving a widow and four children, who returned to Philadelphia, where William H. attended the public schools of the city until about fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to William Ford to learn the business of silver-plating. In the month of May, 1837, in consequence of the financial convulsion of the country he sought to improve his circumstances by removing to what was then called the Western States. Accordingly in

the fore part of June, 1837, he reached the village of Hartford, Dearborn county, in the south-eastern portion of the State of Indiana. In the month of August of that year he made a prospecting tour on foot to Indianapolis, and thence went to the eastern part of Illinois, where his further progress west was arrested by fever and ague (his objective point being Alton, Ill.), and caused him to endeavor to retrace his steps to Hartford, Ind., which was accomplished with great effort during some time in the month of September.

In the year 1838 he gained his first experience as a farmer joined with the disadvantage of a relapse of the ague and fever, having rented seven acres of land and raised a crop of corn, and in the latter part of the summer of that year took a position as clerk in a country general store. Late in the autumn of 1838 he was engaged as clerk and hand on a flatboat to take a cargo of flour and pork to the lower Mississippi River, having accomplished which he, in the spring of 1839, returned to Hartford, Ind., making a detour to visit his brother, who had preceded him to Putnam county, Ill., upon which occasion he concluded to settle permanently in Illinois. Returning to Hartford, he was offered a situation on a store-boat, and continued in the boating business until some time in September, 1839, and on or about the 21st of September started on horseback from Hartford to go to Marshall county, Ill., arriving Oct. 1, 1839. On the first of May, 1843, he entered eighty acres of land and received the Government patent for the same, under the administration of President John Tyler, and on the 26th day of December, 1856, purchased eighty acres adjoining from Samuel C. Bacon. On the 29th day of June, 1843, he was married to Miss Theodosia Holmes Lyon, daughter of Abijah Lyon and Comfort Holmes Lyon, natives of Westchester county, New York, who removed from the city of New York to Marshall county, Ill., in the spring of 1839. Mr. Williams has nine children as follows: Frances H., William A., Martha Mary, John Howard, Emma E., James Albert, Theodosia Ann and David Herbert. Frances H., now Mrs. Samuel A. Wilson of Adin, Modoc county, Cal.; Martha now Mrs. Charles M. Hobbs, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mary now Mrs. O. H. Lincoln, of Marengo, McHenry county, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln are now professional teachers. Emma E., now wife of Rev. W. B. Berry, lives at Barry, Pike county, Ill.; William A. resides in the town of Belvidere, Thayer county, Neb.; John H. lives at home engaged in farming; Jaa. A. is teaching in Bureau county, Ill.; Theodosia A. is in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and D. Herbert at home attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Williams commenced housekeeping on the first purchase of land in the spring of the year 1844, passing through all the experiences of a pioneer farmer incident to that period of the history of the State of Illinois. In 1847 he was elected to the office of justice of the peace of Senachwine precinct holds the same office at the present time, and lives on his original location, was county judge for a period of six years, succeeding Joel W. Hopkins in that office, Mr. Hopkins being elected a member of the State Legislature; was postmaster at the village of Senachwine nearly ten years; was town clerk a number of years; was township treasurer of schools nearly thirty years; served one year in the office of town collector. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are members of the Henry Society of the New Jerusalem or Swedenborgian church for over twenty years. The judge, as he is familiarly called, is now 69 years of age. His wife is 59 years. They with their large family of children enjoy a remarkable degree of health.

ALVIN PERKINS.

Mr. Perkins was born October 22, 1834, and was a son of Jesse and Amy Garton Perkins, who came from the State of Kentucky, and located in Bureau county in the year 1833. Six surviving children were born to them, namely: Elijah, Matilda, Jesse, Cirena and Alvin. Elijah and Jesse reside in Cass county, Iowa. Matilda married William Wherry, and lives in Green county, Iowa. Cirena and Mrs. Jeremiah Drake live in Senachwine, and Madison in Page county, Iowa. Alvin married Miss Lydia Hamilton, daughter of James and Elizabeth Long Hamilton, of Ohio, in the year 1856. Has seven children living—Edward, Jennie, Carrie, Austin, Alvin Grant and baby boy. In the year 1860 he went to Pike's Peak, where he remained until August, when he returned home. In 1864 he went to Austin, Nevada, worked in the mines about one year, then visited California, and returned home via the Isthmus. In 1867 he sold out in Bureau county, moved to Pottawatomie county, Iowa, remained there one year and moved to Putnam county. He owns 315 acres of fine land.

JOHN F. M. PARKER.

Was a son of Ezekiel Parker and Margaret Ann Engle, formerly from Green Briar county, Virginia, and was born in Amity, Knox county, Ohio. In 1839 they moved to Effingham county, Ill., where they resided for about seven years. Mr. Parker died in 1846 leaving six children, three sons and three daughters, the latter having since died. Samuel resides in Chicago, S. S. in Libbey, Oscella county, Ia., and the subject of this sketch in Putnam county, Ill. Mr. Parker resided prior to his residence in Senachwine, with his mother in Fulton county and in Beardstown, Cass county, Ill. Came to Senachwine July 13, 1857 and commenced life there as a clerk, school teacher and deputy postmaster. During his residence in this township he aided in founding and building the Christian church. He is still connected with the church as pastor, and laboring at the same time as the evangelist of the Bureau and Putnam county Christian Co-operation society. Aug. 6, 1863 he married Mary A. Wherry, daughter of Elder John Wherry and Malinda Perkins, of Putnam county, from which marriage six children were born, namely: William S., Emma L., James E., Mary V., Walter C. and Anna Maud.

JAMES M. WINSHIP.

Mr. Winship was born in Lewis county, New York, October 2, 1825. He is a son of Ralph and Lucetta Cooley Winship, who came to Princeton, Bureau county, in June, 1835. James M. moved from Princeton to this township in March, 1868, and has resided here ever since. In 1850 he married Mary Ann Read, daughter of Philip and Tryphena Read, of Senachwine. They have five children,—J. Orrin, Cora Eva (now Mrs. Martin L. Condit, of this township), Orville W., Walter E. and Jessie M. In 1852 Mr. Winship left Princeton, crossed the plains and Rocky mountains with an ox team, visited California, remained there one year, and returned home in the spring of 1853. He

owns a fine farm of 192 acres, and is engaged in the manufacture of drain tile and brick. He has been supervisor of the town for two successive years, and school director for many years. Is a member of the Christian church. He has a vivid recollection of his frequent trips to Chicago at an early day, with grain and pork, bringing back lumber at \$8.00 per M for the building of the court house in Princeton. In 1876 he made an extended tour through the east, visiting Philadelphia during the Centennial exhibition, Washington, Mt. Vernon, New York city, and old friends in Oneida county, New York.

ABRAHAM W. HOAGLAND.

Mr. Hoagland was born in Readington, Huntington county, New Jersey, son of Dr. C. C. and Gertrude La Bagh Hoagland, who had eight children—Francis E., Anna M., John E., A. W., Lucy R., Nellie W., Hattie R., and Henry M. Frank resides in Council Bluffs, Ia., Anna M., now Mrs. James H. Smith, and John in Jackson county, Kansas, and Lucy R. in Yuma county, Arizona, and is a teacher. The other children live at home with their mother. Dr. Hoagland died in March, 1868, in Iowa where he was employed as state agent of the American Bible Society. He was a man of great energy in every vocation of life. Was state superintendent of schools in New Jersey. Was editor of a weekly journal published in the town of Hennenpin. Abraham W., enlisted in Co. I., 47th Regiment Ill. Volunteers in the last year of the war, and was mustered out in December, 1865, at Springfield, Ill. His brother, Frank, enlisted in July, 1861, under General Rosecrans, served during the war, was in all the engagements of his regiment and for a short time was prisoner of war. His brother John, enlisted at Maroa, Macon county, this state, and entered the army in the department under General Grant. All came home about the same time, having served their country faithfully and honorably. Abraham carries on the farm of 120 acres. Has served as school director.

GEO. E. SPARLING.

Senachwine, Putnam County, Illinois.

JOHN SPARLING.

Senachwine, Putnam County, Illinois.

GEORGE SPARLING.

Senachwine, Putnam County, Illinois.

JOHN M. WILLIAMS.

Mr. Williams was born August 28, 1844, and is a son of John and Melinda Morgan Williams, well known citizens of Senachwine township. He enlisted January 26, 1865, as a private in company A., 148th Regiment Ill. Volunteers was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee and in August received his discharge at the close of the war. In 1872 made a tour through the west, visiting Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri with the intention of locating but returned and May 25, 1876, married Eliza J. Downey, daughter of Francis and Jane Welch Downey, of this township. Has one child, Carrie E. In 1872 was the active agent, as well as a prime mover together with other citizens of Senachwine, in making a saving to the county of ten thousand dollars by stopping the issue of bonds for that amount which otherwise would have been issued in favor of the Kankakee and Illinois River railroad. Mr. Williams is a farmer by vocation and shells corn for grain men and others. Has been constable for four years, collector for one year and school director six years, and is also an ingenious mechanic and inventor, having secured patents on an invention that promises to become valuable.

WILLIAM BARNHART.

Mr. Barnhart was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, June 25th, 1829, and is a son of Peter and Ann Hines Barnhart who came to the state in 1831 and located at first near Lacon, then called Columbia. At that time there were but few white settlers in those parts. While hunting one day he discovered two dead Indians sitting side by side upright within a small fenced inclosure. He lived there about three years. During the Black Hawk war he served as captain, for which he received a patent of 160 acres of land from the government. His occupation was that of a farmer, although possessed of the genius of doing all things with facility. At one time he owned about a thousand acres of land in Senachwine township. Had nine children—seven sons and two daughters—Martha, now Mrs. Hoselton, of Adams county, Iowa, James, of Clinton county, Iowa, John, of Senachwine, Wesley, deceased, Ira and Asa, twins; Ira resides in Senachwine, and Asa in Colorado. Mary Elizabeth died January 26, 1864. Mrs. Barnhart died December 23, 1879, aged 82. Mr. William Barnhart grew up, followed the occupation of his father and resides on the old homestead. He made a prospecting tour to the Rocky Mountains and was one of the so-called "fifty niners." He enlisted Aug. 12, 1862, in the 113th Regiment of Ill. Volunteers, assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, served three years and was mustered out in Memphis, Tenn., at the close of the war. Was married Oct., 1878, to Martha Jacobs, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Scott Jacobs, of Mendota, Ill. Has two children—Clara May Umponhour and Frank Koestner.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

Section 31, Senachwine, Putnam county. Born in Philadelphia, Pa., May 16th, 1813. Son of Thomas and Frances Hunter Williams. Thomas served in the war of 1812. His father, John Williams, was a citizen of New Jersey, was taken prisoner by the British and died while in prison and was buried in what is now known as Washington Square. William Hunter, father of Frances, was in the Revolutionary war and at the battle of German-

town under Washington. In 1824 Mr. John Williams, then a lad of eleven years of age, shook hands with La Fayette in the old Independence Hall. Having learned the bricklaying business was employed in the year 1836 in building Girard college. During the autumn and winter he made a circuitous route from Philadelphia to New York City, New Orleans up the Mississippi to St. Louis and thence to Hennepin, Putnam county, In 1843 pre-empted a claim of 160 acres of land in tp 10, N.W., section 3, and the ensuing spring, 1844, came to the farm they now reside on. Was married Oct. 22, 1843, to Melinda Morgan, daughter of Alanson and Melinda Peters Morgan, Warren, Litchfield county, Conn., formerly from Hebron, Mass. Have eight children, John M., Thomas, Irvin S., Melinda, Frances, George, Adaline and Martha Ann. John M. resides in this county. Frances, now Mrs. Lorenzo Brunt, lives in this county. The other children live at home with their parents, Mr Williams is a man of advanced opinions upon all questions relating to the welfare of the human family and does his own own thinking. He has been a leading anti-slavery man and in the days of the "underground railroad" often assisted fugitives on their way to freedom. He was an active instigator and assistant in driving the Reeves gang from the country. He is a good talker, clear headed and genial hearted, a warm friend to those worthy of it and a hater of shams.



MARSHALL COUNTY.

LACON TOWNSHIP.

JAMES B. MARTIN.

Mr. Martin, president of the First National Bank of Lacon, was born in Wayne county, Ill., in 1824. His life demonstrates how a poor boy achieved wealth and distinction solely through his individual exertions, without the help or aid of relatives or influence. His early life was full of hardships and his education such as could be picked up in the poorest country schools. For several years he followed breaking prairie, and with the first money earned entered some land which he sold at an advance, and then entered more. His investments were carefully made and uniformly successful. He opened a good farm in Bennington township which he sold in 1857, and coming to Lacon embarked in the livery business, and went to loaning money. In 1849 he married Minerva Hedrick, who died in 1857, leaving three children—Frank, Lizzie and Clara. In 1858 he was married to Ann J. Norris, by whom he has five sons and daughters,—Herbert, Edwin C., Ada L., Florence and Chester H. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank, and has held various offices of trust in city and township.

WM. M. PYLE.

Mr. Pyle is a watchmaker and jeweler in Lacon. He was born in the city of Richmond, Wayne county, Ind., in 1843, moved to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1870, and located in Lacon in 1877. He was educated in the city of his birth, and there also received rudimentary instruction in the business in which he has made himself proficient by experience and the exercise of the unusual degree of mechanical ingenuity with which he is endowed. In 1860 he married Matilda Robinson, a native of Greensburg, Ind. They have five children,—Wm. H., Charles R., Maud, Blanch, and Olive. He is a member of the Masonic order. Served three years as quartermaster of the 40th Ind. Vol. Inf. during the war of the rebellion. He is a nephew of Samuel E. Perkins, Judge of the Superior Court of Indiana, and Mrs. Pyle is a sister of Hon. Milton S. Robinson, late member of Congress from the Sixth District of Indiana.

DR. ISAAC H. REEDER, *Physician and Surgeon.*

Dr. Reeder was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1824, and moved with his parents to Marshall county in 1834, settling in Lacon, or Columbia, as the village was then called. He was educated in Lacon, was a student at Rush Medical College in Chicago, and graduated from that institution in 1852, commencing the practice of his profession in Lacon the same year, and has continued steadily in practice to the present time with the exception of three years spent in the army during the war of the rebellion, during which time he served as surgeon of the 40th Ill. Vol. Inf. In 1850 married Catherine D. Lucas, a native of Bloomington. They have one child living, Flora E., and one deceased. Dr. Reeder and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church, and he is a member of the state and local medical societies.

REV. FATHER JOHN F. POWER.

Pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic), in Lacon. Mr. Power was born in the city of New York, in 1850, and two years later his parents moved to Illinois, locating in Chicago. He studied theology in Mount St. Marys college, Emmetsburg, Md., and was ordained for the priesthood by the late Bishop Foley, of Chicago, April 12th, 1875. He was first stationed at Beardstown, where he remained one year, was for a short time in charge of the parish in Bloomington, and in June, 1877, was placed in charge of the parish at this place, where he has since remained. He has established a school here in connection with the church, with Sisters of Charity as teachers, where children of Catholic parents can receive a thorough preparatory education in accordance with the doctrines of their church, and by his consistent piety and zealous efforts in behalf of the temporal as well as spiritual welfare of the communicants of his church, has endeared himself to those of his own faith and won the respect and esteem of the entire community, irrespective of religious affiliations.

RICHARD GELL.

This gentleman, member of the firm of Stire & Gell, merchants and clothiers of Lacon, is a native of England

born in Huntingdonshire in 1818. Before coming to this country he received the business training of a ten years experience in the grocery business in the city of London. In 1851 he came to the United States, and located in Lacon, remaining here about seven years. He then moved on a farm in Stenben township, where he remained one year, lived in La Prairie five years, and then returned to Lacon, being connected with Fisher's flouring mill about four years. At the expiration of this connection he formed a partnership with Felix Kahn in the clothing business in Sparland which lasted seven years, when he again returned to Lacon and formed his present business partnership with Mr. Stire. October 18, 1846, he married, in London, England, Mary A. Wood a native of that city. They have one child living, Maria Naocy (now Mrs. Martin residing in Tazewell connty), and have lost one child by death. They are members of the Baptist church. A few years ago Mr. Gell visited his old home in the city of London, and has consequently three times crossed the broad Atlantic. He is an estimable citizen, a man of sturdy integrity, honest, upright and straightforward in all his dealings, and enjoys in a high degree the confidence and esteem of his fellows.

GEO. W. TAYLOR.

Mr. Taylor is a conductor on the Western Division of the C. A. & St. L. Railroad, and resides in Lacon. He was born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in 1849. In 1872 he married Sarah J. Farrrayman, a native of Ohio, and together they located in Washington, Tazewell connty, from which place they subsequently moved to Lacon. They have one child, Archie, born November 25, 1874. Mr. Taylor has been connected with the C. A. & St. L. Railroad since he was a boy. He is a member of the Railway Conductors' Mutnal Aid and Benefit Society of the United States and Canada.

FRED. PETERS.

Mr. Peters is a barber and hairdresser located and carrying on business on Main street in Lacon. He was born in Prussia, in 1843, where he remained until 23 years of age, when he came to the United States and located first in Springfield, Ill., moving thence to Lacon in 1875, and commenced in business for himself the same year. In 1871 he married Malinda French, a native of Missouri, by whom he has four children.—Emma, Charlie, Mary and Frederick. Mr. Peters is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is also a member of Co. H, 7th Reg't Ill. N. G.

WILLIAM GAPEN.

Mr. Gapen is a resident of Lacon engaged in the manufacture of saddles and harness. He was born in Scioto county, Ohio, in 1833, but was raised in Lacon, his parents moving here when he was but one year old. In 1857 he married Elizabeth Boyles, a native of Adams county, Ohio. They have six children,—Charles, Mollie, Sallie, William, Emma Dell and Frank. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.; has been in business for himself since April, 1866.

JOHN HOFFRICHTER.

A resident of Lacon, a stock dealer by occupation and proprietor of a meat market. Mr. Hoffrichter was born in Prussia in 1829, came to the United States in 1854, and in 1859 located in Lacon. The same year of his settlement here he married Margaret Krach, a resident of St. Louis, born in Bavaria. They have four children,—Lonisa E., Clara M., Anna T. and Bertha E. They are members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. H. belongs to the Masonic order and the I. O. O. F. He has been in business in the same location since 1859.

CARRIE C. GAGE.

Mrs. Gage was born in North Wolfboro, N. H., and is a daughter of Aaron and Mary (Bickford) Roberts. The family came originally from England, and in the days of the colonies settled at Dover and became farmers. Mr. Roberts, senior, was born and labored on a farm when a boy, afterward removing to this place, where he died after a long and busy life. He followed merchandising here, amassing a large property, which was equitably divided among his descendants. Here his children were born and grown up, the sons assisting in the store and gaining a thorough knowledge of the business. Five sons and daughters were born to them, viz., Susan Abigail (Mrs. Blake), Alonzo and Porter D., living in Chicago, Mary B. G. (deceased), and Carrie C., the subject of this sketch. She married in 1854, Fred. Gage, and moved immediately to Kenosha, Wis., where they lived two years, and went to Manitowoc, where he engaged in business. Here he made the acquaintance of Phineas Stevens, and in 1860, along with him and A. and P. D. Roberts, removed to Lacon, and under the firm of Stevens, Gage, Roberts & Co. embarked in merchandising, the lumber and grain trade. They did a very extensive business for a number of years, and were quite successful. Mr. Gage retired from the firm about 1870, and purchasing a large farm west of Lacon, turned his attention to improving it. He also opened an exchange and loan office in Sparland. He had a first class aptitude for business, his investments were always safe, and he accumulated a large property. His married life was happy, and to them two children were born—a son that died in infancy, and a daughter—Maria Theresa, born March 6, 1873.

JOHN GRIEVES.

Mr. Grievess comes from Selkirk, Scotland, where he was born in 1826, and obtained his education in the schools of the place. He was early put to work in the mills and obtained a thorough knowledge of the woolen manufacture in all its details. He set out to master the details and fit himself for something better than a mere laborer, and succeeded. Finding there was little opportunity to rise in the profession in the overcrowded manufacturing cities of the old world, he determined to emigrate, and came to the United States in 1848, finding employment in Lawrence, Mass. In 1851 he was offered the superintendency of a new mill at New Edinborough, Canada,

remained till 1858, when he went to Utica in charge of a department in the celebrated Globe Mills. From there he went to West Troy and assumed charge of James Roy & Co.'s Shawl Mills. About this time the Lacon Woolen Manufacturing Co. was organized, in which Mr. Grieves became a stockholder, furnished the plans for the mill and purchased most of the machinery. He was its first superintendent, and continued there until about 1870, when he went to Beloit, Wis., and to Peoria in 1872, returning to Lacon in 1876, and assumed his present situation as superintendent and manager of the Lacon Woolen Manuf. Co. In 1848 he married Elizabeth Heart, and to them were given, George Isabella, Jessie, John, Oliver and Christine. He has two children by a former marriage—Elizabeth and Mary. Two daughters are married and live in Peoria, and one—Jessie, who was a very promising young lady, is buried in the Lacon cemetery.

CLARISSA ILIFF.

Lacon, Marshall county, Illinois.

FRANK D. SHAFER.

Mr. Shafer is a farmer living on section 13, who was born in Knox county, Ohio. His father settled in Hopewell township in 1846, living in the old homestead, three miles above Lacon, until the close of his life. He was a Jacksonian Democrat, inflexibly honest and wedded to his opinion. His son Frank came to Lacon in 1846, and wedded Amelia Cain, daughter of James Cain, of Richland. He has a productive farm and a fine residence beautifully situated in a natural grove and surrounded with fruits, etc. They have four children, Mary E., James V., Henry B., and Benjamin F. He is a good farmer and stock raiser, loves a good horse, and when business permits enjoys himself in hunting, etc., but don't neglect business for any pleasure.

GEORGE AUTH.

Mr. Auth is a watchmaker and a jeweler located and doing business in Lacon. He was born in the city of Fulda Hesse, Germany, in 1824, where he received a thorough classical education. He spent several years in traveling in France, Switzerland and England, and came to this country in 1852 and visited nearly all the states in the Union as a professor of languages. He is an accomplished artist in his trade, having been brought up to that art of delicate manipulation by his father, who was a finished artisan of wide celebrity in his native land. Mr. Auth has added largely to his rich store of knowledge acquired in early life by close observation during his varied travels, his finished education greatly facilitating his efforts in that direction.

EDWARD WELCH.

Mr. Welch is a locomotive engineer whose residence is in Lacon. He was born in Essex county, New York, in 1843. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, 118th N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, serving in the armies of the Potomac and the James under Gen. Butler. At the battle of Fair Oaks, Oct. 24th, 1864, he was captured, confined in the celebrated Libby Prison of execrable memory two weeks, and in Salisbury, S. C., until March 2, 1865, when he was paroled and released, sent to Annapolis, Md., and thence to New York, where he lay sick several weeks and was finally mustered out at Plattsburg, N. Y., in June, 1865. December 15th, 1864, he was commissioned a lieutenant. In 1872 he married Helen Logan, a native of Pittsburg, Pa. They have three children, Clarence, Edward and Edith E. Mr. Welch is a member of the Masonic order, and belongs to the brotherhood locomotive engineers.

F. C. GALE, *Physician and Surgeon.*

Dr. Gale was born in Windham county, Vermont, in 1840 and comes from an old family that has given many eminent men to the country. His father was a farmer, and gave him a good education, after which he studied medicine, and after receiving his diploma entered the United States navy as assistant surgeon, in 1861, serving on board the U. S. steamer Putowska, engaged in the blockade of southern ports and the pursuit of rebel cruisers, also in which capacity he visited the different West India Islands, the Caribbean Sea, crossed the Atlantic and entered the Mediterranean Sea, visiting most of the consular states on the way. He was in the expedition of Com. Goldsboro that captured Hilton Head, and the Carolina coast, also in Burnside's expedition, and in a great storm off Hatteras. Saw several vessels with all on board go down. The service was exciting and laborious, now chasing rebel armed cruisers, now capturing peaceful traders, and again having sharp encounters with rebel batteries and iron clads. Occasionally they would chase a noted rebel cruiser like the Florida, the Sumpter, the Nashville, and four times he was wounded, but never seriously. At the close of the war he was mustered out and returned home. In 1865 he married Fannie Taft, daughter of the Hon. Geo. W. Taft, of Vermont. She died in 1870, leaving two children—George Taft and Orpha M. His present wife was Jennie Handwork, whom he married at Morris, Ill., February, 1874. He came to Lacon in 1875, and has built up a large and lucrative practice.

HENRY L. CRANE.

Mr. Crane was born in Crimtown, now Montclair, N. J., March 5, 1813, and moved at an early day to Ohio. He learned the trade of a brick mason, and followed it for many years. Here he joined the M. E. church, of which he was for 51 years an upright, consistent member. He was three times married, first to Elizabeth Martin, of New York city in 1834, to whom eight children were born as follows: Sarah, now Mr. W. W. Dean; Josiah Wesley, Henry J., Mary and William, all dead. Charles is married and living in Lacon, and Margaretta, now Mrs. A. Pochereau. Mrs. Crane died in 1851. In 1836 Mr. Crane joined several of his neighbors, and came to Lacon, then Columbia, a not very promising town of five cabins and two frame houses. He was largely instrumental in organizing the M.

E. Society, the first church formed in the place, and of the thirteen original members he was the last survivor but one. After the death of his wife he married Mrs. Eliza D. Ransley in New Jersey, in 1852 and by her had five children, viz., George M., a printer; Greenberry F., Kate Celia, Henry L. and Nelly, at present living at home. Mrs. (Ransley) Crane died in 1866, and in 1868 he wedded Mrs. Julia (Wolcott) Wilson, who survives him, born in Columbia county, New York. Mr. Crane died Feb. 17, 1880, after a long and well spent life. For thirty years he was a local preacher of the M. E. church, and always an active, influential member. In 1848 he was elected sheriff, filling the office as principal or deputy four terms; was U. S. storekeeper nine years, and served as supervisor, collector, assessor, etc., for many years. Few men's lives were so long and so free from blemish, and he died regretted by all.

CAPT. HENRY FISHER.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Union county, Pa., where he was born in 1833. Two years later his parents moved to Summit county, Ohio, where he was raised, and in 1856 he came to Marshall county. In February, 1862, he organized Co. C, 65th Ill. Vol. Inf., of which he was commissioned first lieutenant, being promoted to the captaincy in December following. He participated in the exciting Shanandoah Valley campaign of 1862, which culminated in the siege and capture by the rebels of Harper's Ferry, and was one of that 11,500 brave men humiliated by surrender through the gross incompetence and mismanagement of superior officers. Was paroled on the field, exchanged in the spring of 1863, participated in the Eastern Kentucky campaign and defeat of the rebel Gen. Humphrey Marshall. Was with Burnsides in the defense of Knoxville, where he was under siege 21 days, took part in the Atlanta campaign until the surrender of that city, and aided in administering that crushing defeat which Hood sustained at Nashville at the hands of "old Pap" Thomas. At the expiration of his term of service he returned to Lacon, went into the dry goods business in Sparland, where he continued five years, and then purchased his present homestead and settled down to bucolic pursuits. August 29, 1865, he married Mary Thompson, a native of this county. They have three children—Georgie M., Jesse M., and Apley T., and one child, Cora E., by a former marriage. Mrs. Fisher is a member of the M. E. church.

JOHN LOCKETT.

Mr. Lockett is in the weaving department of the Lacon Woolen Manufacturing Co., and a thoroughly competent workman. He was born in Cheshire, England, in 1848, and came to the United States in 1855, locating in Coventry, Conn. He began weaving in 1861, in Connecticut, moved to Wilbraham, Mass., and then to Rhode Island, when after a brief stay he went back to Massachusetts, working in various places. He came to Lacon April 4, 1876, and was appointed to his present position. He married Emma Starts in 1873, who was born in Bondsville, Mass. They have one child—William. Mr. Lockett is a member of the I. O. O. F. in good standing.

GEO. F. BLACKSTONE.

Mr. Blackstone's home is in Lacon, though he has been employed for a number of years in Peoria as U. S. inspector and gauger. His fine education and skill in mathematics eminently qualify him for the position. He is a native of Portland, Maine, and the advanced ground he occupies politically is due to his early education and time. He opened the first hardware store in Lacon, in which he continued until appointed to his present position. In 1857 he married Elenora A. Bullman, born in Lacon, and to them have been born four children—Blanche B., August 26, 1861; Anne L., May 26, 1868; Roy Lot, July 20, 1871, and George Raymond, March 27, 1874. Also one child deceased. Mrs. Blackstone is a daughter of Lot and Anne Bullman, among the first settlers in the county of Marshall. She is an ardent Christian, and an active worker in the cause of temperance.

OLNEY BURTON.

Mr. Burton is a retired farmer, born in Pomfret, Windham county, Conn., in 1810. He came to Illinois in 1855, settling in Macon county, where he lived until 1873, when he went to Missouri. The country there did not suit him, and after one season's trial he removed to Marshall county, where a married daughter, Mrs. Weiderhold, was living. Here he has since remained. In 1833 he married Louisa Chandler, who became the mother of four children, viz.: Maria Burlingame, Mary E., Fanny and Anra J. He is well versed in national affairs, and likes to converse upon them.

ALFRED SCRUTON.

Mr. Scruton is a retired farmer who, having achieved a competence, wisely settles down to enjoy it. He was born in Stafford county, New Hampshire in 1818, moved to Gloucester City, New Jersey, in 1845, and in 1854 came to Illinois, locating in La Prairie township. He married Sylvia Young September 2, 1836, born in New Hampshire, and to them five children have been given—William H., Anna, Asenath Augusta, May Flora and Olive Estella. Are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Scruton has been a hard worker, and having carefully husbanded his means, can now sit beneath his own vine and fig tree and enjoy the fruits. He has held various minor offices and been honored by his party with the nomination for treasurer of the county, a very responsible position.

MRS. EMILY K. DAVIS.

Mrs. Davis was wife of the late Dr. Davis, a leading physician of Lacon and most respected citizen, who died November 9, 1873. She was born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, in 1829, and married June 17, 1856, in Fulton county, Ill. Dr. Davis was a brother of Dr. Charles Davis, of Henry, and born in Troy, New York. Few men were more entitled to respect and esteem of his neighbors. He was conscientious in the discharge of every duty, careful, respected the rights of others, lived within his means, and reared his family in the "nurture and admonition of

the Lord. He was an excellent physician, and enjoyed a good practice when cut short by his untimely death. To him were born four surviving children—Charles Fremont, George Sheaff, Hattie Estelle, Franklin Silver, and one deceased, Mary Emma. Mrs. Davis' children take after their father, and stand well wherever known. Fremont has a good position in the Elgin Watch Factory, George is a farmer, and the younger children are with their mother, now Mrs. Turbitt, she having re-married April 13, 1875.

EDWARD GREEN.

This gentleman is a resident of Lacon and a dealer in boots, shoes, stationery and notions. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1834, and with his parents came to Marshall county in 1837. In 1864 he married Miss Sarah Ellis, a native of Peoria county, Ill. They have five children.—Julia E., Anna M., Albert E., Clara M. and Florence P. Mr. Green has been in business for himself since 1858, and keeps constantly on hand a large stock of boots shoes, books, stationery and notions.

THOMAS LOWE, JR.

Marble Dealer, Lacon, Illinois.

R. C. NEWELL.

Mr. Newell is a native of Kentucky and was brought up a farmer. When three years old his parents moved to Ohio, where he obtained his education, and thence to Indiana. He came to Lacon in 1869. In 1846 he married Charlotte F. Ham, born in Maryland, to whom four children have been born—John E., William C., Frank C. and Robert S. Frank is the western manager for C. H. McCormick, and two years ago was sent to Russia as his representative. Last year he visited Australia, was gone nine months and sold 1200 machines. Few young men unaided have won in such brief time positions so responsible and lucrative. Mr. Newell is agent for the Halliday wind mill, and does an extensive business in the sale of pumps of all kinds. He is enterprising and reliable, and commands the esteem of all.

NELSON G. HENTHORN.

Mr. Henthorn was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1810, and moved with his parents to Perry county, Ohio, in 1813, and to Marshall—then Putnam—county in 1835. His family were among the earliest settlers of Lacon, his brother-in-law, Gen. Babb, having been one of the prospectors of the place. His father was one of the founders of the M. E. church here, and its first leader. He was the second person interred in the Lacon cemetery. Mr. Henthorn married Elizabeth C. Moeller in 1835, and came to Lacon to live in 1848, following the trade of contractor and builder. Six children have been born to them—Charles O., living in Chicago, George, in Peoria, Maria, (Mrs. Clapp), Sarah and Laura, (teachers), and Lincoln living at home. Mr. Henthorn has served as circuit and county clerk for several years, and filled various minor offices. He is an excellent penman, and each of his children inherit his skill. Two of his sons, Charles and George, served in the army during the rebellion.

EDWARD CORCORAN.

Mr. Corcoran was born in County Waterford, Ireland, in 1830, and emigrated to Wilbraham, Mass., in 1851, and from there to Illinois. He came to Lacon in 1855 and engaged to work for Jabez Fisher. His aptitude to learn and willingness to make himself useful specially commended him to his employer, who placed him in charge of the ferry, which position he filled for seventeen years, retiring from it to take the position of city watchman, which he has since filled. In 1860 he married Catherine Carney, born in Ireland. They have six children living—Willie J., Eddie, Patrick, Henry, Maggie (deceased), Thomas and Mary. Mr. Corcoran has become thoroughly Americanized, and is a man of more than usual intelligence.

JACOB HOCHSTRASSER.

Mr. Hochstrasser is a brewer by profession, born in Wurtemberg, Prussia, in 1846, and has been a resident of this country since 1865. He first located in Dunkirk, N. Y., whence he moved to La Salle, Ill., in 1867. He came to Lacon in 1873, where he embarked in the brewing business under the firm name of Jacob Hochstrasser & Co. The works combine all the modern improvements and their beer is popular everywhere, finding large sale in private families as well as saloons. They have a capacity of 75 barrels per day, and supply all the towns around. In 1869 he married Caroline Boers, a native of Prussia, and they have four children living—Augusta E., Louis W., Annie M. and Herman W. Two are dead. Mr. H. is a liberal German, honest in his transactions, and has a large circle of friends.

JOHN HUTCHINS.

Mr. Hutchins is a successful merchant of Lacon, who has followed the mercantile business many years. His native place was Worcester county, Mass., where he was born in 1829 and lived until twenty years old, when he went south and followed steamboating on the Red River and the Mississippi until the spring of 1851, when he came to Lacon and embarked in the mercantile business. In 1860 he went south again and was appointed by Gen. Allen agent for the quartermaster's department of the U. S. army serving under Generals Curtis, Strong and others. He saw much military service, and was occasionally called upon to shoulder a musket to repel expected raids, but in the course of three years obtained a sufficiency of military glory, and in 1853 resigned his position and returned to Lacon. In 1857 he married Nellie E. Eckly, born in Columbus, Georgia, of an old and highly esteemed family,

and to whom two surviving children have been given—Geo. W. and Lucy. In 1863 he formed a very successful partnership with D. C. Wallace, the firm doing a large and prosperous business until Mr. W. retired, since when Mr. Hutchins has continued it alone. He is one of the best buyers in the country, a careful manager, and carries a very large stock. He has filled various official positions of trust and responsibility, has been an active worker in church and Sabbath schools, and sympathizes with all the great reforms of the day.

DANIEL HEINRICH.

Mr. Heinrich was born in Alsace, formerly a province of France, but conquered and annexed to Germany in 1871. He was born in 1846, and came to the United States in 1868, remaining in New York city two years, and came to Lacon in 1870. He married Ida Boers Oct. 5th, 1873, a native of Prussia, and two children have been born to them—Bertha M. F. and Holdie S. He is a member of the German Workingmen's society, and an intelligent, useful citizen. He has been in the saloon business since 1877.

JOSEPH THEIDOHK.

Mr. Theidohr was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1826 and came to this country in 1851, locating at Chicago, where he built up a flourishing business in merchant tailoring. The great fire in Chicago burned his establishment and in 1874, being offered liberal inducements, he came to Lacon. In 1856 he married Wilhelmina Daniel, a country-woman of his, by whom he has five children living—Leo, Theodore, Robert, Annie and Adelbert, and five deceased. As a tailor Mr. Theidohr has no superiors and with the assistance of his two sons, both practical workmen, turns out a large amount of work. His large new shop is stocked with the finest cloths, etc., and he has a large number of orders constantly ahead. Mr. Theidohr is much attached to his family, and widely respected.

JOHN PIPER.

Mr. Piper comes from a long-lived ancestry, and was born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1816. He came to Lacon in 1852, and embarked in the lumber business the succeeding year, continuing in the business until 1873. In 1843 he married Nancy Pyle, in Pennsylvania. She died in 1861 leaving two children, Catherine and John. In 1856 he married Adda E. Espy, born in Cumberland county, Pa., but lived in Philadelphia since she was a child. Mr. Piper has been long and prominently connected with the educational interests of Lacon, is a man of liberal views, large hearted, and takes a decided interest in whatever promotes the general interest.

MRS. NANCY DEVER.

Mrs. Dever lives in Lacon, and was born in the State of Delaware, in 1798. She came with her parents to Sciota county, Ohio in 1809, and from there moved to Marion county, Ohio, in 1826. She was married to Mr. Deaver Sept. 27, 1827, and located in Marshall county in 1833. Mr. D. died Jan. 3, 1845, leaving four children, one of whom has since died; James, William and Mary are still living. Her brother, Robert Barnes, settled in this county three years before she came, and her brother Thomas B., who died in 1862, was a practicing physician and surgeon in Whitefield township. Mrs. D. and family are members of the M. E. church.

LEONARD C. McMURTRIE, *Att'y at Law and Insurance Agent.*

Mr. McMurtrie was born in the city of Peoria, Dec. 2, 1848, and when an infant moved to Princeville, coming to Lacon in 1864. His education was received at the Lacon high school. His family were decidedly above the average in ability and intelligence, and all evince a high order of musical talent. His sisters have married well, and are in good circumstances. His father died in 1878, and his mother is still living. He read law with Buras & Barnes, in this place, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. Finding an opening for a strictly office lawyer he made that a specialty and soon worked into a lucrative business, giving over the active practice of the profession to others. He has been very successful in procuring pensions, and does a large insurance business. Has served his township as supervisor and collector several terms, is Master in Chancery and notary public, and is an estimable, public spirited citizen for whom the future has much in store.

J. L. MOHLER.

Mr. Mohler is a prosperous citizen long identified with the interests of Lacon, who was born in Lancaster county, Pa., in 1832. When two years old his parents moved to Stark county, Ohio, where his father was long a popular hotel keeper and made money. In 1856 he married Caroline Ague, and two years later moved to Lacon and along with Henry Fisher embarked in the grocery trade. He is shrewd and enterprising in business, and prospers in whatever he undertakes. After some years they dissolved their business connection. Mr. Fisher went into the army and Mr. Mohler built the fine brick store he now occupies and embarked in the grain trade. He is principal owner of the Lacon elevator, and does a large trade in grain, groceries and farm machinery. They have one child, Olive, and an adopted daughter, Hattie B. Johnson. Mr. Mohler has been successful beyond most men, and deserves all his good fortune.

C. C. GAPEN, *Postmaster.*

Mr. Gapen was born in Geneva, Fayette county, Pa., July 17, 1808, and came west to Sciota county, Ohio, in 1830. He was married in 1832 to Sarah Fort, a native of Sciota county, Ohio, and to them four children were born—William T., Washington F., Mary A. and Timothy E. In 1834 Mr. Gapen came to Crow Creek, and was employed in Owen's Mill. The county was then new and sparsely populated and the people for fifty miles around were dependent upon this mill for their flour; and while nearly all the settlers suffered from the effects of ague, the locality

abounded in game and fish, and was literally a "land flowing with milk, honey and venison." In 1834 Mr. G. moved to Stevenson county, Ill., at that time the third family in the county, remaining there eight years and then returned to Lacon, where he has since resided. He carried on the blacksmithing business here for several years and early in the late war was appointed superintendent of the blacksmith shops at Jackson and Memphis, Tenn., returning in 1863. He was in Washington at the time Lincoln was assassinated, and remained in that city until the close of the war, witnessing the grand review of the victorious army of the North. Mr. G. was appointed postmaster in Lacon in 1870.

WILLIAM R. FAIRBANKS.

Lacon, Illinois.

SARAH E. D. COUTLETT.

Mrs. Coutlett was born in Sciota county, Ohio, March 21 1822. She came to this county with her parents in 1830. Her father, James Dever, was born in Virginia near Wheeling, July 20, 1791. He moved to Sciota county, Ohio, with his parents when a young man, and married Mary Barnes, March 6, 1817. She was born in Maryland, Oct. 13 1799. They had seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third, the two oldest having died in infancy. Her father died Dec. 26, 1834, and her mother is still living and enjoys fair health, although in her 81st year; her mind is as clear and bright as many not half her age. Mrs. C. married John D. Coutlett April 16, 1839, in Marshall county. They had seven children, four of whom died while her husband lived. The other three children are still living—Robert B., Claannah L. and William H. Mr. Coutlett died Oct. 15, 1878. He was born in Lancaster Pa., Dec. 25, 1812, and moved to this state about 1833. When Mr. Dever came to Marshall county there were but few families, the Roberts and Col. Strawn's and three other families residing on Round Prairie, and two men who were working for Col. Strawn. The fort was built around Mr. Dever's house, which was occupied by the settlers during the Indian war. Mr. Dever was a member of Capt. Barnes' company of volunteers. He was one of the soldiers in the war of 1812 who was surrendered by the treachery of Hull at Detroit, Mich. He was a temperate man in all matters, and although not, strictly speaking, a church member, he started the first Sabbath school in the county, at his own house, which has been continued down to the present day. Jesse Hale was the first circuit preacher permanently located in Marshall county, and made his home at Mr. Coutlett's father's house when he held his meetings and preached for one year in 1833. Zadoc Hall was sent from conference in the fall of that year and preached at Mr. Dever's also until the fall of 1834, when he moved to another station. Mr. Dever having died that year, church service was soon after held in a large house which belonged to his uncle, John Dever. Mr. Dever was an active, energetic, thrifty man, and accumulated a competency, which he left his three daughters surviving him. He was a very successful farmer. Mr. Coutlett came to Lacon about 1836, and brought with him considerable means, which he loaned, and lost part of. The balance he invested in real estate which improved. Mr. Dever was a Jackson Democrat, and Mr. Coutlett was a Whig and Republican. Mrs. C. lives at her pleasant home surrounded by old friends and neighbors and sees without a regret the years go by and the time approach when the Master shall call her.

JAMES THOMPSON, (deceased).

The ancestor of the numerous and favorably known family of Thompsons residing in Lacon and vicinity was James Thompson, born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1813, where he obtained his education and labored on a farm until 24 years of age. This was in 1837. Emigration then was tending to north Central Illinois and tying his not very extensive wardrobe in a bundle he came west, finding employment with John Strawn at \$7 per month. It is not probable he would have accepted such wages, but his mind was made up to remain in this country and Strawn had several ruddy checked daughters of marriageable age with one of whom, Mary Ann, he soon struck up an acquaintance. In the fall he returned to Pennsylvania to spend the winter and in the spring came west again, embarking at Cincinnati on board the steamer, Moselle. She had a large cargo of freight and passengers, and while lying at the wharf at Cincinnati her boilers exploded with terrific effect, carrying away the whole forward part of the boat. Mr. Thompson was sitting in the cabin and at the moment went on to the hurricane deck, which he had no sooner reached than the crash came. He escaped on a raft that lay along side of the boat and was uninjured, while some 50 or 75 persons were killed. His companion was also saved. He reached here in the spring of 1838 and again went to work for Mr. Strawn. In December he was married and began housekeeping in the log cabin which still stands. There were born six sons and one daughter, all of whom are living but the eldest which died in infancy. He was a good farmer and very successful, and after living here fourteen years he came to Lacon and went into the lumber business. He died of consumption in 1857.

MRS. MARY A. THOMPSON.

Mrs. Thompson was a daughter of the late Col. John Strawn, the pioneer settler of this portion of Illinois. She was born in Ohio, Feb. 28, 1820, and along with her parents came to this country when nine years old. Laborers then were few, and Mr. Strawn's family were early taught to earn their bread by the sweat of the brow. She labored in doors with her mother, and assisted out of doors when needed, following the plow in tending corn along with her future husband. It is safe to say the discipline was a good one, for Mr. Strawn's girls all made good wives and married well. One day herself and sister Rachel followed the wagon trail leading to the river, and inside of a pen near the site of the present woolen mill, beheld the festering remains of five Indians, killed in a drunken debauch. In 1838 she wedded James Thompson, and began housekeeping a mile north from her father's, where her

children were born. After a happy married life of 19 years, her husband died, leaving six helpless children to clothe and educate. That she performed by them her whole duty, the uniform rectitude of their lives attests, and like the Roman matron of old she can proudly point to them as her jewels. She has been a life long member of the M. E. church, and a faithful and devoted Christian. In her the poor always found a friend, and the needy were not turned away empty-handed. When Mr. Thompson died, his large property was left to her by will, and as each son and daughter came of age they have received their just proportion.

JOHN S. THOMPSON.

The subject of this sketch was born in Marshall county, December 26, 1841, and was a son of James and Mary A. Thompson, named above. He lived on a farm until twelve years old, attending the schools of the neighborhood, and gaining such education as they afforded. He early showed a predilection for business, and his success, marked as it has been, is due to himself alone. In early life he exhibited much shrewdness in buying and selling, and in Feb., 1864, entered into the grocery trade, in which he built up a large traffic. He attended very closely to business, following it successfully for five years, and devoted himself to loaning money, etc. In 1864 he married Eliza H. Norris, who brought him three children—Charles M., Jennie E., and John I. She died January 1, 1876, and in October 12, 1877, he married his present wife, Emma J. Norris, to whom one child has been born—Ora I. Mr. Thompson is a member of the M. E. church, and squares his conduct with the principles therein taught. Few men enjoy to a greater degree the respect of the community, and fewer still merit it. Mr. Thompson has taken a deep interest in church, temperance and Sabbath school work, having served as superintendent for many years.

SAMUEL H. THOMPSON.

Mr. Thompson is likewise a son of the James Thompson mentioned above, and was born on the old homestead in Hopewell township, January 1, 1843. His life has been mainly spent in this county, where he received his education, and labored on the farm until embarking in business for himself. In 1864 he wedded Miss Nancy Strawn, sister of the Hon. C. C. Strawn, of Pontiac, and granddaughter of Jeremiah Strawn, one of the early settlers of Putnam county. They have three children—Martha, Fred S., and Isabella. In 1871 he succeeded his brother in the grocery trade, and has continued it with large success until the present time. As a merchant he has few equals, being a close buyer, a good collector, and an excellent judge of human nature.

JAMES H. THOMPSON.

Another son of James and Mary Thompson was the above named, now a prosperous merchant of Lacon. He was born at the old homestead in Hopewell, August 11, 1850, and educated in Lacon. He began business for himself in 1876, sold out two years later, and in 1879 built the fine store-room he now occupies. He has displayed a decided aptitude for business, and in the short time he has been in trade has built up a traffic second to none in the place. His stock is large, his goods are fresh, and he is always ready to attend to customers. In 1860 he married Mary E. Gillett, born in Cleveland Ohio, and to them one child, William H., has been born.

STEPHEN DOUGLAS THOMPSON.

Mr. Thompson was born in Lacon in 1864, and is a member of the well known family of that name. He was educated in Lacon, and along with his brother embarked in the grocery and provision trade here in 1876, following it for two years. October 2nd, 1877, he married Annie Redden, born in Chicago. They have one child, Mabel, born November 1, 1878.

OTTO BRAUNS.

Mr. Brauns is a resident of Lacon and proprietor of a hotel, restaurant and saloon. He was born in the province of Saxony, Nordhausen, Germany, in 1834, and came to this country in 1864, first locating in Peoria, and settling in Lacon in 1876. In 1864 he was married in Vicksburg, Miss. to Miss Lizzie Shroder, a native of Bavaria. They have four children living—Fred, Caroline, Charles and Attila. April 21, 1861, he enlisted in Co. I, 8th Ill. Vol. Inf., served three months, re-enlisted in the same regiment and served three years. At Fort Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862, he was wounded in the breast by a cannon ball. He participated in the Vicksburg campaign, being in the battles of Vicksburg, Champion Hills, Fort Gibson and other hard-fought engagements, and when mustered out July 25, 1864, had attained the rank of first lieutenant. Mr. Brauns served in the royal army of Prussia from 1849 to 1861, before coming to this country.

CAPTAIN JONATHAN C. KINGSLEY, *County Clerk.*

Captain Kingsley was born in Harrison county, Indiana, Dec. 7, 1839, his father being a farmer, who died when he was seven years old, leaving a numerous family of helpless children unprovided for. Times were hard, the country was poor, and it was a hard struggle to provide food and clothing, the first essentials of living, so that all else was neglected. All who could do so must labor, even at the cost of education, so young Jonathan was early hired out, working early and late for \$3 00 a month. He was stout and active, and willing to work, and never lacked opportunity. While but a boy he made two trips down the Mississippi on a flatboat, thus seeing for the first time countries he was afterward to traverse with armed men, carrying fire and sword. When 17 years old he moved to Peoria county, and engaged to labor on a farm at \$16 a month, remaining there 3 years. In 1858 he rented a farm, a friend going his security. The season was bad, no crops were raised, and at the end he found himself in debt. About this time, too, he borrowed a horse of a neighbor, which died on his hands; but he went manfully to work by the month and paid all claims. In 1859 he made a claim, and along with two other young men, too poor to own

wives, kept bachelors hall until the war broke out, and all went into the service. Intelligence was had that a rendezvous for cavalry was formed at Peoria, and young Kingsley, saddling his horse, rode across the country and enlisted in the 1st Ill. Cavalry, April 25, 1861. The regiment was ordered to Missouri, where it joined Mulligan's command, got cooped up at Lexington, and after a hard fight was compelled to surrender, and they returned home under parole. He promptly enlisted in the 86th Infantry, and was elected 1st Lieutenant. The command soon devolved upon him, and until discharged at the close of his term of service he had the company in charge, except when detailed for special service. He fought under Buel at Perryville, and Rosecrans at Chickamauga; was with brave old Pap Thomas previous to Atlanta, and with Sherman in the memorable march to the sea. He helped corduroy the Carolinas, participated in the marches and battles that humbled the rebels and brought them under the stars and stripes, and finally joined in the triumphal homeward march to Washington, where the last grand parade of the grandest army that ever carried a banner took place. In 1862 Captain Kingsley wedded Miss Mary Agnes Bell, and to them seven children have been given, four of whom survive, viz., Henry S., Sarah, Isabel, Minerva Agnes and an infant. In 1873 he was elected county clerk of Marshall county, and again in 1877, filling the position to the entire satisfaction of his constituents, and making one of the best officials the county ever had. In 1879 he helped organize Co. H, of the 7th Reg. I. N. G., and was elected captain. He is self-made and self-educated, never elated by success nor cast down by adversity, but doing his duty as he understands it.

JUDGE JOHN BURNS

The subject of this sketch is a judge of the circuit court of this district, and resides in Lacon. He was born in Brook county, Va., in 1819, moved to Morgan county, Ill., in 1834, and in 1835 located in Marshall county. After a thorough course of study and mental training he was admitted to the bar in 1851, and was actively engaged in the practice of his profession until 1873, when he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court. In 1879 he was re-elected for an additional term of six years. In 1851 he married Percilla Cannon, a native of Peoria county, who died in 1866, leaving six children—Julius C., Julia, Lizzie, William, and Ada. In 1869 he married Mrs. C. A. Stedham, a native of Delaware, who by a former marriage had one daughter, Mrs. Bellows, of Washington, Ill., wife of a well known engineer on the C. & A. R. R. In early life Judge Burns was a successful school teacher. In 1844 he was elected recorder of deeds, and in 1846 was appointed clerk of the circuit court, and the next election was re-elected. In 1866 he was candidate for State Senator, and in 1861 was a member of the Constitutional Convention. He was mayor of Lacon for several years, and has filled various other offices of trust and profit. As Judge he is deservedly popular, and his name as a jurist stands high. He has often been called upon to preside in cases outside of his district, was favorably spoken of as judge of the Appellate court. Judge Burns is polished in manners, creates a good impression among strangers, and is universally commended for his fairness in the trial of cases.

WILLIS H. FORD.

Mr. Ford is at present cashier of the First National Bank of Lacon, a position he has worthily filled for several years. He is a son of Allen N. Ford, the veteran editor, and was born here in 1848. After securing a full course of training in the public schools of his native place he entered Bryant & Stratton's Business College, where he completed his education. In 1875 he married Ellen E. Wilson, born in this town, and to them two children have been born, Norman J. and Georgie A. He has been with the First National Bank since 1874.

R. A. WRIGHT.

A retired dry goods merchant residing in Lacon. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1840, and located in Lacon in 1865, carrying on the dry goods business with a partner by the name of Mills. Beside the establishment in this city, the firm also had a store in Sparland, in which place Mr. Wright made his home from 1868 to 1872. In 1870 he married Charlotte Thenius, a native of Steuben township. They have two children, Beatrice and Frederick. Mrs. Wright is a member of the Baptist church. He belongs to the Masonic order and the I. O. O. F. He has served two terms as sheriff of Marshall county, being elected to that office in 1872 and re-elected in 1874.

WILLIAM RIEL.

Mr. Riel is the proprietor of a livery and feed stable in Lacon. He was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1838, came to the United States in 1848, first settling in Burlington, Wis., and in 1858 located in Lacon. He first engaged in contracting and teaming, which he followed until 1861, and then embarked in his present occupation. He now has the government contract for carrying the mails between Lacon and Sparland. In 1872 he married Elizabeth Lesch, a native of Germany, born in Hesse, near Marbourg. They have five children—Theodore, Emma, Elizabeth, Annie and William. Mrs. Riel is a member of the Lutheran church.

ALLEN N. FORD.

Mr. Ford was born in Thompson county, New York, December 4, 1807, and was brought up on a farm, but was apprenticed to the printing business at an early day, of which he became a thorough master. In 1829 he first saw New York, working there about one year, and then went to Hartford, Ct., going in a sailboat to New Haven, and thence on foot. Here he remained eight years, working steadily at his trade of book and newspaper making. He married here in 1833 Miss Sabrina Loveland, born in Connecticut, and to them four children have been given—three of whom survive, viz., Henry A., one of the leading editors and educators of Michigan; Frank D., a printer; and Willis H., cashier of the First National Bank. In 1837 he came to what is now Lacon, and established the Marshall County Herald, continued to-day in the Home Journal. For thirty-two years he continued its publication,

until 1866, when it passed into the hands of its present owner. After forty years of newspaper work, he retired from the business to spend his days in his pleasant home. Mr. Ford is believed to be the oldest living representative of the press in the State, and the journal he established is the oldest in Central Illinois.

JOHN BERRY.

Mr. Berry was born in the city of Limerick, Ireland, August 24th, 1844, and came to the United States in 1849, first settling in Boston, Mass., where he remained one year, and then located in Lacon, where he has since remained. He is the proprietor of a saloon, and has been engaged in business for himself since 1868. In 1876 he commenced the manufacture of soda water, and now supplies large quantities of this harmless and refreshing beverage to the trade in Lacon and neighboring towns. He also manufactures all other descriptions of temperance drinks.

THOMAS TERRY.

Mr. Terry was born in County Waterford, Ireland, in 1834, and came to the United States in 1849, locating in LaSalle, where he remained until 1857, when he came to Lacon and went into the leather business. In 1859 he went into the grocery business; has been once burned out, and regained all, and now has one of the largest stocks, and is one of the most successful business men in the place. Mr. Terry is a leading member of the City Council, has held other important offices, and is held in much esteem by his neighbors. In 1860 he wedded Ellen McDonald, who brought him three children living to-day—Mary E., Margaret G., Catherine E. and four sons. Two of his brothers are priests in the Catholic Church, one of them the well known Father Terry, of Ottawa. Mr. Terry has accumulated a good property, and enjoys the respect of the community.

IRVING BROADDUS.

Mr. Broaddus was born in Hopewell township, Marshall county, in 1840, and was a son of Lundsford Broaddus, one of the early settlers of the township. The place he occupies is one of the very oldest and upon his grounds was built the first store and kept the first school ever taught in Marshall county. In 1863 he wedded Ruth Forbes, born in Hopewell, and together they have five children—Savella A., Cora E., Lillie May, Walter J. and Nancy R. Mr. B. is a good farmer, and his services are in demand as an auctioneer. He is a good judge of stock likes a good horse, is not afraid of hard work, and is considered a successful farmer.

DR. LUCIUS G. THOMPSON.

Dr. Thompson is a native of Connecticut, though his parents removed from there when he was but two years old to Western New York, not far from Rochester. Here he lived until 1836, and then moved to Lake county, Ohio, where he received his education and began the study of medicine, graduating from Starling College, Columbus. Immediately after he removed to this place, and has been in constant practice over thirty years. Previous to leaving for the West he married Mary A. Linnel, in Greenville, Ohio, and they have three living children—Calista L., Nellie M. and Francis Wayland. They are members of the Baptist church, of which the Doctor has been a liberal supporter for many years. Besides his medical practice, the Doctor has been actively engaged in business, and is one of the successful men of the town. He is a safe counsellor, and is considered one of the best physicians in the county.

DR. W. W. DEAN.

Dr. Dean came from Plymouth county, Mass., where he was born in 1835, his parents removing to Tazewell county, Illinois, the year he was born. Here he obtained his education, and studied his profession in Peoria county. An elder brother, Frederick, was a successful dentist, and probably influenced his choice. After passing the usual examination he removed to Tazewell county and worked one year, after which he removed to Lacon in the fall of 1869. He is a careful and conscientious workman and soon picked up a large practice, which he retains. In 1866 he married Mrs. Sarah E. Palmer (formerly Crane), to whom has been born one daughter—Lucy. Mrs. Dean was the daughter of Henry L. Crane, and was the first white child born in Lacon.

JESSE Q. HALL.

Mr. Hall was born in Hopewell township in 1833, and is a son of James Hall, still living, who came there in 1830. He was brought up a farmer, obtaining his education at the old log school house on the Broaddus place. Up to 1863 he labored on the farm, when he came to Lacon, and entered the lumber business along with Captain Mayer, in 1866. He also engaged in the livery business, following it very successfully for many years. In 1854 he married Bell Shepherd, born in Ohio, who died in 1864, leaving him three children—James, Eva and Cora. In 1867 he married Mary Weaklam, born in Essex county, New York. She was a very successful school teacher, and much admired by her friends. Four children are the fruits of this marriage—Tracy Q., Burton J., Mabel L. and Edna June.

ROBERT B. EDWARDS.

Mr. Edwards was born in Roberts township, Marshall county, September 10, 1844, and was a son of Chas. T. Edwards, one of the first settlers of the township. He was educated at Clark's Seminary, Aurora, and graduated from the N. W. University, Evanston, in 1872. Having chosen the profession of law, he became a student with Bangs & Shaw, and after an unusual close application to study and thorough mastery of principles he was admitted to the bar September 11, 1874, and began practice in Lacon. In December, 1875, he married Almira J. Johnson,

born in this county. In 1864 he shouldered a musket and went south to aid in putting down the rebellion, enlisting in Co. I, 141st Reg. Ill. Vol., and was appointed first duty sergeant. In 1874 he became a partner in the firm of Bangs, Shaw & Edwards, one of the leading law firms of the district, in which he still remains. He is industrious and painstaking, and possesses the ability and the push to take him to the top round of the forensic ladder.

F. S. SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a resident of Lacon who is connected with the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad in the capacity of conductor. He was born in DeKalb county, in this State, April 10, 1847, and moved to Lacon in 1874. In 1873 he married Mary Sickles, a native of Tazewell county, by whom he has three children—Jessie, Kittie and Nellie. Mr. Smith has been engaged in railroading about fifteen years. He is a member of the Masonic Order, and belongs to the Railroad Conductors' Mutual Aid and Benefit Society of the United States and Canada. Mrs. S. is a member of the M. E. church.

PHILIP LONG.

Mr. Long is a native of Franklin county, Pa., where he was born in 1829. He was carefully educated, and early became an active and influential citizen, filling various offices, and serving one term in the State Legislature. In 1857 he married Adessa J. McKinney, born in Cumberland county, Pa. They have three children living—Joseph M., David S. and Jennie. He came to Illinois in 1867, and for several years followed teaching. Was candidate for county superintendent of schools, and filled other offices. Of late years he has followed the purchase and shipment of stock, etc.

JAMES WESCOTT.

Clerk of Circuit Court of Marshall county.

EGBERT HALSEY.

Mr. Halsey was born in Suffolk county, on Long Island, N. Y., in 1832 and lived there until he attained his majority. The Halseys were seafaring men, and the family escutcheon bears the name and deeds of more than one gallant sailor in the days of clipper ships and privateers. In 1854 he came to Galena, and was junior partner in the wholesale grocery firm of B. F. Felt & Co. Disposing of his interest here, he came to Lacon in 1862, and helped form the firm of Ellsworth & Halsey, who did a large and flourishing business up to 1867, when the senior partner went into the newspaper business, and he succeeded to the business of the firm, which he has prosecuted successfully to the present time. In 1866 he married Mrs. Libbie J. Shaw (Maxwell), of Sullivan county, Ind., to whom one child was born,—Evelyn. Mrs. Shaw was widow of Captain Fred Shaw, a gallant officer of the 11th Ill., who fell at Donelson, and had two children previous to this marriage,—Mary Alice and Charles Fred.

LEWIS SPECK.

Mr. Speck was born on the river Rhine, in Germany, in 1829, and came to the United States in 1854, locating in New York. From there he went to St. Louis, and finally found his way to Lacon in 1858. He was industrious and a hard worker, and easily found employment. In 1859 he established the butchering business, which, with a brief interval, he has since followed. In it he has been very successful, amassing a large property. In 1831 he married Alvina Zilm, by whom he has five children,—Henry, Louisa, Ferdinand, and infant twins. Mr. Speck is an excellent butcher, very accommodating and popular.

CHARLES H. DRESSLER.

Mr. Dressler (barber and hair-dresser) was born in Prussia, and left the Fatherland in 1873, coming to Chicago. He remained there five years, and removed to Lacon, where he settled in 1877 and began work for Fred Peters. His first start in business for himself was in Varna, where he started a shop, and not succeeding to suit himself, sold out and removed to Lacon, opening the popular establishment he still runs. He is a good workman, is very industrious, and is much thought of in the community.

WILLIAM H. RENSHAW.

Mr. Renshaw was born in Rowan county, North Carolina, in 1828, emigrated to Indiana in 1831, and to Illinois in 1847, where he engaged in farming, at which he was very successful. In 1849 he married Susan E. Martin, born in Illinois, and six children were born to them,—John H., Mary P., Nancy J., Sarah F., Clara E. and William H. Mrs. Renshaw died in 1858. His second wife, Matilda E. Armstrong, he wedded in 1870, and they have one child,—Alvira M. His eldest son, John, has been for several years a resident of Washington, where he has a position in the U. S. Topographical Department. One of his daughters is also there. He has been for a number of years in the grain trade with J. L. Mohler, and is steamboat agent, etc.

FRANCIS H. STIRE.

Mr. Stire was born in Warren county, New Jersey, in 1837, his father being a farmer in comfortable circumstances, who died when he was young. He obtained an education there, and after the usual experiences and vicissitudes of a young man, came west. Came to Marshall county in 1856, locating in Wenona, and in 1859 married Lydia Dye, born in Plainfield, N. J. They have one child, Alatheia. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. H, 104th Ill., Vol., and immediately went to the front. He was engaged in some of the severest battles of the war, was in Sherman's

campaign to Atlanta, and afterwards in the march through Georgia and the Carolinas, terminating with the surrender of Johnson. Returning, he shared in the triumphal review at Washington, was mustered out in Chicago in June, 1865, and returned to his family. In 1866 he embarked in the grain business in Lacon, and in 1873 in the commission business in Chicago. After that he went to New York and spent a year, and returning formed a partnership with Richard Gell and went into the clothing business, in which he has been very successful. In 1880 he built the fine store room the firm occupies—one of the best in the city. Mr. Stire and family possess fine musical and social abilities, and have many friends.

ANDREW MCKEON (*deceased*).

Mr. McKeon was born in county Monaghan, Ireland, in 1836, and came to the United States at an early day, remained some time at Chicago, and finally located in Lacon, where he learned the trade of cabinet making and upholstering. He became thoroughly master of the business, and in 1854 set up for himself. He put into it all his energies, giving it his attention early and late, and from the first it was successful. In 1861 he married Sarah Stacy, born in the same county with himself, and to them were born six children—Jennie L., Francis J., Andrew B., May, Thomas and Rosella. Mr. McKeon died November 15, 1878. Himself and family belonged to the Catholic church, in which he was an influential and leading member. He was greatly beloved by his friends, was conscientious in his business relations, and respected by all.

WILLIAM S. WOLLARD.

Mr. Wollard is a native of Ohio, born in Licking county, in that state, in 1846, where he received his education, locating in Lacon in 1870. He evinced his patriotism by enrolling himself in the service of his country in Co. B, 48th Ohio Vol. Infantry, in 1865, as soon as his age rendered him eligible for enlistment, and served until mustered out with his regiment at Galveston, Texas, in 1866. In 1870, soon after settling in Lacon, he was appointed Deputy Clerk of Marshall county, and the fact that he still retains the position is the best evidence of his fidelity and fitness in the discharge of the responsible duties which devolve upon the incumbent of that office. Mr. Wollard was admitted to the bar as an attorney in December, 1879. He is a member of Capt. Kingsley's company (H) 7th Reg., I. N. G.

JASON R. CHAPMAN.

Mr. Chapman was born in Hartford county, Conn., in 1829, and came with his parents to Lacon when 15 years old. He went into the employ of J. & C. Fisher at an early day, and when the firm changed to William Fisher & Co., remained with them. He was a great favorite of Jabez Fisher, and his promotion was rapid. He was a good penman, and soon became thoroughly master of book-keeping and had entire charge of the correspondence and finances of the concern, conducting the business to the entire satisfaction of his employers. He left their employ to organize the firm of Chapman & Patrick, afterward changed to Fisher & Chapman, which continued until 1868. Afterward he became a member of the firm of Bensley, Chapman & Shinn, in Chicago, and went into the produce and commission business. In 1871 he returned to Lacon and became connected with the house of John Hutchins, and in 1880 established the extensive dry goods house over which he presides at present. In 1862 he was elected county clerk for five years, served two years as treasurer, and has filled other offices of trust. He has been twice married, and has three children.

JOSEPH E. ONG.

Mr. Ong was born in Henry, Marshall county, in 1845, and with his parents removed to Magnolia when two years old. Moved to Lacon in 1860, and in 1861 enlisted in company C, 49th Ill. Volunteers, and fought in the battle of Perryville in Sheridan's division when he was severely wounded in the shoulder, and after lying in the hospital some time was discharged for disability. In 1873 he married Kitty McFadden, born in Cincinnati, Ohio. They have two children, Armand P. and Eugene R. He read law with Judge Burns, and was admitted to the bar in 1869; served eight years as Master in Chancery, and has a large and lucrative practice. He is an extensive dealer in real estate, and holds a large amount of western lands.

WASHINGTON E. COOK.

The ancestor of the Cook family was Elijah Cook, who came over with the Pilgrims and settled in Connecticut. Among his descendants was Ebenezer, a soldier of the Revolution, who at its close removed to Oneida county, New York, in the town of Augusta, and with eleven stalwart sons and two daughters made a large farm that was for long years after known as "Cook's Corners." One of these sons was Ebenezer, and he married Sonora Combs, to whom in the year of grace 1808, on the 29th day of December, was born the subject of this sketch. His father too was a soldier, and served on the northern frontier in the war of 1812, for which long after death his widow drew a pension. By occupation he was a cattle drover, and likewise ran a hotel long and favorably known to travelers of that day. During her husband's long journeys his wife attended to the house, and here young Cook lived until eleven years old, when his father died and he was sent to learn the hatter's trade; but it did not suit his active temperament, and after a year or so he left and took a situation in a store, following the business several years. Next he went to New York and obtained a place in a hotel. Stayed a year and went to Honsdale, Pa., where he not only found a situation but a wife in the person of pretty Eunice A. Kellogg, whom he married May 16, 1832. He purchased a hotel here which he run four years, sold out and moved to Dunkirk, where he turned surveyor and helped lay out the Buffalo and Erie railway. In June, 1833, he went to Birmingham, Ohio, and embarked in merchandis-

ing, following it with varying success for nine years, when he sold out and with his family came to Senachwine, Illinois, where his sister (Mrs. Morgan) and four brothers had already settled. Here he bought of Col. Snyder 320 acres of land for \$1,280, most of it under improvement. The place has since been known as the Harney farm. He cultivated it for three years and sold it for \$4,000, reserving the crop. That fall he moved to "lay on his oars" until fall, when he was elected county clerk and moved to Lacon in 1847. He bought a house of Silas Ramsey, opposite the court house, where he lived until it burned down in October, 1862, and he moved to the place where he ever after lived. He served three terms of four years each as supervisor, making twenty-two years of service in the county board. He was one of the best officials the county ever had. His records are clear and the writing good. Was several times a candidate for the legislature, held various offices of trust, was personally very popular, and though defeated at times, invariably ran ahead of his ticket. In 1860 he was a delegate to the Charleston convention where the great split in the Democratic party occurred that made possible the election of President Lincoln. He was also a delegate to the Philadelphia National convention of 1868. He was an active member of the Masonic order and a Knight Templar, was punctual and regular in his attendance at the lodge, and took deep interest in its workings. Previous to his death he took an active interest in the construction of a new line of railroad through Lacon. He had two sons and two daughters born to him, Geo. W. E., living at home, Nellie E. (Mrs. Warner) living in Montana, Isabel B. (Mrs. Garratt), and Martin K., deceased. The latter was a very persevering young man, who at the commencement of the war enlisted in the 4th Ill. Cavalry, was promoted lieutenant and served on Gen. Hurlburt's and Canby's staffs. He was three years in the service, and after his return was killed by the premature discharge of his gun while hunting. Mrs. Cook lives at home with her eldest son, and looks after the large property left her by her husband. She is kind to the poor, and beloved by all her friends.

G. A. MOATS.

Mr. Moats is by education a practical book-keeper, and was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1849. He came to Illinois to see some friends in 1872 and finding employment with J. L. Mohler, has remained here ever since. In 1873 he married Josephine Pichereau, the accomplished daughter of A. Pichereau, of Marshall county, and to them has been born one child, Mabel. Mrs. M. is a member of the M. E. church. Mr. M. has charge of the correspondence and finances of J. L. Mohler. He is a good merchant, and has hosts of friends in the community.

SAMUEL W. SKELTON, *Sheriff*.

Mr. Skelton is a native of Morgan county, Indiana, where he was born in 1845. He located at Belle Plain, Marshall county in 1860, and moved to Lacon in 1878, upon the occasion of his election to the office of sheriff of Marshall county in November of that year, a position he now occupies. February 22, 1871, he married Lizzie H. Stevenson, who was born in Washington county, Pa. They have one child, Lena Myrtle, born Sept. 11, 1874. They are members of the Christian church. Mr. Skelton made farming the business of his life prior to accepting the responsible position he now occupies in the service of the county.

WALTER RICKEY.

Mr. Rickey was born in Lacon in 1849, and comes from an old and well known family that settled here many years ago. In 1871 he married Anna Guade, of German parentage, born in Chicago. He was born a farmer, and followed the business until 1878, when he purchased the stock and stables of Mayer & Hall, and embarked in the livery business. He keeps a very good stock of horses and carriages, is extremely accommodating, and his terms are liberal.

FREDERICK GEUDE.

Mr. Geude lives on section 2, of Lacon township, and was born in Prussia, April 5, 1824. He lived there until twenty-eight years old, and then emigrated to the United States and located in this county. Previous to leaving he married Dora Blum, born in Prussia, and to them three children have been given—Herman, Anna and Emil. Are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Geude owns 126 acres, entered by Jordan Sawyer, and subsequently purchased by John F. Shepherd. He is township trustee, and has served as such five years, keeps his place under first class cultivation, and is a model farmer.

JAMES SEWARD.

Mr. Seward is a farmer residing on section 26. He was born in Fayette county, Ohio, in 1818, and located in this county in 1842. In 1840 he married Emeline Owen, also a native of Ohio, who died March 17, 1850, leaving two children, James A. and W. Scott. In the same year he married Mary Jones, who has become the mother of five children,—Eliza J., (Young), Mary Belle, Ella A., Emma (Hushaw), Alice C. and Charles G. Mr. Seward is a member of the board of school directors, has been road commissioner, and has served his township in various other local offices. He owns some 700 acres of land.

THOMAS M. SHAW.

Mr. Shaw was born in Marshall county, at that time a part of Putnam, in 1833, and was a son of George H. Shaw, one of the first settlers in the county. He labored on a farm when a boy, attending school at Judson college, Mt. Palatine, and completed his education at Mt. Morris. He read law with W. D. Edwards, a talented member of the Lacon bar, and began practice in Putnam county in 1858. In 1862 he was offered an advantageous partnership with Mark Bangs, which he accepted, and has since made Lacon his home. In 1863 he married Nellie F. Hirsch, of

Woodford county, and began the erection of the fine residence he now occupies, probably not excelled by any in the county. Mr. Shaw takes considerable pride in his profession and stands at its head. As a lawyer he is painstaking and methodical, a close reasoner and good logician, appealing to men's intellects rather than their feelings. His large success attests his industry and perseverance. His practice is large and extends to all the neighboring districts and the Supreme court. In politics he is Democratic, and in 1858 was the nominee of the party for Congress. He has several times been elected mayor, and possesses in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

BENJAMIN BABB.

Mr. Babb was born in Perry county, Ohio, Sept. 22, 1812. He came to this county with his father when 19 years old, settling three miles south of Lacon, where he lived until his death. The family consisted of his father, mother and five sisters, and they were four weeks and four days on the road. They stopped at Col. Strawn's until a location was found to suit and a cabin built, into which they moved and spent the first winter. The bottoms were full of Indians and through the winter they annoyed the family greatly. Mr. Babb was obliged to return to Ohio and they were exposed without protection to insults and the constant fear of death through all the long winter. Mr. Babb died in the spring of 1835, and he was buried on the point of the bluff north of his house. His son, Benjamin, married Nancy Jones, daughter of Levi Jones, of Pennsylvania, on the 4th of June, 1857. They were blessed with five children, two only of whom survive, Eliza and Estella. He died July 22, 1867, leaving his family and the care of a large farm to his wife. Mrs. B. proved a good manager, adding to the property year by year, and giving her daughter a good education. On the 15th of Feb., 1873, she married again and became Mrs. Sylvester Myers. Her home is one of the pleasantest in the county, and here, surrounded by children and friends, she dispenses a generous hospitality to all.

ABSALOM JONES.

Mr. Jones was born in Clark county, Ohio, in 1835, moved to Madison county, in 1844, and to the vicinity where he now lives in 1849. He was brought up on a farm, and in 1854 wedded Mary Hedlock, daughter of Samuel Hedlock who along with Timothy Owen built the first mill on Crow Creek. Mr. Jones has three children—Albert, George and Samuel, and four have died. He owns a farm of 220 acres with good improvements and well stocked. In 1878 was candidate for the the legislature, and has held all the minor offices of his township.

SAMUEL GIBB.

The subject of this sketch was born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1813, came to this county in 1830, and three years later married a Yankee school marm, Miss Mary Hall, of Baskingridge, N. J., where she was born August 31, 1812. She was liberally educated at home, and taught school several terms, refusing several eligible offers of marriage before she came west, wishing to see the world before making a choice. Soon after reaching here she met Samuel Gibb, a sturdy young mail carrier from Knoxville to Hennepin. It was a case of love at first sight. He was straight as an arrow, and made nothing of swimming a river, if necessary, in the absence of bridges. They were married in 1833, and began housekeeping at once. She was a good manager and he was industrious, and they made money lively. They own a pleasant home of 312 acres of land, and four sons and daughters—John W., Henry H., Sarah E. and Mary Catherine.

OWEN SOWARDS.

Mr. Sowards was born in Woodford county in 1830, and moved into Marshall county in 1834, when he purchased a fertile farm lying on the bottoms of Crow Creek. In 1858 he married Miss Edy Hunter, born in this county. They have seven children, Eliza J., Mary A., William H., Charles B., Alice, Estella and Emma Bell. Mr. S. is a good farmer, quiet, industrious, and knows how to make money. He minds his own business, allows others to think as they choose, and forms his own opinions. If there were more men like Owen Sowards the world would be better.

IRA I. FENN.

Mr. Fenn was born in Kent, Litchfield county, Conn., Aug. 22, 1799, and labored on a farm until 1818, when, with his brother Norman, they started for Dayton, Ohio, where he read law and was admitted to practice. He remained here in the active prosecution of his profession until 1836, when he journeyed to Illinois and made extensive investments that caused his removal and permanent settlement in Lacon. Here he resumed the practice of law, and carried it on successfully until 1856, when he became absorbed in railway enterprises and gave it over to others. He was twice married, first to Ennice Pomeroy, who died the year after his arrival in Lacon, and his second wife was Fannie E. Dudley, to whom one son survives, Dudley E., born Feb. 17, 1840. Mr. Fenn died January 3, 1873. He was a leading citizen in the town for years, and his influence was always on the side of right. In church and society he bore a prominent part, and his record is unsoiled by a single blot or stain.

JOSEPH H. JOHNSON.

Mr. Johnson was born in New Hampshire in 1813, and moved with his parents to Cincinnati when quite young, where he remained until fifteen years old, and then started out for himself, going to Montreal, Canada, where he attended school and found employment in a store. He became part owner of a sailing vessel trading to New Foundland. After two years of profitable trading, the boat got caught on a rock and was wrecked, and his

profits were swamped. After this he took service with a former employer until his father's death, when he returned home and settled the estate. In the summer of 1834 he struck out west and came to Lacon, and along with Jesse C. built the first mill in Lacon, running it successfully until 1842, when he sold out and went into loaning money and speculating until 1849. In the spring of that year a company of sixty men was organized for a trip to California, of which he was chosen captain. Reached the mines without mishap, but lost his health on the way, and was for some time an invalid. Visited all the diggings and prospected more or less, but his health continuing poor, concluded to go to Calcutta, and reached the Sandwich Islands, from whence he went to Lima in South America, and re-embarked on an old condemned hulk from New York bound for Panama. The voyage was long and tedious, but they finally reached there, and no steamer going north, he crossed the Isthmus to Navy Bay, and visited the West Indies, returning and taking a steamer up the coast, reached San Francisco again after a six months absence. He next went to trading in the mountains, running two four-horse teams, and made money rapidly. Followed this two years and came home. Remained one year, went to New York and purchased a load of wagon stuff, which he sent round the horn, to San Francisco. Sold a part for \$400 a thousand, and worked up the remainder. Got \$50 for an axle, and \$25 for stocking a plow. Paid \$1,000 for a set of blacksmith's tools, and cleared it in a week. Was in California about nine years, and while there married Miss Sarah Hopkins, a descendant of Ethan Allen. They have one child—Hattie E., now Mrs. Taylor, of Streator. He owns five farms, and has considerable other property.

CHARLES S. EDWARDS.

Superintendent of schools of Marshall county.

G. W. SHIELDS.

Mr. Shields is a grocer doing business in Lacon, and is also proprietor of the City hotel. He was born in Marion county, Ind., April 4, 1833, and with his parents moved to Hamilton county, Ohio, when 12 years of age. He was educated in Cincinnati, and was married in that city, January 6, 1857, to Miss Martha E. Pierson, a native of that county. They have four children—Angeline J., Laura E., Walter V. and Gertrude E. In the spring of 1857 Mr. Shields moved to Lacon, and for 16 years followed his trade, that of a mason and plasterer, a very large proportion of the public and private buildiogs in Marshall county bearing witness to the excellence of his handicraft. In 1870 he went into the restaurant business, which he continued until 1877, when he embarked in the grocery business, in which he is still engaged. November 10th, 1879, he assumed charge of the City Hotel, and with the efficient aid of his estimable wife and daughters has made it a model house of entertainment, very popular with the traveling public. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., is a close observer, a good judge of human nature, a safe adviser, and is an industrious, energetic and successful business man.

JESSE B. BANE.

The subject of this sketch was born near Wheeling, Va., May 17, 1812. His father was a farmer and raised five stalwart sons who grew to man's estate and two daughters. When twenty years old Jesse, along with a man named Tucker, journeyed to Illinois, then an inviting field to emigrants, and stopped for the night at the cabin of John Strawn to whom they engaged to labor at making rails at 25 cents a day and board. Tucker did not remain long, but Bane doubtless looked into the future and beheld there a fine farm with growing crops, a wife and sturdy sons and daughters growing up round his hearthstone. It was a pleasant picture, and though the wages were low and the labor severe, it was Jesse toiling for Rachel and cheerily he worked on. In good time the farm, the cabin the sleek looking stock came—and Rachel came too. Mr. Bane was an expert chopper and withal a carpenter, and helped build most of the old houses of Lacon. He labored through the summer, and in the winter he taught a term of school on Crow Creek where the now honorables G. L. Fort and Geo. C. Barnes were pupils. Mrs. Coultlett (Sarah Dever) also attended, and for some neglect of duty was punished, something which she has probably long since forgotten. In 1840 he married Rachel Strawn, daughter of John Strawn, and a notable wife she proved. There were born to them in course of time four sons and two daughters, John S., George M., Jesse B. jr., Charles C., Stella (Mrs. De Pue), and Rachel Augusta, (deceased). John is an eloquent minister in the Cong'l church, George qualified himself for the law, and George and Jesse are farmers. Mr. B. proved himself a capital farmer and good manager, in which he was ably assisted by his wife, he opened a large farm and added others to it. After a while he moved to Lacon and built a fine residence which burned down and then he built a better one. Himself and wife are now "well stricken in years," but their old age is cheered with the company of their children and grandchildren, and the reflection that in the conflict of life they have performed their whole duty.

JAMES D. STUBBLES.

Mr. Stubbles was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1848, and came with his parents to Mount Morris, Ill., in 1855. His father was a well known clergyman of the M. E. church, and in his varied labors visited with his family many parts of Illinois and Missouri. He came to Henry in 1869 and established himself in business, marrying in 1877 Helena F. Hulbee, born in Henry. They have one child, George J. Mr. Stubbles has been very successful, building up a profitable and very pleasant business. He always carried a large stock and enjoyed a good trade. In 1883 he removed to Lacon and established himself in the same line of business, in which he reports a large success. His rooms are the finest in the city and he enjoys a large custom.

HENRY TOWNSHIP.

JOHN MORGAN.

Mr. Morgan was born in Shropshire, England, in 1830, and came to this county in 1851, locating in Henry, and established the butcher business which he has conducted successfully for nearly thirty years. He was a single man at that time, but in 1854 married Mary Stevenson, born in Northumberland, England. Two children have been born to them—John T. and Mary J. Are members of the Episcopal church, and Mr. Morgan is vice-president of the First National bank, of Henry. His son, John T., is passenger clerk, in Chicago, of the Anchor Line of Atlantic steamships.

M. P. DILLEY & Co., Grocers.

Mr. Dilley, the senior member of this firm, was born in Mercer county, Pa., in 1843, and came to Clay county, Ind., in 1865, to Madison county in 1875, and to Henry in 1876. Their present business was established Oct. 1st, 1879. Mr. Dilley married Ara K. Gwathney in 1869. She was born in Putnam county, Ind. Two children bless this union—Walter and George. He belongs to the Masonic order, and the firm is building up an excellent business. They are young, ambitious and accomodating,

D. M. MORRIS.

Capt. Morris, the popular commander of the steamer Grey Eagle, was born in Delaware in 1843, and came to Missouri in 1865, settling at Hannibal. He first engaged in steamboating in 1866, and finding the business both congenial and profitable has since followed it. From 1870 to 1878 he was engaged with the Eagle Packet Company and built up the trade he now controls. In 1878 himself and the engineer purchased the Eagle and have since run her between Henry and Peoria. In 1873 he married Mary A. Earl and is the father of two children, of which he feels deservedly proud. The Eagle is universally popular and few railroads are managed with more regularity, her arrivals and departures seldom varying from the schedule.

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Mr. Nicholson was born in Lower Canada in 1836, and when one year old his father emigrated to Will county, Ill., where the subject of this sketch obtained his education. His first labor was as assistant lock tender on the canal, after which he began steamboating and followed it until 1870 when he engaged in the grain business at Henry in which he has been quite successful. In 1878 his warehouse was burned down involving heavy loss, but it was rebuilt with a capacity of 150,000 bushels. It is the most complete warehouse at Henry and is owned by Nicholson, Gilbert & Co. In 1861 he married Susan Lynch and five children have been given them—Maggie M., Emma B., Beulah B., Fannie B. and Carrie. Mr. Nicholson is one of the enterprising men of Henry and a valuable citizen.

H. W. MATEER.

Mr. Mateer was born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1815, where he lived until 1857, when he came to Henry and became a partner in the firm of Becker & Mateer. This continued until 1860, when he established his present business in the place he still occupies. He was married in 1849 to Elizabeth S. Becker, of Adams county, Pa., and to them have been born seven sons and daughters, three of whom are deceased. The living are Alfred, Mary, Grace, Lucy J. and Hattie R. He takes a deep interest in church matters, is always found on the right side in questions of morals, and strives to do his duty as he sees it. Few men are more respected in the county than he.

N. W. ORR.

Mr. Orr came to Henry in 1856, and began clerking for J. L. and J. H. Jones, the acquaintance thus gained proving of great benefit to him. He was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1826, was married in 1848 to Lydia Ann Simpson, of Troy, Ohio, and have six children living—James W., in California, Lydia A. (Mrs. Boyd), Anna May, Samuel J., Minnie and Martha L. Mr. Orr began the grocery business in 1867, and has been very successful. He owns three stores, his fine residence on Carroll street is surrounded by shade and evergreen trees, evincing both wealth and taste. His store is opposite the post office, and joins the First National Bank.

FRED. S. POTTER.

Mr. Potter was born in New Haven, Conn., in 1837, and three years later came to Christian county, Ill. He obtained his education at Mount Auburn Seminary, and read law at Henry, being admitted to the bar in 1864. He

at once took up its practice, and has steadily pursued it ever since, with a constant increase of business. In 1874 he married Sarah Isabel House, born in Grand De Tour, Ill., and by her has two children—Gertrude H. and Frederick Willis. By a former marriage he has three children—Ellsworth S., Carrie L. and Ida I. Mr. Potter is an able lawyer and rapidly "growing" in the profession. He served as State's Attorney from 1872 to 1876, making a capable, efficient officer. In politics he is a Republican, and stands well with the party. He could have served in the last General Assembly had he desired, and has been favorably talked of for congressman. He is capable, ambitious and persevering.

W. W. HEATH.

Mr. Heath was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1825, and came to Henry in 1849. He began the grocery business here in 1854, and built up a healthy, lucrative trade, which he continues to the present time. He was married in 1851 to Mary J. Puffer, born in New York, and they have three children—Edgar H., (married to Jennie Bradley), Mary Ella and Clara L. Mr. Heath has been actively engaged in educational matters, and served as city treasurer, clerk, etc. He carries a full stock of groceries, flour, etc., and has a flourishing trade.

JOHN RILEY.

Mr. Riley was born in New York city in 1834, and came to Henry in 1856, where he followed the trade of contractor and builder until 1878, when he purchased the Granite Mills property and fitted them up for business. He married in 1865 Miss Mary A. Clisbee, born in Marshall county, and to them four children have been born—John, Mattie M., Ella and Lee. Mrs. R. is a member of the Congregational church. The reputation of these well known mills has been long established, and they need no commendation. They manufacture all grades, and supply the local merchants besides, shipping large quantities to Chicago. They are also large manufacturers of corn meal, etc.

ELY ALBERTSON.

Mr. Albertson is a carpenter and builder, born in Rensselaer county, New York, in 1817, where he learned his trade and lived until 1841, when he went to Texas, and thence to New Orleans, Cincinnati and St. Louis, and bringing up at Peoria in 1843. Here he remained until 1852, and then came to Henry. In 1844 he married Sarah J. Johnson, born in Indiana, by whom he has eight children—Elizabeth S., E. B., S. J., E. F., Lois, Nellie, Adelbert and Tedy. He was a farmer for several years, but has followed his present occupation all his life.

CHARLES BALLEWEG, JR.

Mr. Balleweg was born in Baden, Germany, in 1847, and came to the United States nine years later, staying in York county, Pa., until 1867, when he came to Henry. He began the saloon business in 1873, and has followed it with considerable profit to himself since. In that year he married Elizabeth Flynn, born in New York, and two children bless their union—Elizabeth and Annie. He is proprietor of Warren's Hall, which is fitted up for dancing parties, concerts and theatrical entertainments. He owns his place of business, dwelling, and considerable other property.

C. GOULD.

Mr. Gould is an extensive dealer in hardware. He was born in Erie county, New York, in 1834, and when ten years old came to McHenry county, Ill., with his parents, whence he removed to Winnebago in 1858, and came to Henry in 1867 and established his present business. He married Mary Ann Crawford in 1854, born in Pennsylvania. Three children have been born to them—Henry, Lewellen C. and Mabel. Mr. Gould has been quite successful in business, and commands a large trade. His credit is No. 1, and he thoroughly understands the demands of the market.

J. C. LAW.

Mr. Law was born in Putnam county, in 1845, and was for many years engaged in the lumber trade at Henry. He married, in 1872, Lizzie Orr Swan, born in Ohio, to whom three children have been born—James A., Zilpha and Rebecca. In 1864 he enlisted under the call for one hundred day men, and went into the 141st regt. Ill. Vols., shouldering a musket and serving the required time. He has been city treasurer of Henry, and filled various minor offices; was candidate before the convention of 1879 for county treasurer, and is capable of filling any position.

W. T. LAW.

President First National Bank, Henry.

H. A. PROCTOR.

Mr. Proctor is a native Illinoisan, born in Perry county, in 1858, and came to Henry in 1878, establishing the firm of Webber & Proctor. It was dissolved in 1879, Mr. Proctor purchasing his partner's interest and succeeding to the business. He has a nice room for the purpose, keeps a fine stock of goods, and does an excellent business; is pleasant and affable to customers, and his place is popular with all.

JOSEPH H. JONES.

Mr. Jones is a leading citizen of the county, and a successful merchant, carrying a very large stock of goods and having a heavy trade. He was born in Washington county, Ind., in 1832, and came with his parents to Canton,

Ill., in 1834, where he obtained a liberal education, fitting him for future duty. His father having been elected sheriff, the family removed to the county-seat, Lewiston, whence Mr. Jones came to Henry, serving as a clerk two years. In 1853 he began business for himself, and has followed it successfully ever since. From 1861 to 1865 the firm were engaged in banking, since which time he has confined himself exclusively to trade. In 1863 he married Zahanna Ramey, and to them four children were born—Ida A., Cannah, John L., Julia and Norman. Behind the counter Mr. Jones is affable, polite and thoroughly master of his business. He has filled many prominent positions in the city and county, and served one term in the legislature with marked ability and entire satisfaction.

LYMAN HORRAM.

Mr. Horram is one of the oldest living settlers of Putnam or Marshall counties, first visiting this section fifty-three years ago. He was born in Orange county, Vermont, in 1806, moved with his parents to Philadelphia when two years old, and to Trenton, N. J., three years later. In 1814 his father moved to Lawrenceburg, Ind., purchasing a flat-boat and floating down the stream to their destination. When 16, his parents moved to Hamilton county, Ind., on White river, and again to Tippecanoe county, where his father laid out the town of Dayton, and was one of the three first settlers in the county. In 1827 he started, along with others, for the newly discovered lead mines near Galena, went to the portage of the Kankakee, and purchasing canoes, floated down that stream and the Illinois to Chillicothe, and thence journeyed on foot over "Kellogg's trail" to their destination. He staid one year and returned, visiting the mines again the succeeding year. Going back to Indiana, he married Eleanor Baker in 1828, and removed to Putnam county, six miles east of Henry, where he opened a large farm and was very successful up to the time he retired from business, about fifteen years ago. He was a hard worker, and his plans were made with judgment. Both himself and wife were industrious and prudent, and fortune smiled upon them; he has a competence of this world's goods, and in his old age can sit beneath his own vine and fig tree and enjoy the legitimate fruits of a well spent life.

BERNARD YAEGER.

Mr. Yaeger came from "sunny France," having been born in Alsace in 1832, the province since wrested from her grasp by Germany. He came to the United States in 1853, and to Henry the year after. In 1857 he married Catharine Schick, born in Bavaria, and their two children are named Henry and Ellen. He began business in 1855, erecting in person the substantial brick building he occupies. His residence is on School street, and himself and family are members of the Catholic church. He has been twice elected alderman, and is a man of influence in his ward and in the council. He is agent for several lines of steamers, visited the Paris Exposition and his old home in 1878, traveling extensively in Europe.

T. FRANK MCCOY.

Mr. McCoy, the leading watchmaker and jeweler of Henry, was born in Lewiston, Pa., in 1851. He was early apprenticed to the jewelry business, making himself thoroughly master of the trade, after which he came to Henry in 1875, and engaged to E. H. Hutchins, for whom he worked one year, and then began business for himself. On the 31st of December, 1878, he married Jennie, daughter of A. M. Pool, and to them one child has been born. He carries a large stock of jewelry and presentation goods, and has a heavy trade from all parts of the country.

A. B. HALL.

Mr. Hall was born in Durbin county, Indiana, in 1839, came to Peoria in 1855, and to Henry in 1860. Married Mary E. Atkinson in that year, born in Indiana. They have one child living—Stanley, and three deceased. Has been street commissioner three years, and is serving as city marshal. Is a member in good standing in the independent order of Odd Fellows.

ISRAEL KOEHLER.

Mr. Koehler was born in Northampton county, Pa., in 1830, and came to Henry county, Ill., in 1855, and to Henry in the fall of 1858. He began the manufacture of carriages in 1865, and has continued with added facilities from year to year until the present time. He married Augusta C. Smith in 1853, born in the same county with himself, and they have one child—Lewella B. The capacity of his works has been about 150 carriages of all kinds annually, but he is now greatly increasing this, and will have facilities for manufacturing, placing himself on a par with the extensive manufacturers of the East. His work is put up in the very best style and is universally appreciated.

JOHN W. NIECE, *Druggist.*

Mr. Niece was born in Park county, Indiana, 1835, and moved to Terre Haute when seven years old, where he served seven years apprenticeship in a drug store. He married Miss Amanda Taylor in Laporte, Ind., and moved there in 1860. He entered the army as assistant quartermaster in 1864, and was stationed at Paducah, Tenn., which was for the time a port of entry. He had charge of the quartermaster's department for the issuance of forage and transportation to the army and to all refugees. All steamboats and other vessels, whether in the Government service or private, were obliged to stop and report to him or at his office. Owing to ill health he was obliged to resign, which he did in July, 1865. He returned to Laporte, where he remained until the fall of that year, when he moved to Henry and accepted a position in M. C. Everett's drug store, at a salary of \$50 per month, soon increased

to \$75. In 1869 he formed a copartnership with Dr. Baker's son, as Niece & Baker in the establishment of Roberts & Co., which they purchased. In 1871 he sold out to Mr. Baker, and in June of that year went into business for himself, which he has conducted successfully since. He has one son—Henry J., born in 1863, a clerk in his store, a promising young man and competent druggist.

DR. WILLIAM H. JONES.

Dr. Jones was born in Canada West in 1837, came to the United States when a child, and lived in Independence, Ky.. He studied medicine here and graduated from the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati in 1869. He began practice in Kentucky, which he continued until 1873, and then removed to Henry and made it his permanent home. He married Ida Haminger in January, 1879, at Des Moines, Iowa, a native of Covington, Kentucky. The Doctor is a member of the County Medical Society, has a good business, is popular in society, and is looked upon as a rising man.

M. J. SUTTON.

Mr. Sutton is a blacksmith of Henry, born in County Wexford, Ireland, in 1844, and came to the United States in 1860, beginning business for himself in 1867. In 1866 he married Ellen Ivers, born in Ireland, and they have six children—James, Alice, Willie, Lawrence, Katie and Ellen. In 1861 he volunteered in the three months service, and continued until honorably discharged. Is a member of the Henry Fire Department.

WILLIAM G. SNYDER.

Mr. Snyder was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, in 1850, and came to this country in 1866, stopping in Baltimore and Chicago a while, and reaching Henry in 1865. Here he hired to John Morgan, for whom he worked five years, and then set up for himself in 1874. In 1869 he married Sarah Heim, born in Pennsylvania, and came here when two years old. They have three children—Charles, Howard and Lulu. They are members of the M. E. church, and he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

A. L. HUPP.

Mr. Hupp was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1842, and came to Henry in July, 1879, having lived in Wenona since 1868. He married Miss Beatrice Kinder in 1873, who was born in Ohio in 1862, and one child, Ira Lee, is the result of this marriage—born May 31, 1877. He has a first class saloon and billiard hall, where gentlemen will find quiet company and good tables.

GEORGE BALL.

Mr. Ball is a native of Alsace, Germany, where he was born in 1837, and came to the United States in 1853. He first settled at Buffalo, and next in Henry in 1858. He tried farming one year and went into the saloon business, purchasing the property from a Mr. Hoover, and greatly improving it. He married Ann Eliza Rosley in 1859, and together they have three children—Mary M., Joseph J. and Henry. Himself and family are members of the Catholic church, and he is a member of the church choir.

RICHARD H. WATERFALL.

Mr. Waterfall is a naturalized American citizen, born in Derbyshire, England, in 1813, and came to this country in 1843, having resided some years previous in Canada. In 1859 he opened a barber and hair dressing establishment, running it successfully. Was elected justice of the peace in 1874 and again in 1877. In 1865 he married Mrs. Maria McArthur (Griffith). He had three children by a former marriage—Mary A. (Mrs. Anderson), Sarah, (Mrs. Goddard), and Charlotte. Are members of the Episcopal church, of which he is senior warden. Is agent for several leading fire insurance companies and gives it his close attention. Previous to coming to this country he served in H. M. 1st Regiment of foot, until his departure for the United States.

DR. SAMUEL C. SNYDER, *Dental Surgeon.*

Dr. Snyder was born in Henry in 1852, where he received his education. He read law in Bloomington and was admitted to the bar in Springfield in 1874, following its practice until failing health compelled him to give it over, and by the advice of a physician took up the study of dentistry, graduating at the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery, and has followed the profession ever since. In 1878 he married Blema H Griffin, of Scranton, Pa., and they are members of the Christian church. The Doctor has elegantly fitted up his rooms and does a fine business. He also visits Lacon weekly where he has secured a very lucrative practice.

DR. T. M. McINTOSH, *Dentist.*

Dr. McIntosh was born in Marshall county, and educated in Patnam. He studied his profession in Pontiac, and began the practice at Magnolia in 1874. His office in Henry is with Dr. Motter, and he visits regularly Magnolia and Hennepin. His office at the latter place is with D. W. Danley.

J. H. HALL.

Mr. Hall was born in Kelso, Scotland, in 1821, and came to the United States in 1833, stopping first at New Orleans, then at St. Louis, and coming to Henry in 1866. He first opened in the grocery business with which he connected real estate, dealt in grain etc., following this until 1867, when he visited Enrope, taking in the French ex-

position, where his knowledge of various languages made him a valuable companion to Americans. Returning to the United States he married Adaline C. Fisher and by her had three children—George O., Mary Josephine and John C. Mrs. Hall died in 1856, and he married Sarah I. Ham, of Saratoga Springs. To her were born four children—Jennie, Florence, Joseph and Gertrude. After his return from Europe he went into the carriage business and followed it several years, and then embarked in the hardware trade under the firm of J. H. Hall & Son.

H. G. GRAWBURG.

Mr. Grawburg was born in the state of New York in 1825, and came to Henry in 1856. He married Loretta C. Snyder in 1858, and in 1859 began business in Henry. Mrs. G. was born in Pennsylvania and is the mother of five children—E. Alva, Mary Henrietta, Doris V., William and Beatrice I. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., a stockholder in the Henry bridge company and weighmaster.

OLIVER TINKER.

Mr. Tinker was born in Manchester, England, in 1823, came to the United States in 1848, and settled at Fall River, Mass., where he staid until 1850, when he returned to England. In 1854 he came back to this country and worked in Philadelphia three years, and came to Henry in 1857. In 1845 he married Elizabeth Tamliman, born in the same place with himself. They have one child, May Hannah, (Mrs. Gates), and are members of the M. E. church.

CICERO M. FERGUSON.

Mr. Ferguson was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1823, moved to Richland county with his parents when a boy, and to Illinois in 1844. Went to Peoria in 1848 and to Henry in 1852. In 1846 he married Susan Hull, born in Cumberland county, Pa. He has been superintendent of the Henry bridge for four years, and was street superintendent four years. He is a stockholder in the Bridge Company, owns a good farm in Henry township, and a coal bank in Whitefield.

DR. CHARLES M. BAKER.

Dr. Baker was born in Lexington, Ky., in 1822, where he received his education and graduated at the fine Medical College of that place in 1843. The same year he removed to Washington, Ill., and opened an office, subsequently removing to Bloomington, and to Henry in 1849, where he succeeded in building up a large practice. Is a member of the State Medical society, and on friendly terms with all members of the Allopathic school of medicine. He was twice elected mayor, and is held in much esteem by his fellow citizens.

DR. GEORGE MOTTER, *Dental Surgeon.*

Dr. Motter was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1829 where he was educated and studied his profession. He began practice in 1853 and removed to Henry in 1856, where he speedily built up a large and profitable business. He married Martha W. Dunlap, born in the same county with himself, and where she attended school with the lady who is now Mrs. President Hayes, the school being taught by Senator Thomas. Has five children—M. Gertrude, Edgar H., George A., Stella and Charles. Dr. M. has an extensive practice, his business extending to Lacon and Hennepin.

S. T. KSYZKI.

Mr. Ksyzki, was born in Prussia, in 1826, and came to the United States in 1855. He located in Henry in 1860, and worked at his trade until 1864, when he enlisted in the 14th Ill. Vol. Inf. and served until the close of the war. He was captured near Dalton, Ga., Dec. 5, 1864, and held a prisoner three months until paroled at Wilmington, N. C. The war over, he returned to Henry and resumed his trade. In 1860 he married Magdalena Mucholowaz, also a native of Prussia. Their children are Nella and Albana. Mr. K. is a first-class workman, and his wagons have a reputation for strength and durability not excelled by any. He has a capacity for turning out fifty wagons annually, and does all kinds of jobbing and repairs.

CHARLES R. JONES.

Mr. Jones is of Welsh descent, and a son of Edwin Jones, for many years a well known citizen of Lacon. On his mother's side he is descended from the Davises, the well known bankers and capitalists Robert and Thomas being relatives. He was given a first-class education, and early obtained a position in the First National Bank of Henry, of which he is now cashier. Adopting the language of Richelieu, it may be said "to such as he there is no such word as fail."

JAMES F. GATES.

Mr. Gates was born in Peoria, Ill., in 1848, of good old Yankee stock, his parents coming from Worcester, Mass., in 1823. His mother survives, living at Dunlap station, and is 75 years old. When ten years old he went into a store in Peoria, serving several years as a clerk in different concerns. At twenty he enlisted and served his time in the war for the suppression of the rebellion, and then took a course of study in Cole's business college. He clerked a year at the Peoria House, then went to Quincy and assumed charge of a hotel, which he ran for a year, went to Dunlap and bought a store, which he ran for two years, and then came to Henry and entered into the

grocery and provision trade. He does a thriving business and keeps a large stock. In 1870 he married Effie R. Fordner, born in Cincinnati, and to them three children have been born—Mabel Inez, Jesse Freeman and Perrie Fordner. He has a large trade which he personally oversees, and is making money.

R. E. HILLS.

Mr. Hills was born in Waterloo, Seneca county, N. Y., in 1825. He came to St. Charles, Kane county, in 1855, and to Henry in 1866, where he set up in the grocery and provision trade, which he has since followed. In 1849 he married Elizabeth F. Owena, born in Geneva, Ontario county, N. Y. He keeps all desirable goods in his line, is a heavy shipper of poultry and produce, and has the reputation of being a fair dealer with whom it is a pleasure to transact business.

H. L. HUTCHINS.

Mr. Hutchins was born in Killingly, Conn., in 1806, and removed to Cazenovia, Madison county, N. Y., in 1830, and to Henry in 1854, since which time, up to 1876, he has been in active life, principally in the wool commission business. In 1831 he married Lucretia Camp, born in Madison county, N. Y., and by her has four living children—Mary L. (Mrs. Bishop), Cornelia (Mrs. Hull, and a widow), E. H., a merchant of Henry, and A. V., a merchant of August doing a large business. Mr. Hutchins is deservedly proud of his family, as well he may be.

AUGUST C. WEIS.

Mr. Weis is a well known business man of Henry, carrying on the grocery and provision trade and doing a large business in the sale of musical instruments and musical goods. He was born here in 1839, and is a son of Valentine Weis, one of the first settlers of the township. In 1866 he married Mary Traendly, born in the township, and to them have been born, Kate, George, Emma and Frank. He began business here in 1870 and has followed it since. He is a finished musician and eminent composer, having written some very fine waltzes, marches, etc.

ALBERT M. POOL.

Mr. Pool is an old citizen and for many years a leading merchant of Henry. He was born in Morgan county, Ohio, in 1827, moved with his parents to Lebanon, O., in 1831, thence to Bedford, Ind., in 1833, to Putnam county, Ill., in 1837, and to Henry in 1849, where he entered into the dry goods business, in which he continued until 1877, when he sold out to J. H. Jones. He embarked in the lumber trade here in 1878. In 1853 he married Julia M. Ramsay, born in Fort Covington, N. Y., and to them were born four children—May C., Minnie A., Jennie F., L. Minerva. Mrs. Pool died in 1863, and in 1865 he married Ellen Gardner, of Columbus, Ohio, to whom one child, Bruce Roberts, was given. She died in 1878. Mr. Pool has been a leading and influential member in church and society for many years, filling various positions of trust and responsibility. He is a pleasant talker and close reasoner, and his influence is always on the side of truth and justice. He is an active worker in the Sabbath school and temperance movements, and enjoys the respect of all.

SAMUEL D. BAXENDALE.

Mr. Baxendale was born in Alton, Ill., in 1846, and moved to Putnam county in 1848, where he learned the business of a barber and hairdresser. In 1868 he began business for himself, and in 1869 married Sarah E. McCormick, born in Magnolia. They have five children—Alfred, Nellie, Ida, Beulah and Samuel. In 1864 he enlisted in Co. B, 104th Ill. Vol., and served until the close of the war. He was in Sherman's great march through Georgia and at Milk Creek, N. C. Although but seventeen years old, he made a good soldier. His rooms in Henry are fitted up in good taste, and his establishment is popular.

LUTHER A. JONES.

Mr. Jones was born in New Hampshire in 1811, and removed to Cass county, Ill., in 1836, where he remained with the exception of a year in Iowa, until 1871, when he came to Henry. In that year he married Mrs. Eleanor Calef, formerly White, the mother of four children by a former marriage. Their names were Louis, Sarah, (Mrs. Weaver), and Emma. Is a member of the Masonic order, and an active worker in the temperance reform movement.

G. W. EMERICK.

Mr. Emerick was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1823, and located in Henry in 1853. Up to September, 1879, he was farming on an extensive scale and was very successful, owning five farms which he rents out. He is now in the grocery and provision trade, and does a very extensive business. In 1849 he married Miss C. Brown, who died in 1877, leaving three children—Minerva A., Emanuel B. and William G. In 1879 he was married again to Miss Emma Morrison. Mr. Emerick has taken a leading part in public concerns, is a man of ability and influence, and a good citizen.

KEN. McNEAL.

Mr. McNeal was born in Jackson county, Ohio, in 1840, and came to Peoria in 1841, and to Henry in 1852, when he learned the blacksmithing trade and wagon making. Has been in business for himself since 1867. In 1865 he married Anna Tremain, born in Poughkeepsie, New York, by whom he has three children—Millie May, Fannie F. and Irene. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. A, of the 86th Reg., and served three years, making an excellent record, and con-

tributing his whole share towards putting down the slaveholder's rebellion. He fought in all of Sherman's great battles in the Atlanta campaign, was master mechanic of McCook's Brigade, and at the close of the war returned to Henry. He is active and pushing, and would succeed where many others would fail. He has sold more fine carriages than any other man in Marshall county, and possesses facilities for manufacturing equalled by few. In 1873 he was burned out, losing heavily, but went to work and soon made it up.

JOHN SCHURR.

Mr. Schurr was born in Germany in 1821, and came to the United States in 1854, and settled in Henry. His wife likewise came from Germany, and they have four children—John, Otto, Edward and Lena. He established business here in 1873, as a gunsmith and maker and repairer of firearms, and dealer in guns and gun materials. He is a finished mechanic, and gives satisfaction to customers.

C. E. ABBOTT.

Mr. Abbott was born in the State of Maine in 1844, moved to Albany, New York in 1859, where he studied his profession with his brother, J. H. Abbott, the noted and leading photographer in the city, and later of Chicago, where he had a large establishment at the corner of Washington and State. Mr. Abbott came to Henry in 1877, and at once secured a very fine business. In 1866 he wedded Louisa Reid, born in Boonville, New York. He has instruments of all sorts of views, and is an accomplished artist, as his work testifies.

HULDAH HOYT.

Mrs. Hoyt is widow of the late Chauncy B. Hoyt, and was born in New Canaan, Conn., in 1806. She was married in 1825, and her husband died December 13, 1860. Her only living child is Emily M. Two sons, Samuel and John Benedict died in Connecticut, and a daughter died in 1863. She is a member of the Congregational church, an active worker in the cause of temperance, and takes a deep interest in the cause of morality and religion.

CAPT. THOMAS O'HARA.

Mr. O'Hara was born in Brownsville, New York, in 1837, and came to Illinois in 1856 and went to steamboating, which he followed until 1861, when he enlisted in the cavalry service and was commissioned captain of Co. L, 11th Ill., Vol. He served until 1865, participating in all of the engagements in which his regiment fought. The 11th was one of the best in the service, and many of the brave men who enlisted sleep on Southern battle fields. Capt. O'Hara was mustered out at Memphis, returned to Peoria and thence to Henry in 1873. In 1865 he married Nancy Smith, of Peoria. In 1874 he brought the Gray Eagle to Peoria, and has been connected with her as captain or pilot most of the time since. He knows his duty and performs it well, whether on the steamer's deck or "in the battle's van."

C. G. SMITH.

Mr. Smith was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1836, and came to Marshall county in 1853, locating on a farm in Whitefield, and went to farming. He followed this until 1865, when he removed to Henry and became connected with the grain business, to which he added flour, feed and produce. In 1862 he married Phebe E. Barnes, born in Bradford county, Pa. They have four children—Thomas S., Charles E., Emma M. and David M. He visited the Rocky Mountains in 1859, at the time of the Pike's Peak excitement, remaining there two-years.

HOLMES MORRISON.

Mr. Morrison is a farmer living in Henry township, and was born in Ohio county, West Virginia, in 1844. He came to this county in 1855, and became a farmer. In 1869 he married Minerva Emerick, who was born in Virginia, and to them one child has been born—Mary D. He has been farming in Henry township for sixteen years.

ABNER CAMP, *Propr City Hotel.*

Mr. Camp was born in Madison county, New York, in 1813, and came to Potter county, Pa., in 1837. In 1842 he removed to Stark county, and in 1846 came to Marshall. He was by trade a carpenter. In 1848 he married Eliza A. Ham, born in Dover, Mass., and to them were born two children—Isabella and Charles A. Has been in the hotel business since 1865. He keeps a first class house, which is popular with the traveling public, and runs a carriage to the depot and steamboats. Mr. Camp is an old citizen, and greatly respected by all.

MARY TROENDLY.

Mrs. Troendly was born in Germany in 1831 and came to the United States with her parents when seven years old. They located in Marshall county in 1841, and she married Frederick F. Troendly the same year. He died Dec. 10th 1878, leaving to her care six children—Charles (deceased), Mary, Kate, Margaret, George and Frank. Are members of the German Catholic church. Have recently purchased a fine farm of 160 acres.

REV. THOMAS QUIGLEY, *Pastor of the Catholic Church.*

Father Quigley was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, May 22, 1826. He came to the United States in June, 1846, and located in the city of Charleston, S. C., where he studied theology and was ordained by Bishop Reynolds, a native of Kentucky. He remained at his post in Charleston during the wild excitement of the rebellion, attending to the duties of his Master and avoiding all political discussions. His mission was peace, and to preach

peace and good will among men, recognizing all, whether North or South, the children of the Great Father of all. When asked by a Union soldier who became a prisoner, if it would be right to join the Confederate army, he replied: "Render to Caesar what is Caesar's. If you swear allegiance to the flag of your choice, it is your spiritual duty to adhere to your oath." He was afterward stationed at Pontiac in this State, then in charge of the church of the Holy Name in Chicago, and later at Danville, and in Henry since 1876. He was in Rome at the opening of the great council in 1869, when the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope, as the spiritual head of the church on earth, was proclaimed. He visited all the most interesting points of Europe, spending some two years on the trip. He is liberal and generous in his associations with his fellow man, and a favorite in the community in which he lives.

DANIEL WANN.

Mr. Wann was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1801, and lived there until his removal to Kendall county, Ill., in 1849. Came to Henry in 1864. In 1831 he married Mary Krines, born in Pennsylvania in 1810, and five living children are spared them, while three are deceased. The first are George, Sarah, (Mrs. Vreeland), Henry C., William, Oscar and Holdah A. Curtis L., killed at Pittsburg Landing, was a member of company K, 20th Illinois Volunteers, and was killed within a few days after enlistment. His life was sacrificed to save his country. Are members of the M. E. church, of Henry.

LOUIS A. MEIER.

Mr. Meier was born in Brunswick, Germany, in 1834, and emigrated to this country in 1859, settling at Anna-wan, and going from thence to Chillicothe in 1866. In 1862 he went into the army, joining company A, 112th Ill. Volunteers, and serving to the end of the war. He was at the siege of Knoxville, was one of the veterans that helped whip Hood at Pulaski, and after various battles and marches was mustered out in June, 1865, and went into business in Chillicothe. He came to Henry in 1878. His wife was formerly Louisa Schulpins, born in Wolfenbuttel, Germany, and their two children are William and Gustav.

COL. C. A. STONE, (deceased).

Col. Stone was born in Lamoile county, Vermont, in 1809, and fifty years later located in Geneseo, and in Henry three years later, where he engaged in the grain business and became station agent for the C., R. I. & P. R. R., which position he filled to the satisfaction of all for 18 years. He built a warehous on the river in 1873 with a capacity of 100,000 bushels. In 1832 he married Sylvia Stafford in Vermont, who died Sept. 20th, 1879, leaving three daughters—Freelove H., Betty S. and Helen R. Freelove married James D. Culton in 1862, and has one child, Sylvia May, born in 1862. He was an active business man with a mind that readily grasped details, and capable of carrying through large enterprises, was well thought of and his loss is deeply regretted.

VALENTINE HATZENBAHLER.

The gentleman here named is a farmer, who was born in Germany in 1826, and came to the United States in 1848. He staid in New York city one year and came to this county in 1859. Married Maria Hawk in 1848, born in Germany. Their children are Eliza, Mary, Kate, George, Conrad, Anton, Peter and John. He rents and cultivates 320 acres of land; Himself and family are members of the Catholic church. They are hard workers and of the class of steady, industrious Germans who add to the wealth of the county year by year. Such emigrants are always welcome.

EDWARD SIMPSON.

Mr. Simpson is a retired farmer, who having amassed a sufficiency of worldly goods to comfortably support him, has come here to pass the remainder of his days. He was born in Westmorland county, Pa., in 1799, moved to Wayne county, Ohio in 1817, to Perry county in 1823, to Cincinnati in 1825 and to Putnam county in 1842. He was by trade a carpenter, but after coming to Illinois engaged in farming in Magnolia where he still owns 175 acres. He married Miss H. M. Ward in 1828, who bore him six children—Sarah, Roddie, Eliza, Louis E., Drusilla M. and Florence S. Himself and family are active members of the M. E. church, to which he has belonged since 1821. He has filled all the offices connected with it and contributed liberally toward its support.

JOHN W. MILLER.

Mr. Miller is a railroad engineer, born in Fall River, Mass., in 1823, and learned his trade there. He came west in 1856, locating at La Salle, where he became connected with the C., R. I. & P. R. R. and accepted a position in their employ. He married Hannah W. Davis in 1853, born in Fall River. They have had six children, Ida, Isaac, George, (killed on the railroad), Minnie, Carrie, Asa and Frank. His family are members of the Presbyterian church, and he belongs to the brotherhood of Canada and the United States. Has been on the C., R. I. & P. R. R. 24 years. He worked also on the Cape Cod R. R.

J. C. TOWNSEND.

Captain Townsend was born in Tompkins county, New York, in 1816, moved to Peoria county in 1851, and to Marshall in 1856, and engaged in farming. His home was in Saratoga, and having secured a competency he removed to town in 1870, for its better enjoyment and to educate his children. He married Betsey S. Minell in 1839, and has four children—George F., James S., Amanda and Cornelia E. He organized Co. D, 47th Ill. Vol., in 1861, was elected captain and served in the department of the Mississippi. Was at Island No. 10, first siege of Vicksburg, Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka and elsewhere. In organizing the company he was assisted by his son George, who succeeded

him in the command and proved a capable and popular officer, serving out his full term. Captain Townsend's health becoming impaired by hard service, he resigned and came home. Was elected mayor of Henry and served three terms. Is a Democrat, and very popular with his party, who have urged his acceptance of important positions without success.

FRANK BAER.

Mr. Baer was born at Chicago in 1862, came to Henry in 1875 and established a saloon and billiard room. He keeps first-class rooms, furnished in good style, immediately adjoining the Paskell house with good tables, cigars and the finest of domestic and imported liquors. It is the only American house in the city.

HIRAM C. WRIGHT.

Mr. Wright was born in Toronto, Canada, in 1819 and moved to Indiana with his parents in 1826, came to Peoria county in 1828 and to Putnam in 1844 lived eight years in Bureau county, returned to Putnam county and staid two years and came to Henry in 1867. He staid here six years and then went on to his farm and remained until 1869, when he came again to Henry to spend his days. He married Sophia C. Hunter in 1847 and they have one child, Clarissa, born in October, 1848, and one deceased. In early life Mr. Wright was engaged in lead mining for eight years in the vicinity of Mineral Point, Wis. He served three terms as mayor of Henry, was several times elected alderman, and has held other official positions.

FREDERICK E. WAGNER.

Mr. Wagner was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1852, where he learned the trade of a marble cutter. He came to this country in 1871, spent four years in traveling, and located in Henry in 1876, when he established his present business. He was married in 1874 to Elizabeth Gagel, born in Ohio, and three children have been given to them—Mollie, Appolona and Anna. He has made some very fine monuments, is capable of turning out the very best work at low prices, and will be happy to show specimens to all wishing to see them.

SHERWOOD S. MERRITT.

Mr. Merritt is a farmer living on section 30, who was born in the state of New York in 1838. He located in Henry in 1852, where he married Miss S. Kimber, in 1863. She was born in Putnam county. They have five children,—Charles E., Cora E., Roger S., William M. and Matilda J. They are members of the M. E. church. He owns 159 acres in Henry and 40 in Whitefield township.

HENRY J. SMITH.

Mr. Smith was born in New York city, Nov. 16, 1824, and came to Putnam county in 1836, where he lived with his grandparents. He came to Henry in 1849, having two years previously married Robey A. White, a widow, whose maiden name was Robey A. Tabor. She was born in New Bedford, Mass., in 1818. He owns 160 acres of land, with good improvements, and has three children,—Ames A., Edward B. and Emma J.

JOHN BICKERMAN.

Mr. Bickerman was born in Kentucky, near Louisville, in 1848. He belongs to an energetic, pushing family, well known in Marshall county, and came here with his parents in 1860. He married Maggie Marks in 1879, who was born in Indiana. He is a member of the Catholic church, and a son of A. Bickerman.

DANIEL N. BLOOD, JR.

Mr. Blood is a farmer living on section 4. He was born in Henry township, January 3, 1855, and on the 16th of February, 1876, married Minerva Reader, a native of Mockport Ind. They have one child, Minerva, born January 22, 1877. Mr. Blood owns and cultivates 280 acres of land. He is a son of Daniel N. and Salome Blood, and a descendant of the celebrated Col. Blood who contested with George IV. for the crown of England.

MRS. M. A. HAFLEY (widow).

Mrs. Hafley is now a resident of San Francisco, California. She was born in Canada, and was married when only 14 years of age. Her husband died leaving her a widow at the age of 15. She came to the United States with her child and lived with her uncle in Plattsburg, N. Y., one year, and then went to Sacramento, Cal., and opened a private boarding house, which she kept until burned out, in 1852. She then ran the City Hotel, on the same street, until the flood of 1852, by which she lost \$20,000 worth of furniture and her well established business. After this calamity she moved to Grass Valley, where she kept a restaurant, and in two years made \$20,000. In 1855 she went to Iowa Hill, in the mining district, where she was again an unfortunate sufferer by the elements of destruction, losing some \$25,000 by a fire which destroyed the town. She then moved to Orrville, where she was married to Mr. David Hafley, a merchant, in 1857. They went to Sacramento and opened the Western Hotel, securing at the outset the patronage of all the stage lines, some twenty coaches per day, and entertained daily about 300 guests. Mr. Hafley was taken sick, and finally died in Philadelphia, where she had sent him for his health. She erected a costly monument over his remains in Laurel Hill Cemetery, bearing the inscription "the wife's tribute," and retired from business. Soon after, however, she opened a first-class boarding house, deriving her patronage mainly from members of the legislature, and continued until the great flood of 1862, when she moved to San Francisco and purchased the residence of the late U. S. Senator Broderick, who was killed in a duel with Judge Terry, of Cal-

ifornia. After a residence of four years in private life she opened a first-class boarding house on Kearney street, corner of Washington, in which she continued until 1876, when she sold out and made a trip east, visiting the Centennial Exposition. Returning, she stopped to visit friends in Marshall county, and while here purchased the Hatfield farm, in Saratoga township, for which she paid \$10,000 cash. In the meantime her daughter, Maria Agnes, was attending school at the seminary of the Sacred Heart, in Philadelphia, where she graduated with the highest honors after six years' study. She was the treasurer of the school, and a great favorite with all. One occasion when news arrived of a brilliant victory gained by Gen. Grant, she was confidentially informed of it by one of the sisters, with a caution not to say anything about it to the young ladies, there being some 300 there, many of whom were from the south; but her patriotism overbalanced her caution, and when she got into the dining room she picked up a chair and called on all present to give three cheers for the grand victory; then holding the chair over her head, marched round the table, calling for three cheers more. At this point the principal came in and told her she should have her turned out of school for creating such excitement, and sent for her uncle, Mr. Hafley, a silk merchant of Philadelphia, who upon his arrival told her to give ten cheers for the next victory she heard of, and then he would send her to Paris. She is now the wife of Mr. Charles Pond, hardware merchant, of San Francisco. Mrs. Hafley is still an active business lady, living on the ample income from her property.

C. M. DAWSON.

Mr. Dawson resides on section 17, his occupation being that of a farmer. He was born in Monongahela county, Va., in 1839, locating in Bureau county, Ill., in 1857, and in Marshall county in 1878. In 1864 he married Mary J. Raymond, who was born in Connecticut. They have four children,—Freddie, Franklin, Martha and Edward. While a resident of Bureau county Mr. Dawson served his community some eight years as a school trustee. His present homestead embraces 90 acres of land, with good improvements.

GEORGE W. BICKERMAN.

Mr. Bickerman is a farmer residing in Whitefield township, who was born on the place he now occupies, in 1856. His parents were among the first settlers in the county, and made good provision for their children. In 1877 he married Maggie Mattern, born in Henry township, and they have one child, Adam L., born in 1878. They are members of the Catholic Church. He owns a fine farm of 145 acres, and 37 acres in timber, is a good farmer, and well posted in matters pertaining to farming, stock raising, etc.

EDWARD SCHUSTER.

Mr. Schuster was born in Henry, in 1864. Engaged in the ice business in Henry in 1877-8, in which he was quite successful. Is a member of the fire department, and a real estate owner. Since quitting his former business he has been speculating, in which he has made money.

RUSSELL E. HEACOCK.

Mr. Heacock is a native of the Dominion of Canada, having been born in Leeds county and removed to the vicinity of Henry in 1841. In August, 1848, he married Sarah H. Davidson, born in the same county with himself. Up to 1867 he lived in Henry, where he served some time as mayor, and as aldermen. Was assessor two years, and filled other positions. Mr. H. is interested in the early history of the place and county, and possesses much valuable information. He is a good talker, a pleasant, genial gentleman, and owns a good farm with first class surroundings.

MRS. NANCY H. COAN.

Mrs. Coan was born in Indiana in 1833, her maiden name being Brassfield. Her parents came to Peoria when she was a child, and she married William D. Loudon, born in Pennsylvania in 1858. He died in 1872, leaving three children—DeWitt, Rebecca and Henry. She married Mr. T. P. Coan in 1875. He is agent for the Hanna wagon in Nebraska. Mrs. C. owns a fine farm in Whitefield, also her residence in Henry. She is a member of the Congregational church.

PETER MATTERN.

Mr. Mattern was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1816, and came to the United States in 1842, settling in Zanesville, Ohio, where he lived until 1844. He married Frances Erich in 1842, in Albany, N. Y., born in Bavaria. They have seven children—Geo. P., Katherina, Michael J., Stephen, Margaret, William and Henry. Are members of the Catholic church. He owns 140 acres of land under excellent cultivation, is much interested in the growth of fruit, makes excellent cider, etc., for which he finds a ready market.

EMANUEL B. EMERICK.

Mr. Emerick is a farmer, born in Washington county, Va., in 1851 and is a son of G. W. Emerick, a large land holder of this township. He came to Marshall county along with his parents when a child, and married Jennie Moody, born in Miami county, Ohio, in 1877. They have one child, Anna May, born Jan. 24th, 1879.

MRS. TILLIE E. KLINE.

Mrs. Kline is widow of Geo. W. Kline, and was born in Lewiston, Mifflin county, Pa. She married George W. Kline, October 5, 1876, and he died August 8, 1879, leaving seven children, viz., J. B., Ella, Benjamin, Louisa, Mc.

Clellan, Minnie and Verron. Mr. Kline first engaged in the nursery business in Canton, and afterward at farming, which he followed very successfully, and then engaged in the lumber trade with Mr. Green. He bought Mr. Green's interest in a few months, and sold out to A. M. Pool. A year or so before his death he again went into the trade under the firm of Law & Kline, which firm was dissolved by death. He was an estimable citizen, correct in his dealings, industrious, and largely esteemed by those who knew him.

ELNATHIAN, KNAPP.

Mr. Knapp was born in Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1830, and removed to Marshall county, Illinois, in 1869. He married Sarah Quimby in 1859. She was born in the State of New York, and to them have been given three children—Eva A., Edmond E. and Alfred A. Mr. Knapp owns one hundred and twenty acres of fruit land under cultivation, and his family are members of the Christian church.

LOTON FRISBEY.

Mr. Frisbey is an old and wealthy farmer, who has lived in the county since 1835. He was born in Rutland county, Vt., in 1806, and moved to Chatauque county, New York, in 1833. He married Rhoda Mallory in 1827, born in Vermont, who became the mother of eight children, five of whom survive and three are dead. The living are Amaada, Hiram, Eliza, Henry and Elvira. Mr. Frisbey owns 185 acres of excellent land, and has laid by a goodly sum to make his old age comfortable. Himself and wife have toiled long and well, and their days have been long in the land. They still live in the home they made in younger days, and can view the future with hope and the past without regret.

JAMES A. HANSON.

Mr. Hanson lives on section 9 of Henry township, and was born in Peoria county, Illinois in 1847, and moved to Marshall county in 1866. In 1871 he married Eliza Smith, likewise born in Peoria county, and one child has since been born to them—Walter S. He owns eighty acres of good land, all under cultivation, on which he has just erected a fine dwelling house.

ABRAHAM W. HOAGLAND.

Mr. Hoagland is a native of New York state where he was born in 1812, and with his parents came to Putnam county in 1856. In 1868 his father died. His mother is still living. When President Lincoln called for "six hundred thousand more" he shouldered his musket and became a soldier in the 87th Ill., serving until the end of the war. He owns 120 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, with a good house and other buildings.

J. W. JONES.

Mr. Jones is a farmer, born in Rutland county, Vermont, in 1815. He came west in 1838, and located near where he now lives in 1839. In 1846 he wedded Mary J., sister of Deacon Pool, of Henry. She died in 1866, leaving four children—Walter Morris, Eugene and Stella. He married his present wife, formerly Mary E. Baker, in 1871. They have one child, Henry. Although 64 years old Mr. Jones is hale and hearty, and Mrs. Jones is quite young looking, showing that their lives have been free from care and trouble.

JOHANN JOSEPH MERDIAN.

Mr. Merdian lives on Sec. 20, and was born on the Rhine, in Bavaria, in 1811. He came to the United States in 1836 and worked at wagon making in New York city until he came to Henry in 1873. For some time he ran both the shop and farm, but finding this would not do he sold his shop and confined himself to farming, in which he has been quite successful. He married Mary Burgun in 1838, born in France, and they have nine children—Stephen J., Mary, Clara, George, Peter, Conrad, John, Bernard and Henry. He owns his home farm of 430 acres, 160 acres in Woodford county and 100 acres in Whitefield. Himself and family are members of the German Lutheran church.

P. S. PERLEY,

Lawyer and Postmaster, Henry, Ill.

JOHN A. WARREN,

Grocer, Henry, Illinois.

WILLIAM WARREN,

Grocer, Henry, Illinois.

JOSEPH C. KALB, *Physician and Surgeon.*

Dr. Kalb, proprietor of the drug store that bears his name, was born in Franklin county, Ohio, in 1831, and has led a rather exciting life. He was given a liberal education and early began the study of medicine, attending lectures as early as 1851, and he began practice then. He was a hard student, poring over his books early and late and when given a diploma was one of the best informed physicians in the county. He graduated from Sterling Medical college in 1856-7. In 1861 was appointed surgeon of the 42d Ohio Volunteers and served through the exciting campaign that preceded the fall of Vicksburg, participating in the battles of Champion Hill, Black River and Jackson. He was also in the Red River expedition, and was through the campaign in eastern Kentucky. Was pro-

moted to division, surgeon with the army under Gen. A. L. Lee, and medical inspector in the field, after the Red River expedition, with charge of the greater part of the 13th and 19th army corps. He was mustered out Nov. 28th, 1864, and married Miss S. S. Brown in 1851, their two children being named Clinton and Edina. He came to Henry in 1869, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice. His large experience has given him unusual opportunity to study difficult and complicated diseases, and especially surgical cases. He stands high in the profession and exercises a marked influence in the community.

MARY C. POWELL.

Mrs. Powell was born in Morgan county, Ohio, where, in 1836, she married L. R. Powell, a native of Virginia. He died in 1859 leaving to her care three children—Daniel H., Alfred H. and Lucy E. They are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Powell was a kind husband and father and greatly beloved.

MARK GREGORY.

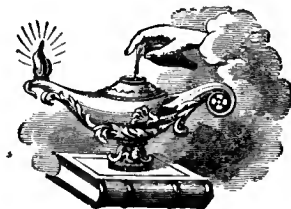
A native of Ohio, born in Ashtabula county in 1835, whence he moved with his parents in 1837 to Auglaize county, in the same state, and from there to Peoria county, Ill., in 1843, where he remained until 18 years of age. In 1858 he came to Marshall county, where he has since made his home. He resides on section 8, is engaged in farming, and owns 160 acres of land with first-class improvements, all under thorough cultivation. In 1866 he married Eleanor Ursula Goodrich, a native of Vermont. They have one child living, Charles D., and one deceased. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., is now road commissioner and a member of the board of school directors.

WILLIAM P. WILLIAMS.

Mr. Williams was born in Union county, New Jersey, in 1823, and came to Marshall county in 1854. He married Petronella Hoagland in 1847, born in Middlesex county, New Jersey. They have six children as follows: Hannah C., James A., Bessie, Annette, Marv W. and Carrie. Are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Williams has a fine dairy, and furnishes the citizens of Henry with pure milk. He is a good business man, a pleasant talker, generous and liberal. Such men deserve to be—as Mr. Williams has always been—successful.

W. C. GUYER.

Mr. Guyer is a farmer and dairy man residing on section 9. He was born in Mifflin county, Pa., in 1839, and located in this county in 1869. In 1864 he married Malioda Fibbs, also a native of Pennsylvania. They have five children,—Lloyd H., Doffie D., Charles A., Ida M. and Fannie R. Mr. Guyer and his wife are members of the United Brethren church. He owns 55 acres of land adjoining Henry, and has made a speciality of the dairy business since 1876, keeping 12 cows and supplying the city with milk. He is at this writing a member of the board of school directors.



EVANS TOWNSHIP.

HENRY FOSTER.

Mr. Foster was born in Southwick, Mass., in 1827 and moved to Connecticut with his parents when but two years old, where he learned the trade of harness making. In 1854 he came west locating at Palatine, Putnam county, Ill., and the year following removed to Magnolia and established himself in business. He married Elizabeth Squires in 1849, born in Hartford, Conn., and they have three children—James F., Josephine A. and Frank H. In 1864 he moved to Wenona and opened business here. When the war broke out he enlisted in the 77th Regiment Ill., Volunteers. He was elected police justice in 1875 and served four years. Is a member of the I. O. O. F.

DAVID STATELER.

Mr. Stateler is a retired farmer living in Wenona. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1806, moved to Tazewell county, Ill., in 1823, and to Putnam county in 1831. He married Mary Myers in 1830, a native of Philadelphia, and they have five children living—Mary (Mrs. Burns), A. H., Almira R., Marshall and Bradford. He claimed 220 acres in Roberts township in 1831 and entered it when it came into market and opened a large farm and followed this business up to 1865, when he moved to Wenona. Mr. Stateler has filled all the responsible offices in his township and taken a leading part in public affairs. He made money in farming and knows how to enjoy it.

ISAAC VAUGHN.

Mr. Vaughn was born in 1831, came to Illinois and located at Magnolia. He came to Wenona in 1858 and worked at the carpenter trade until 1862, when he enlisted in company H. of the 104th Ill. Volunteers and served until the close of the war, taking part in many of the great battles of the west. He was in Sherman's great campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and thence to the sea, and took part in the grand parade at Washington. When mustered out he commanded the company. In the fall of 1865 was elected county treasurer and served two years. In 1867 he returned to Wenona and established the firm of Southwell & Vaughn and still carries on the business. He married Maria Adams (Willis) in 1868 and their children are Cora, Alice, Ralph and Fred. Was elected the first mayor of Wenona and served two terms. He keeps a first-class stock of drugs and does a good business.

WILLIAM J. McALLISTER

Mr. McAllister belongs to the firm of Stateler & McAllister, of Wenona, and was born in Ireland in 1850. He obtained a good general and mercantile education at home and in the city of Limerick, where he served in the wholesale firms of J. and T. Norton, Carnock, Tait & Co., William J. Todd & Co. and A. and J. Mitchell, in all more than eight years. He came to Chicago in 1872 and entered into the employ of Carson, Pirie & Co., remaining until 1873, when he became a clerk for E. S. Fowler & Co., of Wenona. Was with them three years and on his retirement helped form the firm of which he is a member. He married in 1877, Flora Southwell, the first child born in Rutland township. Their only child, Roy, died when two years old. The firm to which he belongs does a large business and they carry an extensive stock.

J. B. HUDSON, M. D.

Dr. Hudson was born in 1841 and came to Lacon with his parents in 1845, going from thence to Janesville, Wis., in 1851. He attended school at Evansville and Milton and completed his education at the state university, Madison. He studied medicine and graduated at the Bennett Medical college, in Chicago, and settled in Wenona, where he has been engaged in practice for 17 years. In 1878 he married Maggie Lawless, of Bureau county, Ill., a member of the Catholic church. He is a good physician and very successful, having built up a good practice.

JOHN O. DENT.

Mr. Dent is a capitalist residing in the city of Wenona. He was born in Monongahala county, W. Va., in 1819, and in 1823 moved with his father to Wayne county, Ind., where they remained until 1832, when they located in Putnam county, Ill. In 1849 he made his first entry of land, in Osage township, LaSalle county, which he still retains and has occupied ever since. About the same time he entered 160 acres in Evans township, Marshall county. He built his first residence in 1851. In March of 1850 he married Harriet F. Spencer, daughter of Horace Spencer, of Whitefield township. They have seven children living,—Frances M., Mary S., Horace F., Rosalie S., Eva L., John O., Jr., and Judith G. He is a member of the Masonic order, and both he and Mrs. D. are members of the Chapter of the Eastern Star. He was supervisor of Osage township during the first eight years from its organization, was a

member of the State legislature, filled successfully all the local offices, and was president of the Wenona Union Fair Association for the term of 1878-79. Mr. Dent is an extensive land owner, having 600 acres around Wenona, 80 acres in Gilman, and about 900 acres in Vermillion county, all of which is rented with the exception of his home farm of 120 acres in LaSalle county, just across the line from Wenona. This is composed of very choice land, specially devoted to the raising of fine stock, in which he is extensively engaged. He keeps a large number of cows for breeding purposes exclusively, and markets on an average about fifty fat steers per year. To Mr. Dent is also due the credit of starting the first nursery in this part of the country, raising from seed nearly all the trees within twenty miles of Wenona. His home farm is divided by handsome hedge fences into eleven fields, each having a grove of timber which serves admirably as shade and shelter for his stock. A main avenue with which each field connects extends through the entire farm, and is thickly lined with shade trees on either side, affording a delightfully cool and shady retreat in the warmest weather. It is a model farm—the creation of a model farmer.

CHARLES PARKER.

Dealer in agricultural machinery. Mr. Parker was born in Norfolk county, Mass., in 1812, and came to Marshall county in 1836, locating on Round Prairie. He bought 480 acres which he farmed up to 1861, when he retired. He was active in raising funds for volunteers at Lacon at the outbreak of the war, although a Democrat himself. He retired from farming and established the agricultural implement depot at Wenona, where he has been engaged with his sons ever since. Married Maria L. Dean in 1838. She was born in New York city. They have five children—Charles D., Ellea (Gallaher), Jane P., George W., and Amelia. Mrs. Parker is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Parker is a member of the Masonic order. He was justice of the peace 18 years in Marshall county. They keep all kinds of machinery for farm purposes in their establishment and carry a large stock of repairs. They keep McCormick's full line of goods, besides other reputable manufacturers. Mr. Parker is active and pushing, and will get business when it is to be had.

E. S. FOWLER.

Mr. Fowler is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in 1821. He emigrated west in 1850 and located in Hennepin, after which he went to Caledonia. He remained here a short time and came to Wenona, engaging in the grain business, following it until 1859, when he opened up a stock of dry goods and has been in the trade ever since, transacting a large and successful business. He married Miss E. A. Knowles in 1865, born in Ohio, and to them three children have been born—Henry K., born in 1866, Paul, in 1868, and Georgie in 1872. When he came to Wenona and engaged in the grain trade he lived with his brother. Mr. Fowler understands his business and keeps it well in hand. He is one of the most prosperous men in the county.

SAMUEL SCOTT.

Mr. Scott was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1825, where he obtained his education. In 1844 he engaged in boating on the Ohio River, and worked his way up from fireman to captain. When the Mexican war broke out, he enlisted in the army as a teamster, and in that capacity served through the war. At the close he returned to the United States and located in Magnolia, and has been a resident of Putnam and Marshall counties since, except 19 months spent in California—1860-51. He married Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips (Worthington) in 1848. She died in 1869, leaving one child, Sarah J. He married his present wife, Laura Baker, in 1870, a native of this county. They have four children—Charles B., Julia, S. W. S., and Cornelia. He is a member of the Masonic order, also of the I. O. O. F. He and his wife are also members of the Chapter of the Eastern Star. He was collector of this township one term. He established his grocery business in 1868, and it is the oldest establishment of the kind in the city. In 1871 he associated with him in business Mr. R. F. Becher, also an old merchant. They carry a large stock of choice groceries and provisions. They are both gentlemen of refinement, polite and attentive to all, and command a large trade.

S. B. PATCH.

Mr. Patch (of Patch & Swift), was born in Pittsburg, Pa., in 1838, and came west in 1864, locating in Ottawa, and in Peru in 1865, and in Wenona in 1870, when they started a small foundry. They have now one of the most perfect and complete establishments west of Pittsburg. In a word it is perfect in all its appointments, and having made stove repairs a specialty, they are prepared to offer to the public the largest assortment of any foundry in the west. They have castings for the repair of all kinds of stoves now in use, having gone to a large expense in getting patterns. They challenge any firm in the west to furnish as many patterns as they do. Mr. P. married Sarah A. Beam in 1865. She was born in Johnson county, Pa. They have ten children—Ada B., Katie, Elmer E., Louis, Sarah J., Samuel J., Clomie E., Minnie, Raymond and Pheba. Mrs. Patch is a member of the M. E. church, Mr. P. is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows Societies, and has served as alderman two years, and mayor two years.

GARRETT NEWKIRK, M. D., *Practicing Dentist.*

Doctor Newkirk was born in Calhoun county, Michigan, May 3, 1847, and removed with his father to Stark county, Ill., in June, 1854. Studied medicine at the age of eighteen with Dr. O. W. Newell, then of Marshall county; attended two courses of lectures and graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, February 1868. Removed to Missouri in 1869, and practiced medicine and surgery there till October, 1873. Lived at Low Point and Washburn, Woodford county, five years. There being no resident dentist there, he became interested in the special care and

treatment of the teeth. Made dentistry a subject of study, and liking the work, gradually withdrew from medical practice to engage in it. Located in Wenona in August, 1878, and engaged exclusively in its practice. Is a member of the Marshall and Woodford county Medical Societies, and North Central Medical Associations. In December, 1872, married Miss Martha E. Martin, daughter of John M. Martin, then of Woodford county, now of Normal. She was born in Washington county, Indiana, in March, 1850, and was brought to Woodford county the same year. Followed teaching in Woodford and Marshall counties eight years. They have had two children—sons, one of whom is dead. The name of the living child, an infant, is John Martin Newkirk. It is to be hoped he may live to read this Record, and first printed mention of himself.

R. C. MULHALLEN.

This gentleman was born in Augusta county, Va., in 1823, moved to Park county, Ind., with his parents in 1836, and to Marshall county in 1838. He commenced business life as a farmer in Roberts township, which he continued until 1864, when he engaged in the sale of agricultural implements two years, and in 1866 embarked in the grocery business. In October of 1873 he married Mrs. Sarah A. Knoff (Morley), a native of Wood county, Ohio. They have two children, Otara B. and William H. Mrs. M. had one child by her first marriage, Alice Knoff. Mr. M. is a member of the Masonic order, and has served two years in the board of aldermen.

ANDREW ROGERS, Prop'r Adelbert House.

Mr. Rogers was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1819, and came to the United States in 1849, and settled in Cleveland, Ohio. Has been a citizen of Marshall county since 1860. He married Eliza Ringrose March 17, 1849. She was born in Ireland. They have two children living—Mary and Kate, and six children deceased. Are members of the Catholic church. He owns the hotel, which he is now running, and is making some desirable improvements on the property. The place is well situated for custom, and its surroundings pleasant.

J. G. FORNEY, Photographer.

Mr. Forney was born in Putnam county in 1843. He learned his business in Hennepin, and carried on there two years, when he moved to Wenona in 1870, where he has been since. He has facilities to make any size or style of pictures, and his work is unsurpassed. He married Miss M. C. Sunderlin in 1870. She was born in Bureau county, Ill. They have one child—Daisy L. Mrs. Forney is a member of the M. E. church. He has turned out some of the finest pictures ever made in the place, is fully up with the times, and his prices are always reasonable.

J. M. HIGGINS, M. D.

Dr. Higgins was born in Warsaw, Wyoming county, New York, October 25, 1826. He moved west in 1842, and located in Racine, Wis., then to Almira, Jefferson county, Wis., in 1844, and to Quincy, Ill., in 1851, where he studied dentistry. He married Clara Story in 1853, born in Lockport N. Y., and to them one child, Clarence M., was born. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of the Masonic order, and he and Mrs. H. are members of the Chapter of the Eastern Star. They moved to Havana, Ill., in 1863, where he practiced dentistry till 1866, when they removed to Chicago, where they continued the business up to 1869, during which time he was studying medicine, and graduated from the Bennet Eclectic College in that city. The same year he moved to Lawrence, Kansas, where he practiced medicine and dentistry for one year, then returned to Quincy. After that he lived in Galesburg and Streator, and finally located in Wenona in 1878. Besides the acquirements already enumerated the doctor is a fine singer and good musician, and is an excellent photographer.

E. P. BARKER.

Mr. Barker was born in Chester, Mass., in 1837, and came west in 1844, locating in Peru. He has been in the hardward business as clerk or proprietor since 15 years of age. He clerked for E. B. Treat, of LaSalle, for several years, and started in business for himself in Wenona in 1863. He erected a fine store 22x75 feet for his business, but soon required a larger one. His present store is 22x130 feet, two story and basement, filled with a well selected stock of goods in his line, and will compare favorably with any in Chicago or elsewhere. He married a Miss Maria M. Morton in 1864. She was born in West Randolph, Vt. They have one child, Willis E., born in 1865. Mr. Barker is treasurer of the Wenona Union Fair Association, secretary and treasurer of the Wenona Cemetery Association, and held the unenviable position of superintendent of the show and license department of the Wenona fair for six years, which he filled to the entire satisfaction of all. In fact, he has filled nearly all the local positions in his community, invariably acquitting himself with credit. He is a gentleman of unusual business qualifications, polite and attentive to all alike.

JAMES B. WORK.

Mr. Work was born in Cumberland county, Pa., in 1809, and moved to Marshall county in 1836, along with his father and brothers. Whether his ancestors were Puritans or Cavaliers, it is certain he comes from a race that loved freedom and hated slavery, and his mind was early made up on which side his influence should be cast. His home was on Crow Creek and near what is still known as "Works ford," a noted crossing place in those days. Not long after their settlement fugitives fleeing from slavery, with the north star as their guide, began to arrive and crave assistance, which to his credit he it said was never refused. In the course of time the travel increased, and his father's place became widely known as a "station" on the U. G. R. R. Fugitives came at all hours, and if there was danger of pursuit, no night was too dark or inclement to prevent his helping them to the next resting place, the hospitable cabin of William Lewis, beyond Magnolia. How many slaves Mr. Work has aided to escape cannot

be fully told, but there were several hundred, and computed as human chattels ranked in those days, it is probable their slave owners were half a million dollars the poorer through him. In 1840 he married Mary A. Murphy, and to them were given three children—Albert B., William W. and James P. Mrs. W. died in 1852, and in 1854 he married Sarah A. Miller, by whom he has six children—Mary T., Grace G., Maggie L., David E., Lizzie M. and Battie P. Mr. Work and his family are members of the Presbyterian church, and for 23 years he has been ruling elder.

R. F. BECHER.

Mr. Becher was born in France, near the city of Paris, in 1846. He came to the United States with his parents in 1853, locating in Sandwich, in this state, whence he moved to Arcola, and from there to Wenona in 1857. He has been in business here since 1870, and in 1871 formed a partnership with Mr. Scott in the grocery business. In 1867 he married Jennie McQuown, who was born in Kentucky. They have four children,—Frederick W., Edward B., Allen P. and Ella Pell. Mr. Becher is a member of the I. O. O. F. and for two years has represented that order from this district in the grand lodge, belongs to the Masonic order, is township collector, alderman from the second ward and treasurer of Co. B. 10th Bat. I. N. G.

J. H. JACKSON, *Attorney at Law.*

Mr. Jackson was born in New York, in 1835, and came west when 15 years old, living at first in Henry, where he obtained his education at the Northern Illinois University, where he remained four years. He read law with P. S. Perley two years, and then moved to Lacon, entering the law office of Bangs & Shaw. Not long after this he was appointed deputy circuit clerk under Shelton Arnold, and served four years. He then finished his law studies and was admitted to the bar, after which he moved to Wenona and entered upon the practice of his profession in the fall of 1865. He married Miss M. J. Ewalt the same year, born in Peoria county, and they have two children, Florence H. and Nabel. Mr. Jackson has been city attorney and alderman. He has a good practice in the home and circuit courts, and is regarded as a rising man. He is a good adviser, and a careful, painstaking lawyer.

JOHN JUDD.

Mr. Judd was born in Wilks county, North Carolina, in 1825, and moved with his father to LaSalle county, Ill., in 1831, settling on Sandy creek. The next spring the Black Hawk war broke out, and the few settlers, comprising twenty-seven families, joined in the erection of a fort for mutual protection, assisted by some friendly Indians. Their members many events but was too young to do much fighting. He married Jane Brown in 1848, born in Fayette county, Pa. They have three children—Leroy, N. B. and Theresa. He is a member of the Masonic order and also of the I. O. O. F. Mr. and Mrs. Judd are members of the Eastern Star. He has held several local offices of his district. The Judd family is one of the oldest and best known in the county and stands high in the estimation of the community.

KENDALL E. RICH, M. D.

Dr. Rich was born in Franklin county, Mass., in 1824, came to Michigan and stopped one year and then removed to Adams county, Ill., in 1845, where he began the study of medicine with Dr. G. O. Pond. He accompanied the army to Mexico in 1847 and was made hospital steward at Vera Cruz, served in the same capacity after the war. After this he came back to Adams county, completed his studies and graduated at the Missouri Medical College in 1850, and in the fall removed to Magnolia, Ill., where he commenced practice. During the war he served as assistant surgeon of the 73d Ill. Volunteers, and at its close located in Wenona, where he has since remained. In 1851 he married Julia Baker and their children are Mary, Charles E. and Kate. The doctor was present at the first administration of chloroform in the U. S. army, has been examining surgeon since his retracy from the service and has a large and lucrative practice.

JOHN TAYLOR.

Mr. Taylor is a machinist living in Wenona. He was born in Fayette county, Pa. in 1817, and came west in 1842, locating on a farm in Putnam county, which he cultivated until 1860, when he sold out, moved to Wenona and established a machine shop, in which business he has since remained, though latterly devoting a portion of his time to the cultivation of a farm. In 1844 he married Mary A. Mills, born in Washington county, Pa. They have six children—Albert R., Joseph N., Isabella A., John F., Sarah M. and William H. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which he has been an elder since 1843. He has been an earnest advocate of temperance all his life, being an active member of the Good Templars, in which he occupied the position of Worthy Chief for many years, has been president of the Red Ribbon club, and belongs to the Sons of Temperence.

THOS. B. HINMAN, *Wagon Manufacturer.*

Mr. Hinman was born in New Milford, Litchfield county, Conn., in 1817. He went to Binghamton, N. Y., when only 16 years old, where he commenced to learn the trade with two older brothers. Worked there until 1833, when they moved to Tazewell county, Ill., where his brothers established business and he served out his time, five years. He then moved to Canton Fulton county, and after working at jour work for a while, went into partnership with his employer, whom he soon after bought out and ran the business there about eight years. He then sold out and purchased a farm and worked it until 1851, when he sold out all his interests in Fulton county and moved to Marshall county, purchasing 200 acres in Bennington township. He lived upon this about eleven years, then sold out and moved into Wenona, where he built and established his present business in 1865. He married

Martha A. Sherwood in 1845, a native of N. Y. They have five children—Hanford H., Eliza A., Sarah E., Ada E. and Benton E. They are members of the Presbyterian church. He was school trustee and director, road commissioner, and justice of the peace in Bennington township. He was one of the first aldermen in Canton, Fulton county. He is a finished mechanic and has facilities to turn out all kinds of carriages, buggies and wagons to order on short notice.

MRS. JANE McCALL.

Mrs. McCall was born in Montgomery, Franklin county, Ohio, and married Marshall McCall in 1852. He was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1807. He died in 1872, leaving three sons and two daughters by a former marriage. Mrs. McCall has one daughter by a former marriage, Heorietta G. (Dent). They are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. McCall was for years a leading citizen of the township. He was a man of liberal views, well read on national affairs and a deep thinker. He was the first president of the Wenona fair, and his son, John A. served one term in the Legislature, was a long time supervisor of his township and president and chief owner of the Wenona Bank.

GEORGE W. McADAM.

Mr. McAdam was born in Ohio in 1811 and came west in 1857 locating in Roberts township where he followed farming up to 1865, when he moved to Wenona and went into the mercantile business. In 1858 he sold out and went to farming in La Salle county where he lived until 1871. Went to town again and staid two years, and went on to the farm again and remained until 1876. Moved to town for two years, and in 1878 he purchased 52 acres adjoining the town where he has since lived. In 1840 he married Ann J. Moore, who died in 1865, leaving six children—George G., James, William A., Annie, Maggie and Mary. John, another son, died in the army. In 1867 he married Mrs. Mary Gill (Mercer) and they have one child, Eddie. Mr. McAdam has lived a long and useful life and is now reaping the reward of his industry.

JOHN YEUK.

Was born in Nassau, Germany, in 1844. He came to the United States in 1869 and located at Caroline Mills Rhode Island. In 1870 he came to Mineral Point, Wis., and worked on a farm. Went to La Salle in 1871 and worked in the zinc works until 1875, when he came to Wenona, purchased property and established a carriage manufactory. Married Katie Bretz in 1874, born in Germany. They have three children—John, Frank and Bertha. He is a member of the Catholic church. The name of the firm is Yeuk & Monk and they make all kinds of carriages, buggies, and spring wagons and do all kinds of repairing.

J. S. HUNT.

Mr. Hunt was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1825, came west in the fall of 1830, and located in Putnam county. He moved to this county in the fall of 1832, and to Wenona in 1859. He is a carpenter and builder by trade, and has steadily followed this vocation since arriving at man's estate. In 1848 he married Mary A. Myers, born in Pennsylvania. They have six children,—Jacob A., Clara J., Salathiel M., Frank P., George and Mary J. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which his father, John S. Hunt, was the organizer in this county. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and has been constable and township collector two terms each.

RUFUS DOUGLAS.

Mr. Douglas was born in Cumberland county, Maine, and came west in 1857, first locating in Nashville, Washington county, Ill., whence he moved to Wenona in 1860 and embarked in the carriage business, which he continued until 1874, and then retired. In 1843 he married Menella A. Nickerson, born in Massachusetts. They had one boy, Henry Clay, who enlisted in Co. I, 104th Ill. Vols., and was killed in the battle of Mission Ridge. Mr. Douglas went to California in 1849, returning in 1856. He has been a member of the masonic order over thirty years.

L. J. HODGE.

This gentleman, a member of the firm of Howe, Hodge & Ralston, bankers, of Wenona, was born in Monroe county, Ohio, in 1841, and came west with his parents in 1852, locating in Putnam county. He came to Wenona in 1855, and in 1866 embarked in the lumber business, which he followed until 1877, when he became identified with the above firm. In 1864 he married Harriet E. Howe, a native of this state. They have two children, George O. and John G. Are members of the M. E. Church.

S. G. ALLEN.

Mr. Allen was born in Sangamon county, Ill., in 1823, and came to this county in 1857. He married Miss Emily C. Candiff, in 1853. She was born in Virginia. They have four children—O. G., Bertha F., Hattie E. and Dora. Mrs. Allen is a member of the M. E. church. He is a member of the state grange, and owns 210 acres of land in Evans township, in a good state of cultivation.

JAMAS T. RALSTON.

Mr. Ralston is a member of the banking firm of Howe, Hodge & Ralston, and was for several years with J. A. McCall & Co. He was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1845, and came west in 1864, locating in Washington, Iowa, where he lived three years, and then accepted a position in the Wenona bank and came here. He remained

with it until the present firm became its successors, in the spring of 1878. He was married in 1871 to Julia McClanahan, born in Brown county, Ohio, and two children have blessed their union, Hattie N' and Amelia F. They are members of the M. E. church. He has served as treasurer of the Wenona Union Fair, and takes much interest in its prosperity. As a banker Mr. Ralston stands well with the community, and the institution over which he presides has a deservedly good reputation.

PETER HOWE, *Banker.* (With portrait.)

Mr. Howe was born in Windsor county, Vermont, in 1816, and when seventeen years old left his native place and went to Buffalo, N. Y., where he learned his trade of brick making. This was in the year 1833. He visited Putnam county and remained one year, after which he worked in various places, taking care of his money and storing his mind with information. He spent the year 1840 in Alton; then he went up to Galena, where he passed the winter of 1841-2. His wife was formerly Miss A. C. Parks, and they have five children—Marion A., Harriet E., Jerome, Charles and Ida. Mr. Howe is one of the wealthiest farmers in Evans township, and his money was honestly come by. There was no Credit Mobilier for him, no orphans were defrauded, nor were his gains the result of a fortunate gambling speculation on the Chicago board of trade. Himself and wife live in their comfortable home, and looking back along their busy lives see little to regret and less of duty that remains undone. In the year 1878 he established the Wenona Bank, in connection with Messrs. Hodge and Ralston, but it is understood the most of its capital was furnished by him. In religion Mr. Howe and his wife are Baptists, to the support of which denomination they largely contribute.

FRANK H. BRANT.

Mr. Brant is a native of Illinois, born February 11th, 1855. He learned the trade of a watchmaker and jeweler in Fairbury, Livingston county, worked about five months in Henry, and then located in Varna, starting in business for himself in 1876, and serving as assistant postmaster a portion of the time during his residence in Varna. In October of 1879 he moved to Wenona, where he has since carried on his business. He keeps constantly on hand a stock of goods suitable to his trade.

ABRAHAM C. MILLER.

Mr. Miller was born in Pennsylvania in 1804. He came west in 1821 and located in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, where he lived until 1846, when he came to Illinois and located in LaSalle, where he lived until 1856. In that year he moved to Wenona and followed the carpenter business. In 1836 he married Jane Porter, who was born in Washington county, Md., and they have three children—Andrew F., Hannah F. (Mrs. Turner) and Richard P. Are members of the M. E. church. In 1834 Mr. Miller walked in fourteen days from Carrollton, Ohio, to Little York and back, a total distance of 600 miles, stopping over night on the return trip at the same places he had stopped at in going.

JOSEPH R. FOSTER.

Mr. Foster was born in Burlington county, N. J., in 1810, and moved to Preble county, Ohio, in 1846, and engaged in farming. In 1849 he married Margaret Pelan, a native of England, born in 1823. They have two children, John P. and Mattie A. (Mrs. Wells.) Are members of the M. E. church. John P. is a member of the I. O. O. F. Mr. Foster owns 160 acres of land under cultivation. John P. married Miss Lovina Clark in 1875, a native of Ohio. She died in August, 1879, leaving one boy, Perley, born in 1876.

C. RIEDT.

Mr. Riedt was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1836, and came to the United States in 1854. He first located in LaSalle, Ill., and worked at shoemaking there. He married Theresa Goetzal in 1862. She was born in Austria. They have seven children—Lena, Anna, Amelia, William, Adolph, Delia and Gerrett. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. He has been in business for himself since 1864, carries a good stock of boots and shoes, and makes to order at short notice.

DR. FRANKLIN POTTS, *Physician and Surgeon.*

Dr. Potts was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1829. He moved to Putnam county, Ill., with his parents in 1840, where they remained two years, thence to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he went to school. In 1856 he moved to Iowa, and returned to Chicago in 1857. He studied medicine in Richmond, Ind., with his brother, Dr. Albert Potts, and commenced practice in Chicago in 1857. He married Miss Jennie Rench in 1852. She is a native of Baltimore, Md. They have four children,—Wilber H., Clarence S., Edward F. and Noble F. He is a member of the Masonic order. He has been practicing in Wenona since 1863, from which he has secured a handsome income. He practiced one year in Magnolia, Putnam county, and three years in Mendota, finally locating permanently in Wenona.

A. COHN.

Mr. Cohn was born in Germany, and came to the United States in 1853, locating in New York city. He moved to Chicago in 1857, and to Peoria in 1859, where he established a restaurant. He moved to Lacon in 1861 and went into the manufacture of cigars, and in 1862 moved to LaSalle, where he carried on the cigar business for two years, and the turning business—which is his trade—for four years, and in 1867 located in Wenona in a saloon, which he sold out in 1869 and started a grocery. In '71 he moved to Troy Grove, where he carried on a grocery and dry goods

business one year, then went to Chicago, and back to LaSalle, returning to Wenona in 1874, when he started in the saloon again, which he discontinued in 1878, and opened a restaurant. He married Mary E. Gerlach in 1869. She was born German. They have five children—Anelia, Rosetta, Hermena, Jennetta and Betta. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

MILTON BAYNE.

Mr. Bayne (of Bayne & Son) was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1831, came west and located in Woodford county in 1854, then to LaSalle, near Tonica, the following spring, and to Low Point, in Livingston county, in 1862, where he followed farming, and in 1866 went to LaSalle county, near Wenona. He moved into the village about 1872. He married Miss Nancy A. Carson in 1851, who was born in Adams county, Ohio. They have four children—James L., William M., Louis M. and Charlie D. He has been identified with the Canton Wrought Iron Bridge Co. since 1869. He sold over 65 spans in LaSalle county, valued at about \$180,000, and in Livingston county about 60 spans, valued at about \$40,000, besides other counties, which would amount in valuation to \$100,000, or \$320,000 on all. He is energetic in the pursuit of business, and the bridges he puts up are of the most substantial kind. He is a genial companion and a good talker, as well as just the man for the place.

A. H. FOWLER.

Mr. Fowler was born in Worcester county, Mass., in 1832. He came west in 1850, and located in Putnam county, then moved to Buchanan, Iowa, and returned to Illinois in 1857, and located in Wenona. He enlisted in Co. H, 104th Ill. Vol., and was promoted to commissary sergeant in 1862, and served to the close of the war. He made the march with Sherman to the sea, mustered out in Chicago, and returned to Wenona in 1865, when he commenced his present business. He married Sarah K. Mulkins in 1865. She was born in Otsego county, N. Y. They have three children—Emma S., Ori E. and Pauline E. He has been in the grain business since 1865. His place is at Garfield, LaSalle county, where he has an elevator of 25,000 bushels capacity, and one in Wenona of 15,000 capacity. He handles 200,000 bushels annually, and likewise deals in coal.

WILLIAM HUWALD.

Mr. Huwald was born in Halstine, Germany, in 1845, came to the United States in 1865, located at Chicago and worked at his trade until 1867. He then moved to Ottawa and lived there until 1877, when he located at Wenona and established his present business, that of a wagon and carriage maker and blacksmith shop. He married Johanna Seppel in 1871, born in Saxony, Germany, and they have two children—Charlie and Edward. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. He manufactures all kinds of carriages, buggies, and wagons, and does a general blacksmithing and repairing business.

NATHANIEL MOORE.

Mr. Moore was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1819. His father was a merchant and moved to Preble county, when he was only a few months old, where he lived some six years, and then moved to Kokomo, Ind., where he located in 1851. In 1853 he moved back to Preble county, and engaged in farming, which he continued until 1855, when he moved to Wenona and opened a general store with a Mr. Newbern, as Moore & Newbern. He engaged also in shipping grain. At the end of a year he sold to S. J. Taylor his interest in the store, but continued in the grain trade. He owned a couple of farms, upon one of which he moved in the spring of 1857, and farmed it some six years. He then purchased his fine farm of 200 acres, adjoining Wenona, which he improved and moved to in the spring of 1863. This is his home farm, to which he has added good home-like buildings, his residence being the very picture of comfort, snugly hid away in the midst of a fine grove of trees of his own planting. His barns and out buildings are in accordance with the general appearance of the rest of the group. Then the towering wheel of the wind-mill which supplies water to his house and farm, with its well defined form peeping out over the tree tops, gives the whole place a rich and romantic appearance. He married Julia Banta in the fall of 1843, born in Preble county, Ohio. They have six children living—George H., J. M. W., Edward E., Mary Francis, A. B. and Willis. Mrs. Moore is a member of the M. E. church. He was elected sheriff in 1864 and served two years. He was supervisor of the township several years, and was a member of the 28th and 29th General Assemblies of the Ill. legislature. He was chosen executor in the settlement of the estate of Solomon Wise in 1862, and assignee of J. A. McCall & Co., bankers, in 1878. He is still engaged in the latter. He is school director, and has filled nearly all the local offices of his district. His father, David Moore, now in his 92d year, finds a comfortable home at his house.

FRANCIS M. MYERS.

Mr. Myers is a well known fruit grower and breeder of short horn cattle, and son of David Myers. He was born in Roberts township in 1835, obtained his education at the University of Galesburg, taught school in various places, and took charge of his father's nursery. Mr. Myers, sr., planted the first nursery plot out in the county and is well known all over this part of the state. The subject of this sketch was married to Celia McMorris in 1860, a native of Zanesville, Ohio. They have one daughter, a promising young lady, their only living child. He purchased the nucleus of his present farm, 40 acres, in 1860 and commenced improvements, moving on to it in 1862. His first planting was five bushels of apple seeds, gathered by himself, and now grown into fine orchards. Soon after he added to his farm until he has, in the immediate vicinity of Wenona, a well equipped stock and fruit farm of nearly 200 acres. He is gradually drifting out of the nursery business into the more profitable and congenial business, to him, of raising fine stock and fruits. He has 8 acres in strawberries and 25 acres in orchard,

with some 45 varieties of apples, besides pears, cherries, etc. He took the first premium for the greatest variety of apples exhibited by one exhibitor at the fair of Wenona. Also other premiums, including the sweepstakes for the greatest variety of fruits exhibited. The total value of the prizes was over \$50. He has taken these prizes for the last three years. He also took the first premium, of \$100, for the best grass herd exhibited at the fair. He has now 26 head of short horn cattle on his farm besides other stock. Mr. Myers has been a local preacher in the M. E. church since 1867, and was regularly ordained by Bishop Ayers, deacon, Sept., 1875. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman, sociable and entertaining, and takes pride in his occupation. Mrs. M. is equally endowed with the qualifications necessary to fulfill her part in the circle in which she moves.

JOHNSON BROWN.

Mr. Brown was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1822 and came to Putnam county in 1842, and to Wenona in 1865. He married Miss Augusta A. Reniff in 1853, born in Massachusetts. Their children are Clarence H., Lillian E., Joslin and Sherman J. They are members of the Presbyterian church. His oldest son, Clarence J., was the first white child born in Wenona, and he himself was the first justice of the peace, which position he filled about 8 years, and served as assessor and collector two years of each. His wife has kept a millinery establishment since 1864. S. Brown, his brother, who keeps a lively stable in Wenona, served in the army in company H. 104th Ill. Volunteers, having enlisted in 1862, and served to the close of the war. He is alderman in the 2d ward. Is serving his second term.

MRS. MARY SIMONSON.

Mrs. Simonson is the widow of the late Jesse Simonson, who died in 1877. Both were natives of Preble county, Ohio, and were married in 1860. Mr. S. was brought up a farmer and followed that occupation here. Five children were given them—William C., Sarah E., Laura F., David M. and Jesse. They are members of the M. E. church. Mrs. Simonson owns 160 acres of land under good cultivation.

J. N. WOOD.

Mr. Wood has long been known as a keeper of one of the most popular hotels in the country. He was born in Weston, Pa., 1818 and moved to La Salle county in 1852, to Putnam county 1853 and to Marshall county in 1854. He lived in the township when there was but six houses between the village and his farm, six miles away. In the village there was but a few shanties and the railroad buildings. In 1840 he married Sarah J. Gray, and four children have been born to them—Frances (Mrs. Clark), William, Nathaniel, Anna M. (Mrs. Decker), and J. Franklin. Has been in the hotel business here since 1869. During the rebellion he enlisted in the 104th and was elected lieutenant in company H. His oldest son served in the 44th until the close of the war. Mr. Wood has served as alderman and filled other positions. He is genial and gentlemanly, and keeps a first-class house.

WILLIAM C. DECKER.

Mr. Decker is a furniture dealer and undertaker, born in Orange county, New York, in 1848. He removed west in 1871, stopping first at Morris, where he had an uncle living. From there he went to Aurora and came to Wenona in 1873 where he succeeded B. A. Moore and purchased the establishment he has since run. He married Annie Wood in 1874. Their children are Maud W. and Jesse. He keeps a fine stock of furniture and gives particular attention to undertaking in all its branches.

HUTCHISON CROFT. (With portrait.)

Mr. Croft was of English parentage on his father's side, and was born in Bucks county, Pa., Sept. 7th, 1828. When about seven years old, his father moved to Clinton county, Ohio, and lived there until 1844. Hutchison showed when a small boy a strong inclination to deal in and handle stock, and for a boy his judgment was remarkably good, the faculty seeming inborn. In 1844 his father and family moved to the east end of Marshall county. Young Croft was then about 16 years old. They first lived in Evans township, but afterward located in Ruberts. The family was poor, and when he arrived at the age of manhood he had nothing to begin life with, and a poor education; but good judgment and an indomitable will enabled him to contend successfully with the disadvantages of poverty. When about 21 years old he married Miss Euphemia Beckwith, Dec. 22d, 1849. They went to housekeeping in the old log cabin on the Beckwith farm, where his wife had been raised from infancy. He first took a lease on the widow's dower in the farm, and after accumulating some property he bought the heirs out, and finally acquired full possession of the farm. This place seemed to be headquarters for all his trading operations. After he had been in business a few years, farming and raising stock, he went in partnership with John A. McCall and David Adams in buying and shipping stock to Chicago. Mr. Croft perhaps bought and shipped more stock to Chicago than any other man in this part of the state, as the firm always relied on his superior judgment. In after years, when business accumulated to such an extent that it was necessary to establish a bank, the firm established the old bank of J. A. McCall & Co., which did a safe business as long as Mr. Croft remained one of the firm. He accumulated wealth and bought farm after farm until at his death he had the Dent, Beepelle, Loyd, Phillip, and the McCall farms, near Magnolia, in all 1,200 or 1,400 acres of valuable land. Of his children, Samuel, the oldest son, married a daughter of Peter Forbes, and lives on the Beepelle farm; Mary Lovina died Sept. 1st, 1861, and was buried in Cumberland cemetery; Emma married John Kirkpatrick, and is still living on the farm; Julia lately married Clark Sinclair, and is also living on the farm; James, the youngest son, lives with Samuel. After Mr. Croft had accumulated a handsome property, and in the prime of life, he was taken down with the spinal disease, which rendered him

helpless and a great sufferer. He was first taken down in June, 1874, and became paralyzed below his vital parts. He had a stretcher constructed, covered with an air bed and mounted on a wagon, and with a driver he traveled in this conveyance about the country, buying stock and doing considerable trading. After he became an invalid he sold out all interest in the back and dissolved his long-existing partnership with Messrs. McCall and Adams; his friendships grew stronger for his neighbors, and under the ministrations of Rev. Robert Taylor, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, he attached himself to that church, receiving the rites at his own home. He attended services in his invalid wagon, which he would have hauled up to the church window, where he could see and hear the preacher. A short time before he died he sent for his old friend Thomas Judd and had him draw up his last will and testament dividing his property between his wife and children to the satisfaction of all. He died March 7th, 1878. His remains were enclosed in a metallic case and buried in Cumberland cemetery, on Sandy, where a splendid monument stands to mark the last resting place of a good man.

BINGMAN SHEPLEY.

Mr. Shepley was born in Monroe county, Kentucky, in 1830, and came west in 1831 with his parents, and located in Indiana. He came to Marshall county, Ill., in 1849, when he purchased the north-east $\frac{1}{4}$ section of the county of Marshall, and married Miss Jane Hunt in 1853. She was born in Evans township. They have seven children—Frank, William, Isabella and Arabella (twins), Abraham, Maggie and Jennie. Are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He has been school director twelve years, is a member of the local protection company, and was overseer of the roads eight years.

J. M. TUTTLE.

Mr. Tuttle is a farmer, living on section 12. He was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1848, came west in 1866, and settled in Evans township, Marshall county. Two years later he married Miss Eliza Patterson, likewise born in Fayette county, Pa. Their three children are Rolla, Wilbert and Goldie. He served in the army as teamster attached to the 9th Maryland, when only seventeen years of age, and saw much of the "pomo and circumstance," as Shakespeare says, "of glorious war."

M. WHITE.

Mr. White is a farmer, living on section 1 in Evans township, with P. O. at Wenona. He was born in Butler county, Pa., in 1829, came west and located in Magnolia, Putnam county, in 1855, and moved on to his present location in Osage township, section 6, LaSalle county, in 1866. He married Miss Sarah Mariner in 1865. She was born West Virginia. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and Mrs. White of the Christian church. He is school director and has been for the last six years.

WILLIAM DILLMAN.

Mr. Dillman was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1828, and came to LaSalle county, in Hope township, in 1845, along with his father. He settled in Evans township in 1849, and married Miss Ann M. Griffin the same year. She was born in Fayette county, Pa. They have eight children living—Fannie, Mary, Ida, Sadie, John, David, (Eva, Ella), Effie and Gertrude. Are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He owns 189 acres, all under cultivation. He enlisted in Co. 11, 104th Ill. Vol., in 1862, and was discharged in 1863, through disability. He was captured at Hartsville, Tenn., in 1862, and paroled and exchanged in March, 1863.

LEE ROY JUDD.

Mr. Judd is a farmer, living on section 5. Postoffice, Wenona. He was born in Evans township, Marshall county, in 1849, and married Miss Louisa Wilson in 1867. She was born in Ohio. They have three children—Ellet, Delbert and Roy. He owns half of 145 acres, all under cultivation.

ISAAC SPRINGER.

The subject of this sketch, son of John and Rebecca Springer, was born in the State of Maryland, May 7, A. D. 1798. When about two years of age he with his parents moved to West Virginia and settled on a farm on Grove Creek Hill, and there remained a few years. He then with his parents moved to Muskingum county, Ohio, and settled near Zanesville. Here he grew up to manhood and learned his trade. He married Miss Elizabeth Cowan in 1822, by whom he had two children, a son and a daughter. The son died in infancy, and the daughter, Mary Ann, is still living and resides in Ohio. He buried his wife in February, 1823. He married Miss Charlotte Hams, of Muskingum county, Ohio in the spring of 1826, by whom he had twelve children, viz., Creighton, Caleb, Martha E., Lewis, Harriet, Milton C., Sarah E., Amelia R., Helen L., Adelia A., William Melville and Clara Emma. Caleb died in childhood, and Martha E. died in January, 1866 leaving a family behind her. All the others are still living and reside in this State. In the fall of 1834 he emigrated to Illinois, and spent the first winter in a cabin where Magnolia is situated, and in the following spring moved on a farm owned by Mr. Parks, east of Captain Haws', and remained in Putnam county about three years, and then settled in Marshall county, where he resided most of the time until his death, which occurred March 17, A. D. 1853. He was a carpenter by trade and a first-class mechanic. He built several of the largest edifices erected in the county in his time, among which were Fisher's Packing House in Lacon, and Livingston Roberts' barn at Robert's Point. He was a man of more than ordinary intellect, and endowed with a wonderful memory, so that notwithstanding his early educational advantages were quite limited, he made considerable progress in literary pursuits. He was a good historian, and well read on all the gen-

eral questions of the day. He was one of the finest mathematicians in the county, being able to solve mentally, almost an incredible short time, all the practicable problems he met with. He obtained an extensive knowledge of law, and was considered superior counsel by those who knew him best. He took a deep interest in the political affairs of the country, and was an ardent whig until the agitation of the question of free soil, which became one of increasing interest to him until his death. He was a public spirited man, always advocating internal improvements, and willing to bear his full share in pushing forward any laudable enterprise. From the early settlement of this State he foresaw in it the grandest commonwealth of the Union, but passed away as he was entering upon the realization of his fond hopes.

JOHN A. COLESON.

Mr. Coleson was born in Woodford county, Ill., in 1857, and is a son of Caleb Coleson, now a resident of Eureka, Ill. In 1878 he married Amelia Clark, likewise born in Woodford county. They have one child, Frank Oscar, and are members of the Christian church. He rents 160 acres of land from his father, which he cultivates. He is a promising young farmer, with an unusual amount of perseverance, and with good health is sure to succeed.

H. C. WOOLF.

Mr. Woolf was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1828, and moved to Marshall county in 1866, when he located in Evans township. In 1866 he married Clara J. Knowles, born in Perry county, Ohio. They have four children—Moe, Lucie, Annie and Charlie. They are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Woolf is road commissioner and treasurer of the board; is also school director. He owns 130 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation. He is now engaged in raising thoroughbred cotswoold sheep, having a number now on hand. Mr. Woolf sees the sheep interest of the west is going to be very largely developed, and by making a specialty of this fine breed has laid the foundation of a fortune for himself.

SAMUEL KREIDER.

Mr. Kreider was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1816, and moved west with his parents in 1835. They settled in Fulton county, where he lived until 1847, whence he moved to Putnam county in 1849, and to Marshall, where he now resides, on the last of December, 1857. In 1844 he married Katherine Reed. She was born in Park county, Ind., and died May 26th, 1879, leaving four children—John R., George W., James A. and Wilson E. Mrs. Kreider's parents came to Knox county in 1836. Mr. Kreider has been school director 16 years and path master two years. He owns 120 acres of land, and is one of the prosperous farmers of his neighborhood. He feels that he has done his share of hard work, and having secured plenty of means, has concluded to retire from farming and lead an easier life.

SAMUEL HAMILTON.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1814, and came to the west in 1853, purchasing the Burns farm, in Roberts township, which he sold to his son-in-law, Mr. Myers, in 1866, and moved to Wenona. In 1835 he married Nancy McMorris, born in Loudon county, Va., in 1814. She died in 1866. Seven children were born to them—Celia in 1837, William in 1840, Lizzie in 1844, John in 1847, Oscar (dead), Frank in 1852, and Roe in 1857. In 1866 he married Mrs. Harriet Gray (Rodman), born in Ohio in 1822. They are members of the U. P. church. His son John is state senator from McLean county, and Frank is a teacher.

S. C. BARRETT.

Mr. Barrett is a professor of vocal music and agent for musical merchandise. He was born in Windham Co., Vermont, in 1825, came west in 1854 and located in Putnam county, and in Wenona in 1867. In 1852 he married Miss M. A. Glasier, a native of the same county as himself. They have four children,—Mary E., Mattie A., Cora E. and Newton G. They are members of the Baptist church, and Mr. Barrett belongs to the Masonic order. He has been engaged in teaching vocal music since 1848, has taught all over this part of the country, and thousands of the singers of this state have been trained under him.

NORMAN B. JUDD.

Mr. Judd was born in Evans township in 1851, and in 1871 married Charlotte Stratton, a native of Indiana. They have two children, William O. and Ethel May. He is a member of the State Grange and of the local protection society, and is one of those whole-souled gentlemen who make it pleasant for all around them. He has a most interesting family. Mrs. Judd is a lady of rare qualifications, possessing great social worth.

SAMUEL D. CLIFFORD.

Mr. Clifford is a farmer by occupation, and resides on section 11. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, Dec. 21st, 1834, and located in Marshall county in 1853. October 29th, 1863, he married Sarah E. Hoyt, who was born in this county. They have four children—Lassie, Anita, Hoyt and James S. Mr. Clifford is school director. He owns 80 acres of land in a good state of cultivation, and has comfortable improvements. He is a pleasant and sociable gentleman.

J. B. SKINNER.

This gentleman, a member of the firm of Skinner & Co., tile manufacturers, of Wenona, was born in Preble county, Ohio, in 1833, and came to Wenona in 1877. In 1866 he married Susan Felton, who was also born in Ohio.

They have one child, Anderson. Mrs. Skinner is a member of the M. E. church. He has been in the tile business since 1877. They manufacture all sizes necessary, and keep them on hand at all times. They are now selling—

2½ inch,	\$12 per 1,000
3 "	15 "
3½ "	18 "
4 "	20 "
5 "	30 "
6 "	40 "

Few farmers fully appreciate the advantage of under drainage. It will pay for all the expenses of tile and labor in the increase of crops, besides rendering the swamp land the most productive.

ISAAC P. HOWARD.

Mr. Howard is a farmer, living on section 12, Evans township. Postoffice, Wenona. He was born in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1824, and moved to Putnam county in 1851. He married Miss Rebecca Wilson in 1853. She was born in Belmont county, Ohio. They have six children—Mary Ida, Lewella J., Hattie R., Henry W., John M. and Delbert J. Are members of the Quaker church. Mr. Howard has been school director several years. He owns 160 acres of land, all under cultivation, with good improvements. He possesses a generous nature and is a good farmer.

W. M. SPRINGER.

Mr. Springer comes from a noted family, and was born in Marshall county in 1849. He married Miss Mary Angeline Beece in 1877. She was born in Knox county, Ill. They have one child, Frederick R., born May 28, 1878. Mrs. S. is a member of the Congregational church. He is township trustee. He cultivates 250 acres of land, and is a son of the late Isaac Springer, one of the oldest settlers of this county, an extended notice of whom is given elsewhere. He is engaged in breeding short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

JACOB KEMP.

Mr. Kemp was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1821, and came to Marshall county in 1866. He married Miss Sarah Parnell in 1843. She died in 1852, leaving four children living—Nicholas M., Sarah M., Mariam E. and Thomas. He married Miss Catherine Brown in 1863. She died in 1867, leaving three children—James B., Laura and Jarette. He married Miss Sarah Dillinger in 1869. She was born in Green county, Pa. They have four children—Ambrose, Anna Bell, Jacob Eora and Emma. They are members of the M. E. church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., also of the temperance society. He owns 80 acres in a good state of cultivation. He was township collector one year, and served as school director twelve years. Never served as a juror, nor gave evidence as a witness, which shows him to be a man of peace.

WILLIAM EVANS.

Mr. Evans was born in Licking county, Ohio, December 31st, 1817, and came to this county (then Tazewell) with his parents in the fall of 1830. In 1849 he married Martha Springer, who was born in Muskingum county, O., and four children have been given them, viz.: Elizabeth, Douglas, John F. and Lucy. Mrs. Evans died in 1866. Are members of M. E. church. He was justice of the peace some seven years, served as school trustee some 25 years, and filled other local offices. He owns 320 acres of land, all improved, with good buildings. He is the oldest living settler in the township of Evans. A more extended notice of the family is given elsewhere.

MICHAEL MARTIN.

Mr. Martin was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1826, and came to the United States in 1847. He married Miss Bridget McDonald in 1857. She was born in the same county in Ireland. They have no children. Are members of the Catholic church. He owns 160 acres of land in a good state of cultivation and good improvements; is hard-working and knows how to make money.

J. FRAZEE.

Farmer. Section 27. Postoffice, Wenona.

RICHARD BURROUGHS.

Mr. Burroughs was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1820, came to the United States in 1852, and located in the New York, where he lived eleven years. In 1861 he determined to go west, and came to Marshall county Illinois. He married Johanna Quinn in 1846. She was a native of the same place. She died March 27, 1879, leaving three children—Margaret, Edward and Mary Ann. They are Catholics. He owns 160 acres of land, and is a good substantial farmer. Mr. B. is indebted to his own industry for his success. He has raised a family of intelligent boys and girls, is proud of his adopted country, and deserves his good fortune.

ZERA P. BECKWITH.

Mr. Beckwith was born in Madison county, N. Y., in 1815. He came to Indiana with his parents the following year, and lived there until 1835, helping to clear up and open a farm. In the year above named he came to Marshall county, and in 1837 married Mary A. Gaylord, a native of Pennsylvania. They have five children.—Putnam, Albert, Orin, Emma (Ball), and Clara. They are members of the Christian church. Mr. Beckwith was justice of the peace

four years, school director and constable eight years. He owns 170 acres, all under cultivation. He enlisted in Co. H, 104th Ill. Inf. in 1862, as musician, and served until 1863, when he was mustered out, owing to disability contracted in the service. He lost one son, Leonardias, who died of disease in the army. His oldest living son, Putnam, served until the close of the war. Was wounded at Lexington, Mo., in 1861, and captured there with Col. James A. Mulligan. When exchanged he re-entered the service.

ROBERT HENRY.

Mr. Henry is a large farmer, living on section 29, Evans township. Postoffice, Wenona. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., in 1816, and moved to Ohio with his parents in 1820. They located in Harrison county, where he lived until 1843, and then went back to Washington county, Pa. He came to Marshall county, Ill., Dec., 1851. He married Mary Hathaway in 1863, a native of Kentucky. She had two children by a former marriage—David L. and William A. Smith. Mr. Henry is a member of the U. P. church. She is a member of the Christian church. He was assessor and road commissioner several years. He owns 166 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation.

JOSEPH REYNOLDS.

Mr. Reynolds was born in Franklin county, Mass., in 1834, and located in Putnam county, Ill., in 1845. He moved to Marshall county in 1858, and married Miss Emily Anderson the same year. She was born also in Franklin county, Mass. They have two children—Charles A., 16; and Ella May, 8. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is engaged in the purchase and sale of grain, hogs, cattle, etc., of which he handles large quantities. His elevator at Evans has a capacity of 8 000 bushels. Shipments are made to Chicago.

ANDREW J. BISHOP.

Mr. Bishop was born in Washington county, Pa., in 1830, and came west in 1853, locating first in Putnam Co., where he married Eliza J. Champ the same year. She was born in Hennepin. They have 4 children—Charles W., Mary E., Lydia L. and Lyman H. They are members of M. E. church. He has been school director some eight years, and owns eighty acres of land under good cultivation, and with good improvements.

EDWARD CLIFFORD.

Mr. Clifford was born in Brook county, Virginia, in 1806. He moved to Harrison county, Ohio, with his parents in 1811, and married Miss Rebecca Dunlap in 1831. She was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1807. They have six children living—Sarah (Mrs. Phillip), Nancy, Samuel D., Martha J. (Mrs. Dunlap), Margaret and Susan (Mrs. Hamilton). Are members of the U. P. church. He was road commissioner six years. He owns 336 acres in his homestead, all improved. Mr. Clifford was an early settler in the township, and by his own exertions has grown to wealth and the possession of one of the finest farms in the township.

JOHN ALGOE.

Mr. Algoe is a farmer living on section 32. He was born in county Donegal, Ireland, in 1826, and came to the United States in 1846, locating in Marshall county. He married Miss Ann Boyd in 1856, a native of the same county in Ireland as himself. They have two children, George and Martha J. They are members of the U. P. church. He owns 80 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, and is a public-spirited, liberal man.

F. H. HOLETON.

Mr. Holeton was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1819, and located in this county in 1857. He married Hannah Cockerel previous to coming to this county. She was born in Loudon county Va. They have two children, James W. and George H. Are members of the M. E. church. He has been road commissioner and school trustee, and was postmaster at Evans station nearly two years. Mr. Holeton owns a very fine property near the station, and his farm is one of the best on the prairie. He is well posted in all the affairs of the day, has a plenty of this world's goods, and takes the world easy. One of his sons is publisher of the Chillicothe Review.

JOSHUA EVANS.

Mr. Evans was born in Loudon county, Virginia, Jan. 5th, 1793. When he was about eight years old, his father Thomas Evans, died, leaving his mother, Rhoda, a widow with eight children six sons and two daughters, the eldest of whom was not over sixteen years old. A tract of land was owned by the family, but very little had been done in the way of clearing off the heavy timber that covered it, and when cleared the soil was sterile. In 1803 the widow abandoned the Virginia home, not having been able to effect any sale, and removed with her family to Licking county, Ohio. At the age of 19 Joshua enlisted in the army and served in the war of 1812-13. He belonged to the regiment commanded by Lewis Cass and during the latter part of the war served as quartermaster. He was among the unfortunate victims of Gen. Hull's treacherous and cowardly surrender, and could never refer to that incident of the war without expressing his indignation. In 1816 he was married to Elizabeth Radcliff, by whom he had three sons and six daughters. His three sons, William, Albert and Rev. J. G., are still living, and now reside in Evans township. Three of the daughters grew to womanhood and are still living. The eldest, Mrs. Alexander, resides in Magnolia, Putnam county, one in Nebraska, and the third in Michigan. In 1824 Mr. Evans joined the M. E. church of which he remained a member until his death, and most of the time held some official relation in the church. In 1830 he removed to Illinois and settled at Cherry Point, then in La Salle county. His undoubted and unques-

tionable veracity won the confidence of his neighbors among whom he always maintained a high standing. He had no advantages for an education, his entire school privileges extending through only a part of one winter. He was, however, a man of very sound judgement and was very accurate in his business. His memory was unusually good, and he read men so readily that he was not often deceived. He was industrious and economical, and was among the best of the early farmers in Evans township. He settled at Cherry Point because he thought the prairies around the grove would not be settled for many generations and his descendants could have ample range for their stock, but he lived to see every quarter section for many miles from his residence occupied. He was very accommodating to those who he thought deserved help, and determined that question wholly by the answer to two inquiries. Is he honest? Will he work? If he thought a man to be lazy or dishonest he would give him neither sympathy nor assistance in any way, but if he believed him honest and industrious he was always ready to accommodate. He was for many years before his death the oldest settler in the township and was honored as such by his neighbors. In 1850 when the township organization in Marshall county was effected, the people at a public meeting, chose the name of Evans for the town as a compliment to him. In politics he was an ardent whig and usually took an active interest in the political campaigns. He was one of the delegates from Marshall county to the senatorial convention at which Robert Boal was nominated for the state senate. When the Whig party was abandoned he became a Republican and voted that ticket until his death. He was widely and favorably known among the early settlers of this and surrounding counties. In 1853 Mr. Evans married Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, by whom he had one child, now Mrs. Brown, a resident of this township. He died January 15th, 1869.

WILLIAM TRIMBLE.

Mr. Trimble is a well to do farmer, who was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1839. He came to this county less than one year ago and commenced housekeeping, having just married Dillinda Hill. She was born in Pennsylvania. He owns 80 acres of excellent farming land.

WILLIAM S. WOOD,

Farmer, La Salle county, postoffice, Wenona, Ill.

LEVI M. QUAINANCE.

Mr. Quainance is a farmer living on section 2. Postoffice, Wenona. His was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1818, came west in 1854 and located first in Magnolia, Putnam county, and in this county in 1861. In 1844 he married Catherine Bren, born in Maryland. They have three children living—Thomas D., Sarah J. and Levi Watson, and two deceased. They are members of the M. E. church. He was school director eight years. He owns 113 acres of land, all under cultivation.

EDWIN GANTS.

Mr. Gants is a son of Nathaniel and Nancy Gants. The latter is a sister of the well known Judd Bros., of Evans township. Nathaniel Gants was born in Pennsylvania Jan. 17th, 1820, came to Illinois in 1844, and was married Dec. 31st, 1847. They have four children—Thomas, born May 19, 1849 Edwin, born Nov. 19, 1852, Emma, born March 19, 1854, and Preston, born July 29, 1856. Edwin lives in Evans township, and in April, 1879, married May Disosway, born in Virginia. They have one child Mark Edwin. Mr. Gants is a member of the Masolic order, and owns 100 acres of land.

WILLIAM H. PARKINSON.

Mr. Parkinson was born in Licking county, O., in 1841. He came to La Salle county, Ill., in 1856, and to Marshall county in 1864. He married Isabella Gibson, born in Marshall county, in 1865. They have four children—Lucy J., James W., Edgar and Mary. Mr. Parkinson is a fair representative of the gentleman farmer class of Marshall and Putnam counties, both in appearance and intelligence, which is above the average of other states. He owns 160 acres of land, all under cultivation.

BENJAMIN WILSON.

Mr. Wilson was born in Franklin county in 1826, and came west in 1836 and located with his parents in Cherry Grove, Belle Plain township, Marshall county. Here his father purchased a farm upon which there was an old log hut with the roof partially off and grass growing on the floor. They lived in it ten years. His father loaned out money to his neighbors that year, and the hard times of 1837 coming on, he could not get it back, to build. Benjamin married Margaret A. Cunningham in 1855, a native of Fayette county, Ohio. They have three children, S. Thomas, George E. and William H. They are consistent members of the M. E. church. Mr. Wilson was justice of the peace 20 years in Belle Blain, also school director and trustee several years. He owns 320 acres of land in Ford county and 150 acres in Vermillion county, all in a good state of cultivation. He is a pleasant, sociable gentleman, and a good friend and neighbor.

REV. JARVICE G. EVANS, A. M.

Mr. Evans, pastor of the M. E. church at Wenona, was born in Evans township, Marshall county, Dec. 19, 1833, and received his education at the Peoria Wesleyan Seminary, Judson College, Mt. Palestine, and at the Ohio Wesleyan University, and received his degree of A. M. from Quincy College in 1870. He commenced preaching in 1854. Continued in the pastorate until 1872, and was then elected president of Hedding College, at Abingdon, Ill., and in

1878 was elected president of Chaddock College, Quincy. He resigned during the year and returned to the pastorate. He married Nettie Gardner June 14 1867, born in Delaware county, Ohio. They have one child living, Ida, and one son deceased. Miss Evans is now a teacher of Latin in the Strator high school. She is a graduate of Hedding College. He has published a number of lectures and sermons in pamphlet form, including 'Pulpit and Politics,' 'Tobacco,' 'Thanksgiving Discourse,' 'Funeral Sermon of Lincoln,' and several others. He has served as secretary of Central Ill. annual Conference for several years, and was, in 1876, a delegate to the General Conference, Baltimore.

AUGUST APPLETON.

Mr. Appleton is a farmer living in Evans township, section 35, and was born in Sweden in 1846, came to the United States in 1863, and located in Putnam county, where he married Matilda Colson in 1879. She was born in Sweden. He rents 160 acres. Like most of his countrymen Mr. Appleton is a good farmer, industrious and hard working. These are the elements of success and lead to riches and honor.

PORTER MOORE.

Mr. Moore was born in Brown county, Ohio, 1846 and came to La Salle county in 1856 with his parents. Married Martha Grimes in 1867, born in Indiana. They have six children—Bessie L., Maud May, Kittie, Fletcher P., Mattie and Edna. Are members of the M. E. church. He is a member of the Graego. He has been in the short horn cattle business for the last ten years, and is now engaged in raising Holstein stock, the only one in this section of the country. He also carries on a meat market in Wenona. The Holstein breed have many points of excellence and are destined to become great favorites and in corresponding demand.

FRANCIS H. BOND.

Mr. Bond was born in Worcester county, Mass., in 1821 and came west in 1846 where he became a very successful teacher. Choosing law as a profession he qualified himself for its practice, and was admitted to the bar in 1861, and has followed it successfully ever since. He married Lucy Broadus in 1848, born in Virginia. They have had one child which no longer survives. Mr. Bond has been city attorney, town clerk, and served as justice of the peace for many years. He is likewise real estate agent and can give valuable information to buyers or sellers.

HENRY WINTER.

Mr. Winter is a farmer living on section 17, Evans township, and was born in Ottawa, LaSalle county, Ill., in 1856. Moved to this county in 1877 and married Florence Wilson Feb. 9, 1879. She was born in 1858 on the farm she is now occupying with her husband. He is a very industrious young man, possessed of all the vim and go-ahead-iveness required to make him a successful man of the world. Commencing early in life, he and his young wife have bright prospects before them. May they continue to brighten. While providing for the wants of the body he does not neglect the mind.

ROBERT MANN.

Mr. Mann was born in Roxburyshire, Scotland, in 1846, and came to the United States when 20 years old and located in this township. He married Anna Alexander in 1870, born in the house she is now living in. They have two children—Wilbur and Isabella. He is a member of the Masonic order. He is engaged in breeding short horn cattle of superior grades, and fine horses. He owns the celebrated horse, Silver Wave, bred in Kentucky and said to be the finest roadster in Marshall county. He runs his farm exclusively as a stock farm, known as the "old Fort stock farm." His cattle are all sired by thoroughbred bulls. His farm is the site of the old fort.

AUSTIN C. GARVIN.

Mr. Garvin was born in Monroe county, Indiana, October 4, 1815, and moved to Putnam county in 1849, with his mother. He married Eliza Simmons in 1868, born in Maryland. They have three children—Clara E., Bertha and Austin C. He is school director, and owns 17 acres of land which he cultivates in good style. Mr. Garvin is a gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet. He is kind, hospitable and courteous.

DAVID M. HALL.

Mr. Hall is a farmer living on sections 2 and 11, Evans township. Postoffice, Wenona, Ill. He was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1837, and located in this county in 1861. Married Elizabeth Smith in 1865, born in the same county. She died in 1868 leaving two children—Robert and Will Emmett. He married his present wife, Augusta Jones, in 1869, born in this county. Four children have been born to them—Susie, Kittie, Josie and Rubby. He owns 248 acres, all under cultivation. His wife's father, Mr. D. Jones, is one of the oldest settlers of this county.

G. W. GRAY.

Mr. Gray was born in Muskingum county, near Zanesville, Ohio, in 1817, and came to Illinois and located in Putnam county, near Magnolia, in 1845, where he engaged in farming. He married Miss Juliann Wilber, Feb. 4, 1837. She was born in Connecticut and died July 12, 1877. They had five children—Thomas Liggett, died in the army from disease contracted there, Ageline, George W. Jr., William H., Charles, Wesley and Mary R. His present wife, Elizabeth Conard, was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1833. They were married in May, 1878. Are members of the M. E. church. He was assessor in Groveland township, LaSalle county, the first time it was assessed;

was school director and trustee several terms. He is steward of his church, and has been a member some 40 years. Mrs. Gray has also been a member of the M. E. church since childhood.

A. BECKWORTH.

Mr. Beckworth was born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1812. He came west with his parents and located in Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1816, and came to this county in 1835. He learned the trade of bricklaying and plastering in Cincinnati in 1832, and worked at it up to 1859, when he engaged in farming in Stephens township. He married Miss Margaret Gilmore in 1861, born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1840. They have three children living—Otto Q., Orson E. and Omar S. Are members of the Christian church. They moved into Wenona in 1869. He owns 400 acres of land in Livingston county, under good cultivation, and has a residence in Wenona.

THOMAS REILLY.

Mr. Reilly was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1827. He removed to England in 1847, and came to the United States in 1852, settling in this county. In 1861 he married Marv Martin, from his native place, who died in 1869, leaving him three children. In 1870 he married Miss Maggie Breesa. She was born in County Kerry, Ireland. They have four children—Annie, Thomas, Henry and Maggie, and by his first wife—Katie, John and Mattie. Are members of the Catholic church. He has been school director for the last ten years, and owns 240 acres, all under cultivation.

EDWARD S. GOULD.

Mr. Gould was born in the State of New York in 1832, his parents moving to Detroit when he was five years old, where he obtained an education, and he became a bricklayer. In 1852 he wedded Lotta Castello, also born in New York, who bore him one child—Ella E., born December 5, 1853. This daughter grew up and wedded William H. Parrett. They have one child and its name is Bessie. Mr. Gould is a member of the Masonic order.

CHARLES H. TURNER.

Mr. Turner was born in Fayette county, Pa., and came west in 1858. He first located in Clay county, Ill., and moved to LaSalle county in 1859. He married Sarah J. Quaintance in 1869. She was born in Pennsylvania. They have three children—John W., Mattie and Irene. Are members of the M. E. church. He is a good and industrious farmer working on rented land.

ALFRED JUDD.

Mr. Judd is a farmer (bachelor), living on section 6. Postoffice, Wenona. He was born in North Carolina in 1822. He came to this county (then Putnam) in 1831, with his parents. After his father's death, his devotion to his widowed mother bound him to her whilst she lived, to whom he gave his undivided attention up to the time of her death, a few months ago. Hence he has never married. He owns 725 acres of land in a prosperous state of cultivation. He is a pleasant, social gentleman.

MRS. GILLEY COWEN.

Mrs. Cowen is widow of William Cowen, who was born near Hagerstown, Md., in 1798, and emigrated to Ohio at an early day. He died in 1863. She was born in Monongahela county, Va., in 1805, moved with her parents to Ohio in 1808, and married in 1824. She has had seven children—Hermil, Cynthia (Mrs. Letts), Minerva (deceased), Lucinda (Mrs. Morse), Robert A., Isabella (deceased), Theresa and Zilpha, Malvina (Mrs. Stevenson), William, Delbert and John (deceased). They are members of the M. E. church. Mrs. Cowen comes from the Dents, and is a cousin of John O. Dent. They moved to Putnam county in 1831. During the Black Hawk war Mr. Cowen was a soldier under Colonel Strawn.

F. A. PACKINGHAM.

Mr. Packingham was born in Wayne county, Pa., in 1838, and began business as a merchant at Evans in 1876. He married Nancy Burgess in 1877, born in Connecticut. They attend the M. E. church. He was appointed postmaster in 1876, express agent in 1877, and station agent in 1879. He enlisted in company F. 53d Ill. Volunteers in 1862 and served until mustered out at Springfield, Ill., in 1865. He was detailed in the Military Telegraph Corps as mounted orderly during 1864-5.

DAVID MOORE.

Mr. Moore was born in New Jersey in 1813, and came to Ohio with his parents when two years old. He married Anna Borradaile in 1836, born near Bennington, N. J. They had five children—Rebecca B. (deceased), Arthur, (deceased), Mary, Elizabeth (McAdams), Martha T. (deceased), and Anna. Arthur was a member of Capt. Vaughn's company and died at Bolivar, Tenn., in 1833. He was a good soldier and much respected. Mr. Moore owns 206 acres of well improved land.

MRS. LUCY GIBSON, (widow.)

Mrs. Gibson (Gaylord) was born in Bradford county, Pa., in 1803 and came to this township, then a part of LaSalle county, in 1831, removing to her present homestead in 1833 or 1834. She married George Martin in 1833, a native of Connecticut, who located in this neighborhood in 1830. He died in 1838 leaving two children—Aaron G. and

Sylvia A. (Kirkpatrick). She married her second husband, James Gibson, in 1842. He was born in Fifeshire, Scotland. He died in 1855 leaving two children—Isabel and James. Mrs. Kirkpatrick's husband died in 1862 in the army, of disease contracted there. Mrs. Gibson has 200 acres of land, all under cultivation. She is believed to be the oldest settler in Evans township. She remembers when the family were notified to pack up and get away from the Indians during the Black Hawk war. Lemuel Gaylord, her father, was one of the Revolutionary soldiers, and was at the surrender of Cornwallis. He was retained in the service for a year after the close of the Revolution. He helped to haul away the cannon captured from the British army. He died at the age of 89 years and was buried in the Cumberland cemetery near the house of Mrs. Gibson in this township.

C. P. MORGAN.

Mr. Morgan was born in Clermont county, Ohio, in 1831, and removed west in 1853, and located in La Salle county where he lived until 1866 and then came to Evans township. He married America Dillman in 1855. She was born in Gallia county, Ohio, and they have eight children—Mary E., Adeline, Mattie, Jesse, Frank, Marcus P., America and Clara. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Grange. He has been school director six years and owns 160 acres of land, all under cultivation, with good buildings.

WILLIAM T. HAMILTON.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Union county, O., in 1840, and came to Marshall county in 1854, residing in Roberts township with his parents on the Buras farm and in Evans township until 1867. He married Susan Clifford in 1862. She was born in Harrison county, Ohio. They have four children—Lnetta, John F., James E. and Samuel O. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He is an elder in the church. He served two years as sheriff pro tem, filling the place with entire acceptability. He is directing his attention to raising graded cattle, Cotswold sheep and fine horses.

BENJAMIN F. TURNER.

Mr. Turner lives on section 21, Evans township, and was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1825. He came to Magnolia in the spring of 1845 and purchased his present farm in 1856. He married Hannah L. Miller in 1850, born in Stuhenville, Ohio, 1830. They have six children—William E., born Sept. 1, 1851, Martin M. Dec. 8, 1853, Arthur L., March 22, 1856, Charles M., Oct. 27, 1860, Huldah J., July 6, 1863, Estella M., May 17, 1870. Are members of the M. E. church. He has 240 acres in a high state of cultivation, with very pleasant residence and tasty surroundings.

CHARLES CUSAC.

Mr. Cusac was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1838, and came to Illinois in 1858, finding a home in this county, and lived three years, and then returned to Ohio. He came back to Marshall county in 1865, returned to Ohio in again in 1866, and once more came to Illinois in 1871. He married Miss L. J. Smith in 1861—born in Ohio, same county. He has seven children,—William H., Charles A., Louis S., U. S. Grant, James J., Minnie E. and Estella. He cultivates 160 acres of land. In 1863 made a trip to California, returning the following year.

JAMES JENKINS.

Mr. Jenkins was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1824, and came to Marshall county in 1855. He married Elizabeth Reeves in 1847 in Indiana. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1828. They have six children—Albert W., Clara B., Lilly M., Rosland, Frank E. and E. O., and three deceased. Mrs. Jenkins is a member of the Baptist church. He owns 208 acres of land in Evans and 170 acres in Roberts township, all in cultivation. He is one of the best of farmers, and respected by all who know him.

A. G. EVERLEY.

Mr. Everley was born in Mongahela county, Va., in 1837. Came west in 1868, and located in Wenona. He enlisted in the 3d West Virginia cavalry in August, 1862, and served until 1865, when he was mustered out at Wheeling, West Virginia. Married Miss Carrie Dilliner in 1860. She was born in Queen county, Pa. They have four children,—Wordan D., Mary F., Reason A. and Sarah Ann. He is a member of the M. E. church. He cultivates 160 acres of land.

AARON AXLINE.

Mr. Axline was born in London county, Va., in 1813. His father removed to Muskingum county, O., in 1826, when he was only 13 years old. Came to this county in 1854. In 1842 he married Miss Ann Street, who was born in Muskingum county, O. They have seven children.—John W., Catherine S., Theodore, Clara A., Daniel, Mary E. and Clarence A. Are members of the M. E. church. He has been school director six years. He and his whole family are members of the temperance society. He owns 336 acres of land, all improved, with good buildings. Few old families show a fairer record. Mr. E. is deservedly proud of his intelligent sons and daughters.

ABRAM ALLEN.

Mr. Allen was born in New York City in 1823. Came west with his uncle, and landed at Quincy in 1835, living in Adams county until 1850, when he went to California and remained about two years. He came where he now resides in 1853. He married Miss Cecilia M. Cross in 1867. She was born in Pennsylvania, and when two years old

came to Dixon, having made the trip from Pennsylvania in a one-horse wagon. Her father was a minister in the Baptist church. They moved to Rutland in 1860. They have three children,—Charles A., Grace M. and Mary E. Are members of the M. E. church. He has been school director several years, is clerk of the board, and trustee of the M. E. church. Miss Amelia Allen is residing with her brother. He owns 360 acres of land, all improved. He was in Evans before the I. C. R. R. was in operation. There were no houses in Wenona when he came there—only the railroad company houses. His farm was run for several years without fences.

ELIZABETH EVANS.

Mrs. Evans was born in Granville county, North Carolina, in 1810. Moved to Illinois in 1843, and to this county in 1846. She married Mr. Justus Jones in that year, who died in 1849, leaving one child, Augusta. She married Mr. Joshua Evans in 1852, who died in January, 1863, leaving her with one child, Frances. She has been a member of the M. E. church for over 52 years. Mrs. Evans is now 69 years of age, yet is smart and active, and in the possession of all her faculties. A lengthy biography of her husband is given elsewhere.

S. C. GRIFFIN.

Mr. Griffin was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1853 and came to this state in 1865. He married Miss Isabella Cusac in 1877—born in this county. They have one child, Lena May. Are members of the M. E. church. He is a member of the patrons of husbandry and of the temperance society. He cultivates 50 acres of land. Comes from a family noted for their ability to make money, and is bound to get along.

T. D. QUAINANCE.

Mr. Quainance is a farmer, living on section 10. He was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1816, and came west with his parents in 1855, first locating in Putnam county (Magnolia), and in this county in 1831. He married Anna McAdams in 1874. She was born in Harrison county, Ohio. They have two children—Jessie and Edna, and are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Q. is a member of the temperance society. He cultivates 216 acres of land.

AARON G. MARTIN.

Mr. Martin was born in Caledonia, Putnam county, Ill., in December, 1835, and came on to the farm he at present occupies when but a child. He married Sarah Parkinson in February, 1863. She was born in Licking county, Ohio, and has brought him three children living—Harry G., Edwin P. and Helen S., and one child deceased. He is a member of the Masonic order. Mr. Martin is school director of district No. 3, and is secretary of the board. He owns 360 acres of well improved land.

PUTNAM BECKWITH.

Mr. Beckwith was born in Marshall county, Ill., in 1842. He married Miss Francis Dagan in 1869. She was born in Franklin county, Ohio. They have four children—Bertha M., Herbert H., Charles P. and Mary. He is first lieutenant of Co. B. 10th Bat'l I. N. G. Enlisted in the 1st Ill. Cavalry July 3, 1861, and was discharged July 14, 1862. Re-enlisted in 14th Cavalry, September 4, 1862; discharged July 30, 1863. He was wounded at Lexington, Mo., twice, in a charge to recover a cannon that was captured by the enemy, and at West Plains, Mo., in May, 1862. He still carries the ball in his body. He was on the Morgan and Stoneman raids, and in many other engagements. He also assisted at the capture of Indians who were in the rebel army—when they released the chief and medicine man and sent them back only to return and fight us again.

ALBERT EVANS.

Mr. Evans was born in Licking county, Ohio, Dec. 21, 1827, and came to Putnam county in the fall of 1830 with his parents. The township was named after his father. He married Miss Harriet Springer in 1855. She was born in Putnam county. They have six children living.—Winslow, Ella, Lincoln P., Charles E., Charlotte Bell and Ada. They are members of the M. E. church. He was justice of the peace two years, assessor seven years, and has been township treasurer twenty-six years. He owns 233 acres of land, all improved. He was in the lumber business for awhile in Wenona.

H. R. GRIFFIN.

Mr. Griffin was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1823, and came west and located in this county in 1865. He married Nancy Cassidy in 1851. She was born in the same neighborhood in Pennsylvania as himself, in 1822. They have six children,—Mary E., Ann M., George W., Rebecca S., James L. and John D., and are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He owns 320 acres of land, all under cultivation. Miss Sally Moats, who has been in his father's family since a girl, is now 75 years old, and is kindly provided for by him, in compliance with his father's will.

DR. CORNELIUS PERRY.

Dr. Perry was born in Connecticut in 1823. He studied medicine in Litchfield, and graduated from the New York Medical University in 1846, and settled in Hope, New Jersey, where he practiced medicine for some seven years, and married Lucy M. Swayze, a native of New Jersey in 1848. Two children have been born to them—Frances and Evelyn. When he first came west he settled in Lacon, where he lived three years, and then moved to Evans township, where he had made extensive purchases of real estate. His wife disliking the prairie, he removed to Chicago, where he remained until 1869, their home being shared this time by the parents of Mrs. P., she being their

only child. After going on to the prairie the Doctor gradually relinquished his profession, and devoted himself to the care of his large real estate interests. Besides valuable property in this state, he owns some 2,000 acres in Kansas. Mr. Swayza was a graduate of Princeton College, and for years practiced law in New Jersey, until he lost his voice and then learned surgery. He owns 500 acres of valuable land in this state. Dr. Perry has been largely identified with the Wenona Fair, and is an active, well informed, substantial citizen. In his house are four generations.

BENJAMIN JUDD.

Mr. Judd was born in North Carolina in 1829, and moved with his parents to Illinois in 1831 and located in this township. He married Francis Talbot in 1851. She was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1834. They have seven children—Elizabeth, (Mrs. Kemp), Nelson P., James A., Thomas B., Clara J., Mary F. and Julia Dell. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Star Chapter. He is secretary of the Local Protection society and member of the Grange. He owns 160 acres of land, all under excellent cultivation.

MRS. R. M. CAHOON, *Dress and Cloak-maker, Wenona.*

Mrs. Cahoon was born in Barnstable county, Mass., in 1828. She married Mr. L. Cahoon in 1847. He was born in New York state. Moved west in 1850, and located in Osage township, LaSalle county, Ill. They came to Wenona in 1871. They have three children living—Sarah J., George W. and Charles. She has been engaged in the dress-making business since 1846, and lived in Wenona since 1862. She keeps on hand a full stock of all kinds of fancy trimmings, and is an accomplished and competent dressmaker.

N. F. BROWN.

Mr. Brown is a farmer, and was born in Fayette county, Pa. in 1831. He located in LaSalle county with his parents when quite young, and married Miss Matilda Judd in 1855. She was born in Evans township, Marshall county, Illinois. She is the youngest child of Thomas and Elizabeth Judd, two of the oldest settlers of Marshall county. They have three children—Almeda E., May A. and S. Benton. They own 160 acres of land. They have two children deceased—Alice A. and Fany—the former died when between five and six years old, and the latter between two and a half and three years old.

ADAM BRUNNER.

Mr. Brunner is a shoemaker, engaged in business in Wenona. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1850, and came to the United States in the fall of 1870, locating in Dwight, Livingston county, where he lived until he came to Wenona, in the spring of 1873. He commenced business at his trade, which he learned in the old country, and has been working at it since 1865. He owns a house and lot in Wenona, and is well to do. He is master of his profession, and enjoys the reputation of a first-class shoemaker.

PETER G. DEFENBAUGH.

Mr. Defenbaugh lives on his farm in Evans township, but his postoffice is Magnolia. He was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1821, and moved to Marshall county in 1851, and married Sarah A. L. Walter, born in Pennsylvania. They have nine children—Zachariah, Eluchie, Allan, Durriah, Mary, Emma, Francis, William C., Edwin and Lonisa (deceased). They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He has been school director several times and is trustee now. He owns 139 acres of land in Marshall county, and 80 acres in LaSalle county. He is a kind, generous hearted man, and a good citizen and neighbor.

MRS. EUPIHEMIA CROFT.

Mrs. Croft, widow of H. Croft, whose biography is given elsewhere, was born in Durbin county, Indiana, in 1832, and moved to Marshall county when a child, with her parents in 1833, and located on the farm she is now occupying. She married Hitchison Croft in 1850. He died in March, 1878, leaving four children—Samuel M., Emma (Mrs. Kirkpatrick), Julia A. and James. Are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. The estate contains about 1200 acres of land, all improved. Her fine residence was burnt down in April, 1880.

MISS SUSAN WOOLF AND MRS. S. P. HALLAM, *Dress-makers, Wenona.*

The subjects of this sketch, having opened up their establishment in August, 1879, are prepared to do all kinds of dress-making, plain and fashionable, at the shortest notice. Miss Woolf is a native of Muskingum county, Ohio, and came with her parents to Marshall county in 1858. She is a member of the M. E. church. Mrs. Hallam is a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, and moved to Richland county, Ill., in 1861, and to Rutland in 1866. She married Mr. S. P. Hallam in 1867. He is a native of Washington county, Pa. They have three children—Anna M., Myro L. and Henry G. They are members of the Methodist church.

E. M. HUNTER, (*widow*).

Mrs. Hunter was born in Philadelphia, and came to Ohio with her parents when seven years old, and to LaSalle county two years later. She married William Phillips in 1850. She was only 13 years old. He was born in England. They have three children—Nelson Clara, and Fannie. He died in Oct. 1864. Mrs. Hunter owns a farm at Lostant, LaSalle county, of 62 acres and a house and 4 lots. She sold a farm of 160 acres, in 1876, which she dis-

tributed among her children, who are all married. Mrs. Hunter is a dressmaker and follows her business industriously, although having no necessity to do so. She prefers business to occupy her mind. She has purchased the property she is now occupying, subject to minor's claim, having rented her own large residence at Lostant, as she did not require so large a house since her children married.

JOHN I. PARSONS.

Mr. Parsons was born in Putnam county, near Magnolia, in 1848. He is a son of Isaac Parsons, who moved from Missouri and settled in Putnam county at an early day. Mr. Parsons married Ada S. Hopper in 1873. She was born in Sangamon county, near Springfield, Ill. Their children are Hallie, Annie, Edward H. and Mary Ada. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He has the management of his father's property, which, including his homestead of 50 acres, embraces six farms, consisting of 1080 acres in this state, and 455 acres owned by himself.

L. A. McCULLM.

Mr. McCullm is a hair-dresser living in Wenona. He was born in Putnam county in 1852, and came to Wenona in 1874. In January, 1874, he married Miss Emma Carson, born in Andrew county, Mo. They have two children, Clara Bell and Mary Louisa. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. He has a first-class establishment, and is the only one in Wenona. Has been nine years in the business, and makes money.

MRS. H. N. McCLANAHAN, *Widow.*

Wenona, Illinois.

WILLIAM M. HAMILTON.

I was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, October 13, 1816. My father was Rev. Wm. Hamilton. I am the second son of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters, all of whom grew up to be men and women. The psalmist says, "I have been young and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." I always considered my father a righteous man, and he must have been such, for I never knew of any of his seed begging bread. Five of his sons followed farming, three were doctors, one preacher, and one was an editor—also a member of the Ohio legislature for a number of years; at the time of his death he was a representative in Congress. One son, Dr. J. W. Hamilton, has obtained some notoriety as a surgeon in Columbus, Ohio. His son, Dr. T. E. Hamilton, was surgeon of the 104th Illinois regiment, and died at Nashville, Tenn. My father died in the 78th year of his age. His sons ranged in height from five feet six inches to six feet two. I being the nearest the ninth part of a man, my father bound me to Hon. James Henderson, of Zanesville, Ohio, for the term of six years to learn the tailoring trade. Nothing unusual or strange took place in my life until I was in the 11th and 12th years of my age. In those days almost every family kept liquor to be drank as a beverage. My father, though averse to drunkenness, kept whiskey in his closet by the barrel and a bottle in the cupboard, thus affording a chance to take a dram when I wanted it. My visits to the old cupboard became more and more frequent, till at length it was noised around that little Bill Hamilton was a drunkard. My sister, becoming alarmed, conveyed to my father the sad news. He called me to him and in an affectionate tone of voice said, "William, your sister tells me that you have become a drunkard. My son, I would rather follow you to your grave than you should become such." Thus, through the watchful care of my dear sister and the timely admonition of a loving father, I was as a fire-brand plucked out of the burning. This occurrence took place in harvest time just after the organization of the first temperance society in that region, and my father had a number of hands employed. It was my office to wait on them with water and whiskey. One evening all the hands got ready to go to a temperance meeting, and I asked permission to go with them. On the way father's admonition kept ringing in my ears—"I would rather follow you to your grave than have you become a drunkard." After the lecture was over an opportunity was given to sign the pledge. The lecturer requested those who would sign to give their names. One of the young men that went with me sat in the seat in front of me, and I said, "Charles, I will sign," when he exclaimed in a loud voice, "Bill Hamilton." We returned home at a late hour. I had to pass through my father's bed-room to get to mine, and he was awake. Perhaps the sad news that he had learned from my sister had drove sleep from his eyes, and he may have been praying, as thousands of fathers and mothers are to-day—"Lord keep my son from the vices of this world and save him from going down into a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's hell." The first question he asked was, "William, were there many at the temperance meeting?" "Yes, sir: the house was full." "Who signed?" I named all I could recollect, and closed by saying I signed. He asked no more questions. I don't know how he passed the balance of the night, but think he must have felt like the old father who said, "This is my son that was lost and is found," and he, with those that were invited to the supper, began to be merry. In the fall of that year my father built a large barn, and in asking his neighbors to help him raise it he told them he would not have any liquor on the occasion. All came that were invited, and the frame went up nicely. Never after this did my father keep liquor in his house to be drank as a beverage. In the 13th year of my age I joined the Methodist Protestant church, that was in derision called radical's church. A few years previous to this some of the leading spirits of the Methodist Episcopal church published a paper styled Mutual Rights, contending that the laity should have an equal voice in church government with the ministry. For publishing such views they were silenced, if not turned out of church. This transaction gave rise to the Methodist Protestant church, which now has a membership of over 100,000 in the United States. The day I was 15 years old I went to Zanesville to learn my trade, and served as an apprentice until I was 21. After working at my trade in Ohio until early in the spring of 1843 I took passage at Marietta,

on the Ohio river, for Cincinnati, remained one week, and then started for St. Louis, where I arrived with 25 cents remaining in my pocket. While standing on the deck, up came a peddler with a basket of jewelry, and my last quarter went for a watch-key. I engaged board in the city at \$2.50 per week, and at the end of three weeks I found myself \$7.50 in debt, but I got a job and soon paid up my board bill, and commenced business in the upper part of the city and remained there until October, then took a trip up the Illinois river to visit my relations about Magnolia. In this month I was 27 years of age. Being highly pleased with the country, I commenced business in Magnolia, and continued it from the fall of 1843 to the summer of 1851. During this time made four trips to Ohio, one via the lakes, two by wagon and one on horseback. During my third visit I traded my spring wagon and a lot of clothing I had with me for three more horses, bought on time eighteen mules, and started for New Jersey, where I sold one-half interest in my drove at a very nice profit. Being late in the fall we did not find sale for our stock until near spring. Notwithstanding our heavy expenses, I returned to Ohio \$250 gainer. I there bought another drove of 33, pastured them until the next November, and returned to Illinois. The latter part of August I started on horseback for Ohio. On my way through Indiana I bought seven head of mules and one horse. This made me a drove of 49 mules and two horses. At Zanesville, Ohio, I sold about one-half of my drove to California emigrants, and the balance I took to New Jersey. On this trip I cleared above all expenses \$1002. I returned to Ohio and bought another drove of 40 mules and two horses, and hired their keeping until the latter part of that winter, and then drove them to Harrisburg, Pa., where I sold them at \$900 profit, and then returned to Ohio. After giving away \$500 I returned to Illinois with something over two thousand dollars, with a view to invest my funds in reserved lands of the Illinois Central R. R. They not coming into market as soon as expected, I bought a farm of 160 acres three miles north-east of Magnolia. I farmed one year, and then sold out to Daniel Horram at a handsome profit. I entered my Weona lands January 10th, 1853, and my Chenoa lands Sept. 24th, 1853.

I was married to Rebecca Burns, daughter of Andrew Burns, Oct. 18, 1855, five days after I became 39 years of age. Should we live until Oct. 18, 1884, we may give our friends an invitation to attend our silver wedding. I voted the abolition ticket in 1838. After the organization of the Republican party with a plank in their platform opposing the extension of slavery, I became identified with that party, as did the majority of the abolitionists. My father once remarked to an aunt, "I am afraid that William will render himself unpopular on this abolition question." Truth is mighty and will prevail. It was not long until father and all my brothers were ranked among the abolitionists. In those days men were egged, stoned and shot dead for expressing their views. I once made the remark to a fellow stage passenger, "I believe the black man has just the same right to his freedom as you or I." He drew back his fist to strike me, and said, "you may compare yourself to a negro, but you shan't me." In the winter of 1833, I heard a minister lecture on temperance who advocated the enactment of municipal state and national prohibition laws. I have been of the opinion ever since that the strong arm of the law as well as every other lawful means should be brought to bear against this soul destroying traffic. In the winter of 1874, the Weona temperance society elected Rev. Morrow and myself as delegates to attend a state prohibition convention at Bloomington. Since then, as opportunity affords, I have voted the prohibition ticket, but, as did the old abolitionists, hold myself ready to become identified with a party that can bring about the desired object quicker than the one I now support. In the winter of 1873 I drew up an amendment to section 2 of the dram shop act, making it unlawful to sell liquor in any quantity without first obtaining a license, also making it unlawful for the supervisors to grant license to sell liquor within three miles of any city, town or village. Previous to this time it could be sold by the quart without license. I sent the bill to Senator Baldwin, which he introduced. It was referred to the Judiciary committee and reported back to the Senate amended, making it unlawful to sell in less quantities than one gallon, and debarring the supervisors from granting license to sell liquor within two miles of the corporate limits of cities, towns or villages. Thus amended it passed both houses. Before the assembling of our last legislature I drew up another amendment to section 2, by adding, "provided cities, towns, and villages may enact ordinances prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor in any quantity, thus giving us a local law by which we could avoid the evils of selling by the gallon. This bill I sent to my nephew, J. M. Hamilton, senator from Bloomington district. This bill was printed and ordered to the second reading. While thus pending I wrote to my nephew to amend the bill before its passage so as to give cities, towns and villages jurisdiction two miles beyond their corporate limits in prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors. In due time this amendment was presented, and referred to the Judiciary committee and there met the same fate of a number of other prohibition bills. I hope to live to see the day when the people of Illinois will elect representatives that will press the passage of such bills.

I served as school director in Weona ten years, and was re-elected for a three years term. At the close of one year I resigned. I was once a candidate for mayor of the city of Weona on a no-license ticket, and was beaten. In the spring of 1872 I was nominated by the Republican party for county supervisor. Not feeling disposed to treat or leave money with saloon-keepers, to buy votes, and through the circulation of a lie, that I was opposed to a poor man having a vote, I ran behind my ticket, and was beaten five votes. In the fall of 1875 I went to California with my family, consisting of my wife and four children, with a view of remaining there five years. After sojourning there one year, along the coast from Clear Lake, 80 miles north of San Francisco, to San Diego, 600 miles south, I became fully satisfied that the climate had been misrepresented, and returned home in the fall of 1876, believing the statement once made by David Law, who died at Henry a few years since, was true. Said he, "I have traveled in every state in the Union, and I tell you, taking everything into consideration, there is not a better country in the world than this portion of Illinois." On my return home, I learned the saloon-keepers had hung me in effigy on the morning of my departure. When I heard George McAdam and other highly esteemed citizens say that I had never been more highly honored, I felt still more joyful in this tribulation. Two years since, Dr. Reynolds, of El Paso, in an introduction said to Rev. Millsap: "Hamilton was one of the pioneers in the temperance work; that we are now occupying grounds that he occupied forty years ago;" and added, "Don't you recollect the time you vis-

ited me at Bowlinggreen, Woodferd connty, some twenty-five years ago, that Elder R. invited us home with him on Sunday to take dinner, and that he had wine on the table, and how you opposed the practice?" At this writing I have just entered on the sixty-fourth year of my age. In reviewing my past life I can see where I have erred and misimproved time, and some acts of my life are brought to mv recollection that gives me great satisfaction, of which I never will have an occasion to write.

WM. M. HAMILTON,

WILLIAM P. DITMAN.

Farmer. Postoffice, Wenona.

WILLIAM McQUAID.

Painter, Wenona.



HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP.

JOSHUA D. BULLMAN.

Mr. Bullman was born in Morris county, New Jersey, February 21, 1806. He enjoyed the advantages of a common school education, and labored on a farm until twenty-two years old, when he married Catherine Hall, born May 30, 1808, and started west the same year, in company with his mother and younger brother Lot. They found a stopping place on the Wabash until the spring of 1832, when they came to Marshall county and selected the place where he has ever since lived and hopes to die. He was a good worker, and so was his wife, and the prairie was soon transformed into a thriving farm, with fields loaded with wheat and corn. In course of time children were born to them, five in number—Hattie, Theodore, Mortimer, Clementine and Theresa. After a long and useful life Mrs. Bullman, the faithful companion of his better days, died, and they laid her beneath the daises. Mr. Bullman still lives at the old farm, which his son Mortimer carries on, and where his children and grand children come to visit him. Of the latter there are five.

AUGUST QUIRAM.

The subject of this sketch is a farmer in Hopewell township, born in Germany, March 23d, 1848. He came to Marshall county in 1862, and married Miss Rosey Reabsbler. She was born in Germany, Sept. 25th, 1846. They have five children,—William, Mary, Emma, Edward and Jobo.

MARGELAND JASON.

Mrs. Jason is widow of the late John Jason, and was born in Germany in 1819. She came to the United States in 1843, and the following year was married, in New York city. She lived there four years, and came with her husband to this county in 1848. He was for several years a ferryman, and lived some time at Sparland. He was born at Dane, Germany, in 1820, came to the United States in 1843, and died in 1877. He was a prudent, industrious man, and accumulated a large property, owning six hundred acres of land at his death. They had seven children,—Mary, John, Peter, Frederic, Charles and Elizabeth.

EDGAR MYERS.

Mr. Myers is a son of William Myers, and was born in Edgar county, Ill., Sept. 24th, 1857. He came to Marshall county in 1873, and married Addie Cora Strawn, June 3d, 1879, and in about six months after she died, leaving him a widow at 22. She was a daughter of Enoch Strawn, and was born in Hopewell township, July 19th, 1859. Mr. Myers is a good worker and an honest man.

LUTHER HANCOCK.

Mr. Hancock was born in New Hampshire, Sept. 7th, 1815, and married Martha J. Colby, March 27th, 1844. She was born July 10th, 1825. They have three children, Lydia A., James and John, living, and two deceased.

JACOB PURSEL.

Mr. Pursel was born in Huntington county, N. J., in 1834, and located in this county in 1857. He married Miss Mary Cole in 1826. She was born in Somerset county, New Jersey. They have five children,—Peter, Rebecca, Selinda, George and Jane. He owns 80 acres of farm land and 20 of timber. His farm is in a good state of cultivation.

MRS. MARY VERNAY, (*widow*).

Mrs. Vernay is a resident of Hopewell township, and was born in Baltimore county, Md., Jan. 11, 1809. She married David Vernay Oct. 18, 1832, and located in Marshall county in the spring of 1833. He was born in Hartford county Md., June 20, 1799, and died Sept. 17, 1865. They had two children, James, born Dec. 34, 1834, and William (deceased). Mr. V. was a member of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Verney owns 80 acres of land in her homestead and 60 acres of timber land. She rents her farm and lives on the income of her property.

WILLIAM STRAWN.

Mr. Strawn was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1814, and came to Illinois in 1829. He married Helen M. Broadus in 1840, born in Caroline county, Va., in 1824. They have ten children—Lucy B., Jacob, Leland, Leroy, Caroline V., John J., Helen and William (twins), Ralph, W. E. and Alford T. Are members of the Congregational church. He was assessor one term, has been a school director several years, and road commissioner. He owns in his homestead 160 acres. Also a farm in Iroquois county, and one in Benningtoo township. He gave his children

each a farm. He served in the Black Hawk war and was granted a section of land as bounty. He has been a noted hunter in his day and remembers the prairie when from the Illinois river to Washington, Ill., there was not a single white man. His ten sons and daughters were all born here, and he has seen them grow up to men and women and comfortably provided for.

AUGUST COLESON.

Mr. Coleson is a farmer in Hopewell township, who was born in Sweden in 1855. He came to the United States in 1869, and located in Marshall county. He married Anna Lindgen in 1877, born in Germany. They are members of the United Lutheran church. He rents 160 acres of land which he cultivates, and is a hard working farmer.

JOSEPH ST. CLAIR BULLMAN.

Mr. Bullman is a son of Lott Bullman and was born and reared in Hopewell township. He has a good farm of his own, and a pleasant home, is industrious and knowhow to take care of himself. He married Susan, daughter of Henry Wier, Sept. 22, 1875, and to them has been given one child, Ullman J.

T. W. STONER.

Mr. Stoner was born in Richland county, Ohio, February 2, 1841, and came to Illinois in 1864, finding a home in Marshall county, where he has a splendid farm of 240 acres in cultivation and 100 acres in timber. His wife was born in Putnam county, and his five children are Wilbert L., Effie M., John R. and Edna A. Mr. Stoner is much respected in his township, where he has held the office of town collector and school director.

WILLIAM F. MYERS.

Mr. Myers was born in Ohio, October 14th, 1833, and was married in 1856, his wife being a native of Ohio, and born in 1832. He first settled in this state in Edgar county, and removed from thence to Indiana and stayed two years, lived in Michigan one year, came to Marshall county and lived three years, was in Kansas three years, and returned to Marshall county. They have ten children—Edgar, Italy L., Robert, Riley, Jacob, George, Laura, Lilly, John and Rosey. He owns a fine saw mill and cultivates a large farm of 120 acres. Mr. Myers is industrious and honest, but has been very unfortunate, having had his mill burned down and his leg broken through accident.

FREDERICK JASON.

Mr. Jason is by occupation a farmer, and lives on section 16, where he owns and cultivates sixty acres of land. He was born in Sparland, April 1st, 1853, and married Miss Emma Jones in 1877. She was born in Missouri, July 26, 1857. They have one child, whom they call Andrew Jackson.

A. W. JONES.

Mr. Jones is by occupation a farmer, owning and cultivating 280 acres of land in Hopewell township. He was born in Chillicothe, Ill., in 1835, and has lived in Marshall county since 1844. He enlisted in Co. B, 17th Ill. Vol., was elected lieutenant, and badly wounded at Fort Donelson, from the effects of which he has since been a sufferer. Being debared from active service, he resigned in 1862 and returned home, where he married Miss Emma M. Hall, a very accomplished lady, born in Marshall county in 1842. They have two children, Julian Charles and James Hall. Mr. Jones is a man of influence in his township, has filled important local offices and is a gentleman of good address and more than average ability. Mrs. Jones was well educated, and in 1879 was a candidate for county superintendent of schools, for which she is well qualified.

PHILIP MARTIN.

Mr. Martin is a farmer by occupation, living in Hopewell township, where he cultivates fifty acres. He married Mary Berry in 1868, and they have five children, John, Mary, Catherine, Philip and Charles.

LOTT BULLMAN.

Mr. Bullman was born in Morris county, New Jersey, July 9th, 1811, and came west in 1830. He stopped on the Wabash river one season, and came to his present location in 1832. He married Ann Babb, daughter of Joseph Babb, of Somerset, Ohio, in 1836. She was born in 1815. They have four children, Eleanor Ann (Mrs. Blackstone), Margaret Jane (Mrs. Hancock), Joseph St. Clair and Clarissa Frances (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Bullman have led long and useful lives, and their good deeds will be remembered after they have paid the debt of nature. Besides their own children they have reared several orphans, giving them good educations and otherwise aiding them. Few persons are so widely known, and fewer still so generally respected.

WILLIAM W. HANCOCK.

Mr. Hancock was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland, Nov. 17th, 1813, and comes from an old Protestant family. When 15 years old his father died, and he was sent to his grandfather, a large farmer, to be educated, where he made himself useful, and was promoted to keep the books of the farm. He remained until 20, and then embarked for the new world, landing at Philadelphia. Letters of introduction found him friends, and upon their recommendation he went to the country and bargained with a man named Walker to labor a year and a half for the privilege of learning the mysteries of farming, but all he learned was that Walker got his services free and learned him nothing. Then he hired one year to a neighbor for \$140, after which he joined a young man named Chapman and came to Dayton, Ohio, where he made the acquaintance of Ira and Norman Penn and accompanied them to

Illinois, embarking on board the steamer Paul Jones, and paying \$18 for a cabin passage to Columbia (Lacon). This was in 1836. He found board with Dr. Effner, who lived in a log cabin north of John Hoffrichter's, and after looking about some time purchased a claim east of Lacon from a man named Burhart, where he has ever since resided. That year he married Miss Elizabeth Orr, and after more than 40 years of wedded life has never regretted his choice. She was born in Cecil county, Md., and their children are James W., William E., Andrew R. and Ira Fenn. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He has filled the office of supervisor, assessor and other positions, has often been chosen to settle estates and the confidence of the public in his honesty and integrity has been shown in various ways. Mr. Hancock has been successful in business and secured an ample competence for the future. His children have grown to man's estate and developed traits of character that shows they do not belie their training, and proved themselves worthy descendants of good parents. One event darkens their lives, the loss of their favorite and only daughter, but her place is filled by a grand daughter, Nellie, who remains with them.

GEORGE MYERS.

Mr. Myers is a farmer, and lives on section 33, Hopewell township. Postoffice, Lacon. Was born in Green county, Ohio, in 1847. Located in this state in 1864, and in this county in 1874. Married Miss Alice Hunt in 1869. She was born in Fulton county, Ill. They have three children, Otto M., Lulu V. and Andrew P. He cultivates 120 acres.

JAMES W. HANCOCK.

Mr. Hancock is a son of William Hancock, one of the early settlers of Hopewell, and belongs to a family bearing a deservedly high record. He was born in Hopewell township, November 26, 1842, and married Margaret J. Bullman, daughter of Lot and Ann Bullman, January 25, 1863. They have three children—Bruce, Blanche and Pearl. Mr. Hancock is an industrious farmer, who minds his own business, and knows how to make money. He served one term as sheriff, performing his duties conscientiously and well, and is much respected in the community.

JOHN JOHNSON.

Mr. Johnson is a farmer of Hopewell township, who was born March 6, 1837, and came to Marshall county in 1867. He married Mrs. Pearson in 1858, a native of Ohio, born in 1838. They have four children—Mary E., John L., Ella D. and Rossie. Mr. Johnson is a good farmer, and cultivates 120 acres.

WILLIAM W. FEAZLE.

Mr. Feazle is a farmer by occupation, and cultivates 120 acres on section 36 of Hopewell township. He was born in Ohio, June 6, 1830 and came to Marshall county in 1845. He was married in 1842, and his wife died January 11, 1879, leaving four children—Eliza C., Melford F., George W. and Andrew J. He comes from a family well known in Marshall county, as energetic, pushing and money-making. He is a good farmer, keeps his premises in good condition, drives a good team, and likes his friends.

CHRISTIAN PONTOW.

Mr. Pontow is a farmer, living on section 35 in Hopewell township. He was born in Prussia in 1815. He came to America in 1864, finding a home in Marshall county. He married Augustina Dagander in 1859. She was born in the same place. They have three children—Heunstein, Gustav and Albert. Are members of the Evangelical church. He rents 160 acres of land, which he has under good cultivation.

JOHN MCNEEL.

The subject of this sketch was born October 15, 1833, and was a son of William McNeel, one of the oldest citizens of the county, an account of whose brutal murder in his own house in the fall of 1862 is given elsewhere in this book. The subject of this sketch married Miss Malinda Davis, born in 1850, and by her he has two children—Merty I. and William H. He is a good farmer, and cultivates 50 acres of land.

HENRY E. ROWLEY.

Mr. Rowley was born in Columbia county, New York, in 1841, and came to Bloomington, Ill., in 1865. He came to Lacon the following year, and has established with his brother one of the finest nurseries in the county. They are largely engaged in the cultivation and sale of small fruits, supplying the home market, and sending large supplies abroad. Mr. Rowley served throughout the war in the 89th New York, making a good record as a soldier. At its close he came west and married Margaret E. Bell, born in Zanesville, Ohio, March 9, 1846.

DANIEL WINTER.

Mr. Winter lives in Hopewell township, and cultivates 150 acres. He was born in Pennsylvania, February 15, 1836, and came to Illinois in 1866, finding a home in Whiteside county. He married Martha S. McNeal, April 10th, 1862, born in Marshall county in 1840. They have six children,—William C., John, Araminta, Nellie, Viola and Daniel E. One child, Franklin, died in 1872.

DANIEL FOWLER.

Mr. Fowler was born in Butler county Ohio, in 1834, and located in this county in 1852. He married Miss Lucy A. McWhinney February 27, 1855. She was born in the same county in Ohio. They have four children—James E., Alice, William and Frederick. They are members of the Baptist church. He is collector of his township.

He was one of Illinois' gallant soldiers, with the scars of battle on his person, and will carry them to his grave. He enlisted in Co. D, 77th Ill. Vol. Inf., in 1862, and served actively until wounded at the battle of Arkansas Post, January 11, 1863. He then went to the hospital, and when convalescent was transferred to the Invalid Corps at St. Louis, where he remained until 1865, when he was mustered out at St. Louis. He is pleasant sociable, gentle, kind and hospitable, a loving husband, kind father and a good neighbor, as he was a faithful soldier of his country.

WILLIAM BOYS (*deceased*).

Mr. Boys was born in Monroe county, Pa., February 23d, 1805, and married Leucicia Morgan, a native of the same county, born June 8th, 1808. They came to Marshall county in 1834, settling in Hopewell township, where Mrs. Boys died in 1880. Six children were born to them, of whom three are still living,—Charles, Ellen, Emily (Mrs. Ramsey); and John, Mary (Mrs. Norton) and Morgan, deceased. Mr. Boys died October 2d, 1869. He left a beautiful residence and a fine farm of 160 acres.

JAMES ANTRIM.

Mr. Antrim was born in New Jersey, July 21st, 1808, and came to Marshall county in 1833. He married Jane Hinds in 1840, born in Ohio, February 11th, 1821. They have nine children,—Elizabeth A., Francis, John A., Amanda, Mary, Thomas, James H., Minard and Richard. Mr. Antrim lives on section 26, and has 80 acres of land under good cultivation.

MARY ROCHE.

Hopewell.

ENOCH SAWYER.

Farmer, Hopewell township.

H. F. STONER.

Mr. Stoner is a native of Ohio, where he was born October 27, 1854. He came west in 1877, and found a home in Marshall county, Illinois, where he has under fine cultivation eighty acres of land. He married Miss N. A. Owen, March 18, 1879, born in Ohio in 1853.

D. F. SUNDERLAND.

Mr. Sunderland is a native of Putnam county, Illinois, and was born July 18th, 1847. His occupation is that of a liveryman, and he has a good stock of horses and carriages for hire at all times. His wife was formerly Jennie A. Read, born in Hennepin, September 24th, 1852, and they have one child, Walter, born February 23d, 1876.

LEMUEL RUSSELL.

I was born in North Carolina, February 11, 1800, and set out for the west by sea by the way of Savannah, Mobile, and New Orleans in 1829. I worked some months as a carpenter in Mobile, went west to Vicksburg, Miss., and from there in 1830 I came to Louisville, Ky.; from there to Vincennes, on the Wabash, in Indiana. Went north to Honey Creek, Otter Creek, Fort Harrison, Terre Haute, north near Lafayette, west or north-west 80 or 90 miles to a place called Amboy. I was pleased with the trip, and traveled back that fall by the way of New Orleans and Charleston. My step-father and mother and the family of Jesse Sawyer were getting ready to move, and we set out with wagons and teams for Illinois. After a long and tiresome travel arrived in Putnam county in October, 1831. My parents settled on the north side of Round Prairie. I helped build two log houses. The country looked gloomy; no roads, no mills, not much to eat but Irish potatoes. I visited the site where Lacon now is. There was no building in it, but saw a few Indian graves and an Indian trail up and down the river. The beautiful grass was unmolested till Colonel Strawn hauled a log through the village to designate where the streets should be, and made a sale of lots. I bought two lots. So little was doing here that I went down to Pekin, and got employment for the winter on a boat for Yazoo or Vicksburg. The previous summer was wet and cold. There was no good seed corn. Seed brought from the Ohio River sold as high as \$3.00 per bushel. I brought seed from New Madrid, Mo., got sugar and corn and some dried fruit at St. Louis, bought plows at Naples, and the boat brought my freight to Peoria and put it out. I found a man in Peoria that had a large sailboat, which I chartered to bring my freight to Columbia landing. We could not obtain a loaf of bread, and matches were not in use, so we rowed the boat, for we had a head wind, all the way, and eat sugar for 36 hours. By watching the way we found the entrance to the lower basin. Mine was the first freight landed that I knew of where Lacon now is, in April 31, though there had been trips made to Hennepin. Hennepin had a few houses when I came. After I got back the Black Hawk war commenced, and I went out as a ranger on the frontiers, drew rations, got a land title and drew wages, and at the close of the war I entered some land three miles east of Lacon. I married February 23, 1833. My wife was born in Davis county, Ky., 1809. Her name was Sarah Ann Edwards. We raised eight children—Willis Russell, Margaret Ann, Love, Sarah Cathrine, Lemuel, Mary, Amanda Emma, E. Russell. Four survive, and four have passed from here.

My occupation has been farming. Of late years I have tried to preach, because I thought I could point out to man the plan of salvation. I belong to no visible church. I believe in the church built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone. Where the Bible speaks we speak; where it is silent we are silent. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but

by Him. The gospel teaches that God's children should speak the same things. We cannot unite only by the gospel; we cannot walk together except we are agreed. I would like to be a peace-maker. Offences will arise, but we unto him by whom they come. I do not permit myself to be called "reverend," because it don't belong to man; reverend and holy is His name, meaning God. Of late I have traveled extensively, north, south, east and west.

LEMUEL RUSSELL.

JOHN WIER.

Mr. Wier comes from a Scotch ancestry, and his father was a British soldier in the war of the Revolution, who came to this country about 1777 and served during the war, the regiment to which he belonged being stationed at Castine, Maine. After the close of his term of service, he was granted a tract of land in the province of New Brunswick, but the cold, inhospitable climate prevented its acceptance, and he went down into Maine and bought a piece of heavy timbered land near what is now Montville, where with the help of his sons he cleared a large farm. Here the subject of this sketch was born and grew to manhood. When 19 years old the war of 1812 was raging, and wishing to enlist, he obtained the signatures of his father, and writing above it permission, presented it and was accepted. He served one year. When 21 years old he walked to Wheeling, Va., and worked by the week until he earned \$500, when through the rascality of a man from whom it was due, he became involved in a suit for the value of a negro who had ran away, and was obliged to pay \$1 000. He stayed here 20 years, and accumulated \$3,000, which he brought to Illinois. He reached here in the year 1830, paid \$500 for 160 acres, entered another quarter beside it, and went to work. While living in Virginia he married Catherine Byrne, and two children were born to them, Henry and Benjamin, the latter of whom was accidentally killed after coming to Illinois. Daniel B. was born here. Mr. Wier was a hard worker and took good care of his earnings, which he invested in land. He never profited by the necessities of the poor, nor speculated on the rise and fall of grain, though his ready means gave ample opportunity. He planted large orchards, raised large numbers of cattle and hogs, putting his surplus into land. At the time of his death he owned some 1200 acres, and his estate was valued at from \$60,000 to \$75,000. Besides his own family he raised and educated six or seven orphan children, caring for them as he did for his own, and dealing by them with justice and liberality. No man was more generally and justly esteemed for his many virtues than "Uncle Johnny," by which term he was universally known, and the noblest and highest tribute that was paid him is the simple inscription upon his monument. "He was a friend to the poor."

Henry Wier, a son of the above, succeeded to the home estate, which he still retains. He is an extensive farmer and manufacturer, raising an average of 4500 bushels of apples annually. In 1877 he began the manufacture of vinegar, with a capacity for turning out 3,000 barrels annually. Is also an extensive stock raiser and shipper. He was twice married, his first wife being Caroline Broadus, who bore him one child, Susan; and the second time to Adelia McKinney, by whom he had two children. Mr. Wier is perhaps the largest land-holder in the county, owning 1540 acres.

ENOCH STRAWN.

Mr. Strawn was born in Perry county, Ohio, January 18th, 1822, and moved to what is now Marshall county in September 1829. His father was the first settler in western Marshall county, and when he came the Indians were in full possession. The subject of this sketch, although but ten years old, has a very distinct recollection of events, and being an active, ambitious lad, had opportunities of seeing and observing not accorded to many. He had many notable hunting experiences, saw much of Indian life, and at one time joined a party of young fellows in a canoe trip to Peoria, then having but very few white inhabitants. He obtained a bounty for services in the Black Hawk war. He married, April 7th, 1853, Hester Ann Buskirk, who brought him two daughters, one of whom is married and lives in Iowa, and the other is Hessa, reared by Mrs. McManigle. She died January 10th, 1857, and he married Juliette Gore, June 14th, 1858, to whom were born ten sons and daughters,—Addy, Cora (dead), Enoch Landon, Clara Alice, George W., Milan (dead), Marian, Glenn, Levey, Julia (Pearl), and Matilda. His wife died in January, 1880. Mr. Strawn has 360 acres of land under cultivation, a good house and barn, and a fine display of stock, etc. His daughter Addy married Mr. Myers, and died in a few weeks after marriage. He has served many years as justice of the peace and filled other public offices. Is a man looked up to in the community, and "well to do."



ROBERTS TOWNSHIP.

JULIA A. MALONE.

Mrs. Malone, widow of Hartley Malone, deceased, was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1810, her maiden name being Trout. She was married in 1831 to Hartley Malone, born in Indiana, and came to this county in 1836 along with Henry L. Crane. The first Methodist meeting in Lacon was held at their cabin, and of the original M. E. class first formed here Mrs. Malone is the sole survivor. For several years Mr. M. worked for Jabez Fisher and then moved to Roberts township where he opened a large farm and was noted for his disinterested hospitality. For many years he was justice of the peace and was the first postmaster of Varna. He was an earnest Christian all his life, served as class leader and superintendent of Sabbath schools, was a man of peace and averse to litigation. He died of cancer in the face. They had two children—William S. and Emily E., married to Albert Davis. Mrs. Malone lives at her home in Varna.

PHEBE MAYES.

Mrs. Mayes, whose maiden name was Wright, was born in Ohio, March 18th, 1826, and came to Marshall county in 1844, where she married Benjamin Mooney Sept. 12, of that year. He was born in Jackson county, Ohio, July 1, 1818, and died January 17, 1864. One child, Anna S., was born to them, married to H. C. Little. She married George Mayes, October 3, 1869. He had six children by a former marriage—Franklin, Laura, Helen, Wilmer, Isabel and George D. Mr. Mayes died January 29, 1875.

G. F. SWANSON.

Mr. Swanson is a butcher in Varna and was born in Sweden, Aug. 7th, 1851. He came to Illinois in 1869, settling in Marshall county. He keeps a good supply of meats and attends closely to his business.

ABEL TIDMARSH.

Mr. Tidmarsh was born in England, December 27, 1821, and married Elizabeth Witts, in January, 1856, and came to the United States in 1865, locating in Whitefield township. After living there four years they removed to Roberts township, which has since been their home. They have four children—Sarah E. Rowe, Emma W., Clara J. Henry W. They also reared and educated two children named Day. Mr. Tidmarsh has a fine farm under a high state of cultivation, and has one of the best residences in the township.

ALEXANDER WRIGHT.

Mr. Wright is by occupation a farmer, and lives on section 18 of Roberts township. He was born in Madison county, Ohio, in 1821, came to Marshall county in 1844, and married Sarah Jane Myers, January 1, 1846. She was born in the city of Philadelphia, November 23, 1824. They have two children—John B., born October 11, 1856, and Daniel, born July 17, 1859. Mr. Wright is a successful farmer and stock raiser, and owns a very pleasant home. He is a Democrat in politics, has filled numerous offices of trust and responsibility, and been honored by his party with a nomination to the legislature, but the Republicans being in the ascendancy he was not elected. He is much respected by his townsmen.

ENOCH SAWYER.

Hopewell, Ill. Postoffice, Henry.

H. V. CROSSLAND.

Mr. Crossland is a farmer and school teacher residing on section 16. He is a native of Marshall county, born April 29, 1848. April 6, 1876, he married Cyathia L. Broadbuss, who was born in this township, May 6, 1847. They have one child, George M., born July 11, 1878. Mr. Crossland owns 320 acres of land, and has filled various local offices with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the community.

MRS. MINERVA BROADBASS, *Widow.*

Mrs. Broadbuss was born in Ohio, January 25, 1828, being the eldest daughter of James Hall, one of the pioneers of Marshall county, and came to this state with her parents in 1831. She was married to Christopher Broadbuss, who was born September 20, 1819, and died July 19, 1871. Their children were Cynthia L., Helen M., Jessica H., Lucy J., Florence E., Marshall H., Alice V., James H. and Almedia. Mr. Broadbuss left his family in excellent circumstances, owning some 1500 acres of land at the time of his death, and the delightful residence now occupied by

Mrs. Broaddus is one of the most desirable in the county. After her husband's death, Mrs. B. assumed control of the large estate, and has managed it with skill and profit. She has considerably improved the grounds, and the old home has been rebuilt at a cost of \$2,000. Her children have married well, and to her the clouds of the future have a silver lining.

JOHN A. PETERSON.

Mr. Peterson was born in Sweden, January 31, 1849, being one in a family of six children, of A. P. Peterson, who was born in Sweden in 1817, married Mary C. Isaacs in 1845, and immigrated with his family to the United States, locating in Marshall county in 1870. The other children are Charles August, Andrew, William, Clara C. and Augusta C. Mr. Peterson is a farmer by occupation, and cultivates 190 acres of land in this township. His parents are still living.

W. H. OLIN.

Mr. Olin is a farmer by occupation, born in Ohio, August 7, 1842. August 7, 1865, he married Miss Ann Helm, and three children have blessed their union, viz.: Frank, born April 24, 1868; Grace, born August 13, 1872; and Aaron, born June 4, 1875.

S. M. GLENN.

Mr. Glenn belongs to a family that settled in early times in Putnam county, where his father died and several of his brothers still live. He was born in Crawford county, Indiana, May 22, 1822, moved to McLean county in 1857, remained there two years, went to Schnyler county in 1848, and came to Marshall in 1859. He married Caroline Conrad in 1843, born in Indiana in 1829. They have four children—Mary Roberts, Julia Disosway, Charles W. and George J. Mr. Glenn has been supervisor three years, and assessor eight years. He is a good farmer, and the best bee-keeper in the county. He is generous to his friends, just to his enemies, and liked by all whose friendship is worth having.

W. M. L. FISHER.

Mr. Fisher is a carpenter by occupation, living in Varnn. He was born in Fulton county, Indiana, April 12, 1843, and came to Marshall county in October, 1849. April 7, 1864, he married Sarah A. Bowers, born in West Virginia in 1847. They have three children,—Alonzo U., born September 22, 1866; Mary Medrith, born December 20, 1868; Bertha, born October 5, 1871.

HIRAM MYERS.

Mr. Myers is a farmer, whose fine homestead of 300 acres is in section 16 of Roberts township. He was born here in 1833, and it has since been his home. His residence, one of the finest on the prairie, is surrounded by evergreens and fruit trees, and embellished without and within with evidence of wealth and good taste. His wife, formerly Celia H. Hamilton, was born June 8th, 1858, and their four children are named Leonora, born July 14, 1861, David Samuel, Dec. 4, 1869, Alvira, April 21, 1869, and Iva Dell, March 11, 1875. Mr. Myers is one of the live men of his township, and comes from a family noted for thrift and enterprise, and likewise for being the oldest and most extensive nurserymen in this part of the state.

JOHN WALLACE.

Mr. Wallace is by trade a harness-maker, which he abandoned for the more profitable occupation of selling and putting up pumps of all kinds, but specially the celebrated rubber pump for which he is agent. He was born in Ireland in 1833, and came to the United States in 1859, and married Mary Dillon in New York City, her native place. They have an adopted daughter, Nellie, born October 3, 1864. Mr. Wallace is an energetic agent, truthful in his statements and successful in his business.

JOHN McCLUSKEY.

Mr. McCluskey was born in West Virginia, November 25th, 1838, and came to Putnam county in January, 1864. He married Miss Lucinda Steward, February 25th, 1867, born in Putnam county May 22, 1847. They have six children,—Mary L., Frances S., John, Frank B., Virginia, and one daughter not named. Mr. McC. has served one term as collector and filled other offices.

REUBEN BROADDUS.

Mr. Broaddus is a large farmer, owning 940 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, and one of the finest residences on the prairie. He is an extensive stock grower likewise, and is credited with sending to Chicago the best herd of fat cattle ever shipped from the county. He was born in Fayette county, Indiana, July 6th, 1831, came to Marshall county in 1834, and married Miss Mary J. Forbes, Nov. 21, 1855. She was born in Hopewell township, Sept. 12, 1835. They have five children,—Lawrence W., Minnie A., Warren A., Mary H. and Andrew R.

JAHU BUCKINGHAM.

Mr. Buckingham was born in Woodford county, Dec. 20, 1840, and is a son of Judge Buckingham, one of the early settlers and large land-holders of Woodford county. After completing his education he enlisted in the 77th regiment Illinois volunteers, and did his full share of fighting, never shirking duty and never hesitating to follow

where any dared to lead. In 1863 he wedded Miss Carrie M. Jenkins, of Cayuga county, New York, born May 7th, 1840. She was highly educated and a very successful teacher, eminent for her social worth and many virtues. They have four children living and three are dead. The living are William F., Benjamin J., Frank I. and Ada E. Since his return from the army Mr. Buckingham has been in the stock business.

MARTIN KING,
Varna, Ill.

LA FAYETTE BROWN,
Varna, Ill.

MRS. E. B. NEVILLE.

Mrs. Neville is a well known teacher of the piano and organ. She is daughter of George H. Shaw, one of the first settlers in the county, and widely respected. She married E. B. Neville, January 19, 1862, a graduate of Eureka college, and attorney at law. They reside on the old homestead. Mrs. N. is sister of the Hon. T. M. Shaw and the talented Mrs. Dr. Tesmer, of Sparland, and is widely respected and beloved.

F. F. MYERS,
Varna, Ill.

P. CARLSON,
Varna, Ill.

WILLIAM SCARBOROUGH.

Mr. Scarborough is a painter by trade, living in Varna, Illinois. He was born in New Jersey, March 29, 1853. and came to Marshall county in 1857. Married Rachel A. Williams, May 19th, 1879, born in Livingston county, Ill., February 14th, 1855. Mr. S. is clerk of the village of Varna.

PETER BOWMAN,
Varna, Illinois.

JAMES B. DAVIS.

Mr. Davis was born in Ohio, August 20th, 1816, and came to Marshall county in 1843. January 11th, 1844 he married, in Ohio, Miss Nancy Hiland. They have four children living and one deceased, the living being Eunice A., Daniel, Clara and Mary E. William M. died July 19, 1854, in the tenth year of his age. Mr. Davis is a farmer by occupation, and has been a justice of the peace for a number of years. They are members of the M. E. church.

O. P. NELSON.
Roberts township.

OSCAR STURMBORG.
Roberts township.

ABRAHAM DELONG.

Mr. Delong is a resident of Varna, and a mason by trade. He was born in Pennsylvania, October 7th, 1805. Moved to New Jersey in 1830, where he lived three years; thence moved, in 1833, to New York City, where he remained nine years, and came to Marshall county in the spring of 1842. February 22, 1836, he married Anna E. Conley, by whom he had ten children.—George, Isaac, Henry, Albert, Adrian, Emily E., Adaline, Margaret, Joseph N. and Mary. Albert died May 11th, 1864. Mrs. Delong died October 4th, 1864 and in June, 1867, he married Mrs. Caroline F. Taylor (Hester), who died in August, 1871, leaving two children,—Lucinda and Albert. January 1, 1873, Mr. Delong married Miss Martha Malone, a native of Indiana, born August 4, 1829.

HENRY DELONG.
Roberts township.

JOHN C. SHIELDS.

Mr. Shields is a farmer, and cultivates fifty acres of land. He was born on Ox Bow Prairie, Putnam county, August 31st, 1856, and is a son of Calvin Shields an old settler and wealthy farmer, born in Indiana.

JOHN MYERS.

Mr. Myers was born in Ohio, and was a son of John and Nancy Myers, who came to this county in the spring of 1832 and during the Black Hawk troubles were "forted up" in the Jesse Roberts place. His father purchased a claim of a man named Redmond, opened a large farm and lived and died here. Their son John succeeded to the homestead, which he greatly improved and lives upon to-day. When arrived at man's estate he married Mrs. Bell, a widow, with an only child, Andrew J., now a leading lawyer and political writer of Peoria. They had

six children born to them, viz., Phebe, Laura, Amanda, Henrietta, Douglas and Mary. Amanda and Henrietta are married. Mrs. Myers died in Lacon a few years ago, and Mr. M. married Sarah Oliver, of Clinton, Ill. Mr. Myers has been very successful, and owns in addition to his home farm and others in this county, large tracts in Kansas. He has served many years as supervisor, and filled various offices with entire satisfaction. He is a large reader and well informed on the various topics of the day, is energetic, knows how to drive a good trade, and seldom forgets his friends.

LIVINGSTON ROBERTS.

The father of Mr. Roberts was the first settler in Marshall county, and he is the oldest surviving resident, having come here in 1829. He assisted in making the large farm he occupies, and upon the death of his father succeeded to the property. His wife was a Miss Dent, and he raised a large family of sons and daughters, to each of which he gave a farm. Mr. Roberts is yet hale and hearty, and labors daily in the field. He has a large estate with good buildings upon it, and is very comfortably fixed. He has filled various offices in the township, and no man is more widely known or generally respected. A more extended sketch of his settlement here is given elsewhere.



BELLE PLAIN TOWNSHIP.

JAMES SHANKLIN.

Mr. Shanklin is a farmer of Belle Plain township, who was born in Kentucky in 1810, and moved to Marshall county in 1853. In 1827 he married Miss Sarah Bennington. They had four children—William, Ann, Joseph and Margaret Jane. The first three are dead. Mr. Shaaklin has eight grand children. His present wife was Mrs. Permelia Bell. They were married October 1, 1869. He has a fine farm of 165 acres, and has a pleasant home.

CHARLES D. HODGE.

The subject of this sketch is a farmer, living in Belle Plain township. He was born in New York, and came to Marshall county in 1855. He married Miss Mary Dusten, in the State of New York, in 1853. She was born in Grafton, New York, November 22, 1828. They have eight children living—Dora, Charles Homer, Myron, Elmer, Chalmers, Sumner and Annie. Joseph died September 13, 1856. Mr. Hodge cultivates 20 acres of land.

HORACE C. THARP.

Mr. Tharp is a farmer, living in Belle Plain township. He was born in Ohio, May 2, 1836. He married Miss Barbary Vandament, March 1, 1860. They have four children—Junisa J., Sarah E., George E. and James C. Mr. Tharp came to Marshall county in 1856, moved to Cedar county, Mo., in 1866, remaining there three years, then went to Joseph county, Mo., living there three years, and returned to Marshall county in 1874.

ELAM J. SNOW.

Mr. Snow is a farmer, living on section 29 in Belle Plain township. He was born in Ohio in 1843, and married Mrs. Mary Perry (McKinney). She was born in Brown county, Ohio, and died in February, 1876, leaving two children—William H. and Andrew J. Mr. Snow moved to Indiana in 1849, and came to Marshall county 1856. He has 160 acres of land under good cultivation.

JOHN F. HATTON.

Mr. Hatton comes from an old family that settled here early in the history of the county, and has furnished citizens who have filled important positions. He was born in Virginia in 1823, and came to Marshall county along with his parents in 1835. He has been a farmer all his life, and owns one of the best farms on the prairie. He married Elizabeth McKinney, and they have eleven children—Mary Jane, Mark, Thomas, Jacob, Helen, Sarah E., Nancy A., Eda, Caroline, Francis, Tine. Mr. Hatton is well to do and takes the world easy.

GEORGE DORFF.

Mr. Dorff is a farmer living on section 2, and cultivates seventy acres of land. He was born in Pennsylvania, in the month of February, 1847, and came to Marshall county in 1859. After remaining here nine years, he went to Missouri, where he lived nine years, and then returned to Marshall county. In 1870 he married, in Missouri, Miss Mary Geter, and they have had four children, two of whom, Mary E. and Emma E., are living. Etta May and Mary M. died in Missouri.

MRS. NANCY PERRY.

Mrs. Perry's maiden name was Hattan, and she was born in Virginia, in 1825. She came to Marshall county with her parents in 1831, and married Elijah Perry, October 9, 1847. He was an extensive farmer, and left a large family of enterprising boys, who have grown to men's estate and are reputable, useful citizens. She had nine children, viz., Mary M., William J., Sophia J., Anna, Zachariah, Nellie A., Maggie M., Elijah F., Andrew E. and Cora T. Her mother still lives at the good old age of 84 years, and has six children, 48 grand children, and 35 great grand children living.

ROBERT HESTER.

Mr. Hester is a farmer, and his home is on section 36, where he owns 400 acres of fine farming land. He was born in Boone county, Kentucky, and came to Marshall county in 1847, where he married Miss Lydia Davidson, born in New York, by whom he had one child, Effie Z. Mrs. H. died May 14, 1863, and he wedded Nancy McKeever to whom has been born two children—Simeon L. and Cora V. Mr. Hester is one of the leading men of the county, and has filled various offices of trust and responsibility. Has served one term as sheriff, has been a member of all

important conventions, and his name favorably mentioned as a member of the legislature. He took a deep interest in the war and emancipation, and always occupies the front rank in every movement that tends to elevate the human race. He has just completed one of the best residences in the county.

MRS. ELLEN A. McCUNE.

Mrs. McCune is a resident of Belle Plain township, and owns 160 acres of land. She was born in Cumberland county, Pa., her maiden name being Gibb. She married Hugh McCune, also a native of Pennsylvania, and they came to Marshall county in 1856. She has five children living,—William, John W., Ellen J. (Bell), Mary W. (Rains), and Elizabeth E. (Feazle); Elizabeth Emeline, an infant, deceased; and Samuel, a son, who went away from home and is supposed to be dead, not having been heard from for thirteen years.

JESSE DRAKE.

Mr. Drake is a resident of La Rose, and a dealer in grain, lumber and coal. He was born in Monroe county, Pa., and came to La Rose in 1872. In August, 1876, he married Annetta Welty. They have two children,—Mabel and Maud.

JOHN N. McNEFF.

Mr. McNeff was born in Pennsylvania, and came to Illinois in 1854, locating in Marshall county in 1866. He is a stock broker by occupation, and lives in La Rose. His wife's maiden name was Sarah E. Sander, and they have had seven children — Augusta A., Sarah E., Sherman E., John G., Henry E., Andrew C. and Nellie A. Sherman E. died March 16, 1874.

JOHN MULLEN.

Mr. Mullen is by occupation a farmer. He was born in Woodford county, May 4th, 1850, and married Miss Elvira Crow, July 3d, 1876. They have one child, named Samuel Mullen.

MOSES A. MESSENGER.

Mr. Messenger was born in New York, in March, 1840, and came to Marshall county in 1860. He is a justice of the peace, and is engaged in merchandising. In May, 1874, he married Margaret A. Martin, and they have one child, Leora I. Mr. M. enlisted in Co. F, 77th regiment Ill. Inf. Vols. during the war for the suppression of the rebellion, and participated in seventeen engagements, being wounded at Vicksburg. He served three years, and was mustered out at Wheeling, West Virginia.

JESSE GEORGE,

Belle Plain township, Marshall county, Ill.

RICHARD W. JUSTICE,

Belle Plain township, Marshall county, Ill.

ELMIRA JUSTICE.

Belle Plain township, Marshall county, Ill.

THOMAS ANTRIM,

Belle Plain township, Marshall county, Ill.



BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP.

A. J. SIGNER.

Mr. Signer is a carpenter by occupation, and was born in Pennsylvania. He came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1849, and to Marshall county in 1873. He served three years and one month in Co. C Fourth U. S. Cavalry, and was in the battles of Culppeper Court House, the siege of Vicksburg, at Chattanooga, Fort Douelson, and numerous smaller engagements. March 28, 1870, he married Mrs. Irene Williamson, whose maiden name was Phelps. They have two children, Frank O. and Charles I., and Mrs. S. has one child, George E. Williamson, by her first marriage. Mr. W. Iliamson Mrs. Signer's first husband, served three years during the war for the suppression of the rebellion, in Co. C, 72d Illinois Inf. He participated in 21 pitched battles, was wounded seven times, and died of wounds received in the battle of Shiloh. He held the rank of sergeant.

E. H. WARD.

Mr. Ward is a farmer living on section 18, and cultivates 165 acres of lard. He was born in Franklin county, Indiana, and came to Marshall county in 1869. October 1, 1874, he married Sarah A. Skelton, and they have one child, Robert A.

SAMUEL DORSEY.

Mr. Dorsey is a citizen of Bennington township, and is by occupation a farmer. He was born in West Virginia, in 1831, and came to Marshall county, Illinois, in 1869. He married Joanna Holliday in 1851, and six children have been born to them,—William C., Samuel, James Fillmore, Mary Bell, Ortie and Charlie. During the war he entered the Union army and served in Co. G, 17th W. Va. Int. At its close he came to Rutland, and for some time followed merchandising, after which he bought the farm he now occupies. He owns 240 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation, with a fine residence and outbuildings. He has been township supervisor, has filled other official positions, and is a leading and influential citizen.

R. J. VAUGHN.

Mr. Vaughn is a citizen of Woodford county, residing near the line between Woodford county and Bennington township, Marshall county. He is a farmer by occupation, and was born in Marshall county, June 18th, 1837. In 1858 he married Annett Sweet, and two children have been born to them, Alva and Cora. Mr. Vaughn served one year during the war, in Co. D, 11th Ill. Inf., and was in the battle of Mobile and several other engagements.

REV. HARVEY TROWBRIDGE.

Mr. Trowbridge is an eloquent and influential minister in the Christian church, living in Bennington, of which township he was one of the first settlers. He was born in Washington county, Indiana, in 1826, and married Sarah Stafford in 1851. They have four children—Thomas L., Mary L. Evans, Nancy L. and Sarah L., Thomas and family are members of the church of Christ. Mr. Trowbridge is among the very few ministers who are successful farmers or business men, and enjoy a competence earned outside of the profession. He has a large farm with good improvements and when not at work for the Master follows the plow or the reaper. He is a good citizen, an eloquent divine and esteemed by all who know him.

MARY D. BROOKS.

Mrs. Brooks was born in the State of New York, and there received her education. She was married in June, 1837, to Mr. Brooks, and eight children were born to them, viz., John D., Cordelia King, George W., Harriet M. Wilder, Charles E., Sarah E. Stratton and Mary A. Another daughter, Leonora, died September 17, 1851. Mrs. Brooks owns and cultivates 160 acres.

CHARLES S. EDWARDS.

Mr. Edwards was born in Maryland, and when five years old his parents moved to Kentucky. He came to Illinois in 1831, spending one season in Putnam county, and teaching the first school ever taught on Clear Creek. He came to Shaw's Point in the spring of 1832, and lived there 36 years. He opened a large farm, was successful in business, and retired with a competence. He sold out to Reuben Broaddus. In 1826 he married Mary B. Edwards, and ten children were born to them. Two died in infancy, three afterwards, and five are now living. William D. was a very promising lawyer who studied in Henderson, Ky., and began practice in Lacon, where he died. He

died when 27 years old, and is buried in the Lacon cemetery. Mrs. Edwards died in 1875. The living children are Robert B., a lawyer of Lacon; Charles S., superintendent of schools; John, a farmer in Bennington; Lydia A. Bell, of Minonk, and Mary C. Brevoort, of Rutland. Mr. Edwards lives near Rutland, and is still in the enjoyment of fair health. He has filled many responsible positions, and has been an influential citizen, highly esteemed, and deserving the good opinion of the community.

THOMAS J. THOMPSON.

Mr. Thompson lives on section 21, where he owns and cultivates 240 acres. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio in 1825 married Amanda M. Cundiff, of East Virginia, in 1849, and came to this county the same season. They have eight children—John S., Susan J., Thomas F., Lucy A., Isaac O., Charles H., Eva B. and Willey W. He has served ten years as assessor, with satisfaction to all. He is a Democrat, but never blindly partisan, and supports those he believes to be the better men. He wields a large influence in his township, is looked to as an advisor in neighborhood differences, and exerts a large influence for good.



RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

HENRY T. BARNES.

Mr. Barnes is a farmer, residing on section 26, his postoffice being Washburn, Woodford county. He was born in Marshall county, Ill., in Richland township, about two miles from their present homestead. He is a son of Robt. and Julia Barnes, natives of the state of Delaware, who located in Marshall county in 1890. Mr. Barnes married Miss Annis Little in 1857. She also was born in this county and township. She is the daughter of Nathaniel and Mildred Little, who located in this county about 1834. They have three children living,—Charles N., Annie P., George O.,—and three deceased. Mr. Barnes is a member of the M. E. church. He is the owner of eight hundred acres of land. They are the oldest residents of the county. Mr. Barnes and wife have never been out of their native state. He was the second white child born in Marshall county, and is the first born in the county now living.

JOHN A. KEEDY.

Mr. Keedy was born in Orange county, Indiana, in 1820, and came here along with his parents and brothers in 1834. Some account of the family is given in the history of Richland township. In 1841 he married Caroline M. Foster, born in Kentucky. They have one child living, Ambrose W., born October 30th, 1842. Several others were born to them, and have passed to the other side. They have long been members of the M. E. church, of which he is steward and trustee. He has a fine farm of 300 acres, has filled nearly all the local offices of the township, settled important estates, and in various ways served the public. The trusts they have placed in his hands have never been betrayed, and when he dies there should be inscribed above his grave,

"HERE LIES AN HONEST MAN."

SAMUEL H. ILIFF.

Mr. Iliff is a farmer, living on section 1 of Richland township, with postoffice at Lacon. He was born in this county in 1852, and has ever since resided here, laboring on the farm. In 1875 he wedded Miss Nellie Clement, born in Titusville, Penn., to whom one child, Victor C., born in 1878. They are members of the M. E. church. His farm of 160 acres is finely cultivated, and has first-class buildings. Mr. Iliff is active and energetic, and if health is spared will in a few years become wealthy.

WILLIAM SHEOBART.

Mr. Sheobart was born in Germany in 1839, and emigrated to the U. S. in 1868, settling in Marshall county. He married Miss Augusta Lents, in Pennsylvania, in 1869. She was born in Germany in 1831. They have one child, Louis D., born in February, 1870.

LUKE KEEFE.

Mr. Keefe is a farmer by occupation, born in Ireland in 1837. He came to the United States in 1862, and has been a resident of Marshall county since 1874. He cultivates 72 acres of land. In 1861 he married Mary Wright. They have taken a child to raise named Joseph Fox.

GEORGE W. KUNKLE.

Mr. Kunkle was born in Pennsylvania in 1835, came to Marshall county in 1855, and is now a resident of section 8, Richland township, where he follows the occupation of a farmer and cultivates 80 acres of land. In 1872 he married Sarah J. Owen, daughter of Timothy Owen, and they have two children, Ralph and Lloyd. Mr. Kunkle has a beautiful residence, and his farm is in a high state of cultivation.

HENRY B. BARNES.

Mr. Barnes was born in Sussex county, Delaware, December 4, 1803. His parents were descended on the paternal side from an old English family, while on his mother's he traces his lineage to the Welsh. In 1808 his father moved to Sciota county, Ohio, in a heavy timbered country, where he labored at clearing land and on the farm until 1823, when he removed to Marion county until 1834. In 1831 he married Mary Dickinson, who died the succeeding year, leaving him one child, now Mrs. Carrithers. An elder brother and sister were living in Illinois, and in 1834, accompanied by his mother and little girl, he came west, finding a home with his sister, Mrs. Dever, until a cabin was built on the site of his present home. In 1839 he married Jane J., daughter of Colonel Kilgore, a well known citizen who still survives, and has been to him more than a "companion" for over forty years. She is the mother of six sons and daughters, viz., Isabel, Louisa, Samuel M., Henry E. W. (doctors of Fairbury, Ill.), Oliver S.

and one who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have led long and useful lives, which bid fair to be duplicated in their children. They still live on the old homestead and carry on the farm, which he has cultivated for nearly half a century. Their children are comfortably settled in the world, and the future it would seem has neither care nor sorrow for their aged parents. Mr. Barnes has served as supervisor, and filled other responsible positions. Himself and family have been life-long members of the M. E. church.

JOHN M. ILIFF.

Mr. Iliff was born in Perry county, Ohio, near Somerset, April 10, 1827. He came to this State with his parents in 1831, and located near Pekin, and moved to this county, near Lacon, in the spring of 1832. In the fall of 1834 he moved with his father to section 14, where he lived until 1851. He married a Miss Caroline, daughter of S. P. Henthorn, in 1849, born in Perry county, Ohio, June 30, 1828, by whom he had seven children—Robert W., Samuel H., Clarissa J., William T., Lewellen C., Mary E., and one deceased. Mrs. Iliff died April 7, 1864. He married Mrs. Sarah A. Grove (Houck), December 18, 1867. She was born near Lancaster, Ohio. She died September 7, 1875, leaving one child, Lizzie, by a former marriage. He married his present wife, Miss Amelia Springer, June 27, 1877. She was born in this county in 1849, taught school nearly nine years in Evans, and six months in Sparland. She is a daughter of Isaac and Charlotte Springer. They have one child, Eddy, and are members of the M. E. church of which Mr. Iliff is steward and class leader, and has been delegate to conference meetings of the church at Peoria, Monmouth and Rock Island. He owns 561 acres of land, nearly all in cultivation. His father, Robert, served in the Black Hawk war. He was born in Parks county, Pa., March 25, 1801, and died December 6, 1870. His mother, (Williams), was born March 9, 1805, in Washington, Pa., died March 18, 1862. Mr. Iliff is the only child (of five) living.

JACOB REDIGER.

Mr. Rediger was born in Woodford county in 1842 and came to Marshall in 1870, and married Miss Mary F. Duchense in 1849. He owns 160 acres of land in section 21, and is a substantial, hard-working, industrious and successful farmer. He has a beautiful residence and a pleasant family of four children—Elenora, William H., Alfred and Mary F.

A. PICHEREAU.

Mr. Pichereau is a native of France, from whence he came with his parents when a boy, and first settled in Black Partridge in 1833. He was a mechanic, and worked in various places until 1840, when he came to Marshall county. Here he opened a large farm and married Levicy, daughter of John Strawn. He was a hard worker and good manager, and with the assistance of his wife they accumulated a handsome property and removed to Lacon, where she died. Six sons and daughters were given them, viz., Victorene, Arcene, Josephine, Asahel, Frank and Hortense. Asahel is a rising lawyer of Galesburg the eldest daughter is Mrs. Joseph Wallace, and the second, Mrs. Moats. In 1879 Mr. Pichereau was married again to Mrs. Maggie Arnold, and moved to his farm, where he is doing well. He is widely known and as widely respected.

WILLIAM J. RAMSEY.

Mr. Ramsey is a native of Cecil Co., Maryland, where he was born in 1834, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1837, locating on the farm where he now lives. He married Mary A. Dodds in 1859, born in Montgomery county, Ohio. They have one child, John R., born in 1862. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He owns 148 acres of land under excellent cultivation and a fine residence. Mr. Ramsey has a wide acquaintance and is much respected as a friend and neighbor, and Mrs. R. is a woman of much more than ordinary ability.

WILLIAM H. GRAY.

Mr. Gray is descended from an old family that came here previous to the Black Hawk war, and his mother, Mrs. Polly Gray, is still living. He was born in 1839 and followed farming all his life. In 1858 he married Miss W. A. Kircher, born in Miamisburg, Pa., in 1841, by whom he has one son, John R., born in 1858. They are members of the M. E. church at Phelps chapel. He has filled various township offices and owns 187 acres of good land in this township under excellent cultivation, and 160 acres in Bennington.

JAMES CAIN.

Mr. Cain is one of the oldest living residents in this section, having settled here in 1835. He was born in Green county, Pa., in 1808. He moved with his parents to Ohio county, West Va., the same year and lived there many years. In 1832 he married Mary Burns and emigrated to Illinois, then scarcely freed from the Indians. He opened a large farm, planted an orchard, and in course of time has grown rich, but remains upon the old homestead and looks after his affairs. They have one child, Mrs. Amelia Shafer. Mr. Cain owns 400 acres of land.

LA PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

ESQ. EDWIN S. JONES.

Mr. Jones was born in Union Town, Fayette county, Pa., Feb. 9th, 1805. His father died when he was only 2½ years old, and his mother moved to Sciota Valley, Ross county, O., in 1808. He served his time as a tanner in Chillicothe, Ohio, until 1825, when he moved from there to Fort Finley, where he started a tannery, and was the first elected treasurer of Hancock county. He came out to Peoria, Ill., Nov. 8th, 1831, and thence came up to Chillicothe, where he wintered, and in April, 1832, enlisted in Capt. Eads' company, of Peoria, for service against the Indians, participating in Stillman's defeat, an account of which is given elsewhere. He married Miss Emily Root in Ross county, Ohio, Dec. 10th, 1827. She was born in Roxberrv, Delaware county, N. Y., May 10th, 1807. They have four children living—Belle (Easton), Angeline C. (McCullough), Albert W. and Julia J. (Edminster); and four have died. Hattie (Foster) and Julius E. died after reaching maturity. Are members of the church of Christ. He has been justice of the peace about 42 years, and held other local offices of the township. Mr. Jones' life has been long and useful, and he is respected wherever known. Few men have been more before the public, and fewer still are they who have so generally won and merited the public confidence and esteem.

THOMAS KELLER.

Mr. Keller was born in Franklin county, Ohio, in 1806, and married Mercena Minor in 1837. She was born in Connecticut. Mr. Keller died in 1866, leaving six children—C. Martin, Emma R., Mary E. (Rathburn), Jane (Frary) Harriet E. and Sarah F. Are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Keller was an exhorter in the church for several years previous to his death. His widow survives him, and owns 80 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, Miss Emma taught school eight years in the 4th district; Miss Harriet has taught nine terms in one district; Jane also taught five terms up to the time she was married.

G. W. McLAUGHLIN.

Mr. McLaughlin was born in Marshall county, Ill., in 1850, and has lived here ever since, with the exception of two years which he spent in Streator and Kewanee. He married Miss Relief Bonham in 1871. She was born in this county, and is a daughter of William Bonham, one of the oldest residents of the county. They have three children living—Oscar M., Minnie E. and Albert Lerov—and three are dead. He is school director of his district. He rents from his father 112 acres of land which he cultivates. Mr. McL. comes from "good stook" and is a hard working and successful citizen.

JOHN CURRIE.

Mr. Currie was born in Northumberland, England, in 1812, and came to the United States in 1851 locating in Marshall county. He married Mary Thompson in 1831, born in the same place. They have four children living—Robert, Hannah, Mary (Mrs. Fleming), and James. He owns a farm in Ford county. Hannah married John Scoon in 1866. He was born in Scotland. They have four living children—Robert A., Mary E., John Currie, and Minnie J. They are members of the C. P. church. He owns 160 acres of land, and is school director and tax collector of the township. Mrs. Currie died in 1877. His son, Robert, lives in Ford county. Although classically educated and possessing the ability to succeed in any of the professions, he prefers the quiet content of a farmer to the turmoil of political life.

ROBERT PRINGLE.

Mr. Pringle is a farmer, living on section 29, and was born in Roxboroughshire, Scotland, in 1821. He came to the United States in 1848, and settled York state, where he remained 4½ years, then came to Marshall county, where he has lived ever since. Married Miss Jeannette Turbull in 1852, born in the same place as himself. They have six children,—Lizzie, John, Andrew, Mary, Adam and Jeanette. He owns 300 acres of land, all in cultivation, with good improvements.

RICHARD B. FRARY.

Mr. Frary was born in Stenben county, New York, in 1817, and moved with his parents to Cuyahoga county, Ohio, at the age of nine years. In 1838 he went to Peckatonia, Ill., lived there about eighteen months, and returned to Ohio. Again in 1841 moved to Illinois, locating in Peoria county, where he staid four years. From here he moved to Green county, and remained four years, returned to Peoria, and after two years sojourn in that county,

located in Marshall in 1850. He married Miss Catherine J. Lowman in 1852, born in Indiana county, Pa., March 7, 1823. They have four children—Rebecca J., Merritt, Sarah W., James N., and two deceased. Mrs. F. and Rebecca are members of the U. P. church. He owns 180 acres of land. Mrs. Frary is a daughter of Andrew and Nancy Lowman. Her mother's maiden name was Hindman, also a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Lowman died at 86 in Pennsylvania. Mr. Frary is a son of John and Rebecca Frary, his grandfather was a William Hendricks, which is as far back as he can trace his family; and his grandmother's name was Ball. He has in his possession an old Queen Ann gun over 200 years old, brought from England by some of the early emigrants. The barrel is about eight feet long, is in a perfect state of preservation, and will kill a deer at eighty rods—will carry either ball or shot. Mr. Frary is a practical inventor, having invented the only gang plow extant—really practical, which he expects soon to begin manufacturing.

ARCHIBALD RIDDELL.

Mr. Riddell is a farmer, living on section 25. Postoffice, Sparland. He was born in Scotland, came to the United States when a young man, and located first in Chillicothe, where he embarked in merchandising, until his removal to Marshall county, where he engaged in farming. His first wife was Miss Jennette Davidson, born also in Scotland. Three of their children are living—George D., William and Archibald, and two dead. Mr. Riddle has been school treasurer, trustee and director, and held other local offices. He owns 320 acres of land. He is a man of liberal views, well posted in the political history of the day, and a firm lover of American institutions. To him more than any other is due the success of the Lacon Woolen Manufacturing Company. He first invested \$10,000, and when this was exhausted and more was needed, voluntarily came forward with \$10,000 more. He has always been a director, and much of the time has served as president of the company.

JOSEPH J. CALDER.

Mr. Calder was born in Albany county, New York, in 1806. He came to Illinois in 1861, and located on the farm where he has ever since resided. He married Sarah Deddrick in 1830. She was born in Queen's county, New York. They have nine children living—Marion W., Alexander, Isaac D., James, Naomi, Anna Amelia (Powell), Marshall J., Hellen C. (Stowell), and two deceased. Are members of the M. E. church. He has held several of the local offices of his district. He owns 120 acres in Marshall county, Ill., also a tract of land in Iowa. Few families are better known or so generally respected as that of Mr. C. He has been a prominent temperance advocate all his life, and taken deep interest in Sabbath schools.

ELIJAH STOWELL.

Mr. Stowell was born in Chenango county, New York, in 1817, and went to Potter county, Pa., in 1847. Here he married Miss Louisa Sherman in 1847, and six years later removed to Marshall county, Ill. She was born in Cayuga county, New York, but her parents removing to Potter county, Pa., soon after, she was reared and educated there. Her father was a surveyor and executed important contracts in surveying for the Government. Mr. Stowell owns and cultivates a good farm, he belongs to a family well known and well thought of, and is a man of more than ordinary ability.

CHARLES STONE.

Mr. Stone was born in Franklin county, Vermont, in 1813, where he lived until 1832, when he went to Troy, N. Y., staid there six years, and thence to Pittsfield, Mass. He came to Illinois in 1845, locating in Marshall county, where he has since resided. He purchased his present farm of 320 acres from a company with which he was identified. He married Miss Margaret McElroy in 1836. She was born in the city of Dublin, Ireland. They have three children—Charles H., Julia M. and Frank E. The latter is now engaged successfully in the manufacture of cheese on his father's farm, where he has a capacity of from 300 to 400 cows. They are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Stone is one of the oldest residents of LaPrairie township, a liberal, generous man, a good neighbor and citizen.

CALVIN STOWELL.

The subject of this sketch was born in Chenango county, N. Y., in 1837, and located with his parents in Peoria county, Ill., about three miles from his present farm, in 1843. He married Miss Precilla Greenhaigh in 1864, born in Lancashire, England. They have five children,—Mary A., Laura A., Annie M., Nellie May and Edith P. They are members of the Congregational church, of which his father and mother were two of the original six members who formed the organization. Mr. Stowell served as supervisor of his township from 1870 to 1875, as well as in several of the minor offices of the township. He is well read on the leading topics of the day, and a successful farmer, with a pleasant, entertaining family. He takes a deep interest in all reforms of the day, is well posted in current events, does his own thinking, and forms opinions from what he sees and hears rather than from what he is told.

ROBERT TURNBULL.

Mr. Turnbull belongs to the numerous company of Scotch emigrants hailing from Roxboroughshire, Scotland, who settled in this township. He was born in 1827, and came to the United States in 1851. He first settled in Geneva, N. Y., and three years later came to Illinois. His wife was a Miss Mary Smith, born in Scotland, whom he wedded in 1854. They have five children,—Mina, John, Robert, Beatrice and Willie. Are members of the U. P. church. He owns 333 acres of well improved land, has served his town in several local offices, is a man of sound judgement and clear-headed. The name of Turnbull is derived from a well authenticated incident in the reign of Robert

Bruce. The king was one day hunting in the forest of Callender, when he encountered an enraged bison or wild bull, an animal of great courage and ferocity. It charged upon the party, the most of whom took to their heels, leaving the king nearly alone and defenceless. At this juncture a forester or native of the place, whose name was "Rale," a man of great personal strength, threw himself before the enraged animal and with his battle axe encountered and slew him single-handed. The grateful king, in recognition of the service, gave him a large tract of land and bestowed the name of Turnbull—that is, "the man that turned the bull." The old coat-of-arms borne by the family in ancient times shows the legend.

ADAM DAVIDSON.

Mr. Davidson was born in Roxboroughshire, Scotland, in 1833, and came to the United States in 1850, locating in Marshall county. He married Miss Jane Rae in 1872, also born in Scotland. They have two children, Nellie and Maggie M. He owns 320 acres of choice land, in a most perfect state of cultivation. He is a type of a large and influential class of Americanized Scotchmen in this country, who, to the intelligence and thrift of the fatherland, have joined the enterprise and push of the Yankee character. Mr. Davidson is a successful man, and owes it under Providence to himself alone.

C. W. DODGE.

Mr. Dodge was born in Sullivan county, town of Claremont, New Hampshire, in 1830. When he came west he first settled in Wisconsin, and in Marshall county in 1866, and has been postmaster at Law's Ridge since 1873. Married a Miss Dennison in 1853, who was born in Rensselaer county, New York. They have three children—Alice, Florence and James E. He has been in business for himself since 1851. He is a boot and shoe maker by trade, working steadily at his business and making money. Mrs. Dodge has a decided love for flowers, and her home exhibits much taste and elegance.

MELCH GROVE.

Mr. Grove was born in Union county, Pa., May 6, 1820, and moved to the western reserve with his father when 4 years of age. He lived there until Feb. 8, 1842, when he married Miss Amelia Clemmer, born in Hottan, Upper Canada, in 1821. They have six children living.—John E., Henry A., Reuben M.—who enlisted in the army and died from hardship and exposure at the age of 22.—Clara B. (Lapsley), Rosabella, Shirley Ann and Shindon. They are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Grove himself is a disciple of Alexander Campbell. He is a lover of his country, and proved his devotion to it by himself and three sons (the youngest being under age) enlisting in the army during the rebellion. He moved from Ohio in 1848 in a two-horse wagon, containing himself, wife and four children, and all his worldly goods. They stopped at Trivula, Peoria county, until 1850, when he moved to his present farm. At that time there was but one house in view from it. He served as first lieutenant in company F, 86 Ill. Vols., until incapacitated by disease contracted in the service, when he resigned, and is since an invalid and always will be. Although suffering from the effects of his service in his country's cause, he does not regret the sacrifice. He is the same unyielding, staunch, outspoken lover of his country that he has always been, and always hopes to be while he is on earth. He has been always prominent in the local councils of the Republican party, and has filled the position of delegate to many important conventions.

ALDEN HULL. (With portrait.)

Mr. Hull is a retired farmer, born in Cheshire, N. H., in 1793. He left with his parents when ten years old and moved to Essex county, N. Y., and located in Illinois soon after. He staid one winter in Jacksonville and then moved to Pekin where he lived ten years. He then moved to Peoria county and remained until 1851, when he located in Marshall county where he has lived ever since. Mr. Hull represented the county of Tazewell in the legislature three sessions, was justice of the peace, and also a county commissioner under the old law. He was a member of the legislature when it met at Vandalia, and during his term the seat of government was changed to Springfield. He was justice of the peace in Peoria county. He was supervisor and town treasurer 12 years. Since 1860 he has retired from active business, but retains full control of his affairs. He has been an active influential citizen, always laboring for the best interests of the community, and his life would do well to pattern after. By industry and frugality he has amassed a large property. Mr. Hull was never married.

JOHN MARTIN.

Mr. Martin was born in Parish of Kirkmohu, Dumfrireshire, Scotland, in 1814. He came to the United States in 1840, and located first at Peoria, where he worked at his trade as stone mason, some five or six years, at the same time improving his present farm. He married Margaret Anderson in 1839, born in Scotland. They have three children living—Samuel, Thomas and Mary (Anderson). Are members of the U. P. church. He owns 600 acres of land in Marshall county. One of his sons married a daughter of Richard Gell, of Lacon, and is a minister of the M. E. church. Mr. Martin has been very successful and accumulated a large property. Mrs. M. died in April, 1880.

WILLIAM STARLING.

Mr. Starling was born in Herkimer county, N. Y., in 1834, and came to Peoria county in 1854. He married Eliza Rulison in 1853. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. B. B. Hallock, of Mohawk, N. Y., who lost his life in the railroad disaster on the New York and Erie railway, having become fastened in the wreck, and although not injured he could not release himself and was slowly burned to death. A coincident in connection herewith is that Mr. Starling afterward moved to the town of Hallock, in Peoria county, and was postmaster there. When the

war broke out he went into the army and served under Gen. Hallack. Mrs. Starling is a native of Parish, Lewis county, N. Y. They have seven children—George, Charles, Martin, Edgar, Emma, Rollin and Julia A. Mr. Starling enlisted in company K, 57th Ill. Volunteers, Oct., 1861. He was promoted to 1st lieutenant June 20, 1862, and served until Dec., 1864. He was mustered out at Savannah, Ga., returned home via New York, and located in Marshall county, Ill. He was engaged at Fort Donaldson, Pittsburg Landing, Corinth 1st and 2d battles. He is an ingenious mechanic, having invented a sulky plow which he is having manufactured. It carried off the highest honors at the Columbus (Mo.) Agricultural college, in 1878, at a test trial of plows, and the first prize at the State Fair of Iowa in 1875. He has just invented a most simple yet ingenious machine for planting and digging potatoes.

ADAM CRAWFORD.

Mr. Crawford was born in Ayrshire, Parish of Kirkcubbin, Scotland, in 1806, and came to the United States in 1854, selecting and purchasing his present farm. He married Agnes Shearer in 1834, born in Wictonshire, Scotland. Eight children have been born to them—Margaret, James, Adam, John William, Agnes, Matthew A. and David R. Are members of the Congregational church. Matthew is a clergyman of much promise. Adam was a soldier for three years, and now holds a responsible position with an agricultural firm in Omaha. Mr. Crawford owns one of the best farms in the township and has been very successful in his business.

JESSE W. HURD.

Mr. Hurd is a farmer, and was born in Sullivan county, New Hampshire, in 1824. He moved to Monroe county, N. Y., in 1836, went to Wisconsin in 1842, to Trivoli, Peoria county, in 1844, and located in Marshall county in 1848. He married Phoebe E. Porter in 1849, a native of Chenango county, New York. They have two children living, Mary E. and Elbert C., and are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Hurd owns 80 acres of land in a prosperous state of cultivation, with good improvements. He has been supervisor for the last ten years, has been largely identified with the township in which his home is, and has taken a leading part in all the moral enterprises of the day. He is a strong temperance man, a Sabbath school worker, and a friend to religion. It is to such men as he that society and Christianity are indebted for steady, successful progress.

C. S. VINCENT.

Mr. Vincent was born in Albany county, N. Y., in 1810, and moved to Madison county in 1841, where he lived for over twenty years, coming to Marshall county in the fall of 1863. He married Sarah Witdack in 1841, a native of New York. She died in 1866, leaving two children—Mary (Calder), and Gertrude (Palmer), now in Iowa; and three—children by a former marriage—Archibald, Mosca, the latter resides in Michigan. Another son, Amos, enlisted in the army in 1862, and served to the end of the war. He was wounded in the hand and disabled for work. He died in 1868. Mr. Vincent owns 160 acres of land, which he cultivates.

GEORGE AITCHISON.

Mr. Aitchison was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1833, and came to the United States with his brother in 1855, and located first in McHenry county, and afterward in Marshall. He worked by the month for some time, and then purchased his present farm. He married Miss Elizabeth Shearer, March 28, 1873. She was born in Ayrshire, Scotland. Four children have been given them—George F., Jane E., John H. and William A. He owns 80 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, with good improvements.

DANIEL WEAN.

Mr. Wean was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, in 1825, and with his parents moved to Hillsdale county, Michigan, where they lived until 1867, when he came to Marshall county, where he has lived since. He married Miss Harriet Clemmer in 1866. She was born in Medina county, Ohio. Their children are Gordon C., Elsey A., Leota M. and Harriet. Mr. Wean enlisted in Co. B, 4th Michigan Volunteer Infantry in 1864, and served to the close of the war. Was mustered out in Detroit in 1865, having done his duty and seen his country saved from all her foes.

RICHARD DAVIDSON.

Mr. Davidson was born in Roxboroughshire, Scotland, in 1830, and emigrated to the U. S. 1850, locating in Marshall county. He married Miss Mary Scott in 1857, born in the same place in Scotland, and they have been blessed with six children—James A., Thomas S., John, William H., Richard G. and Mary S. Mr. Davidson is serving as Justice of the Peace, has been commissioner of highways, assessor, collector and school director. He is popular everywhere and has many friends in the county. He owns 320 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, which in fact may be said of nearly the entire township.

LEONARD KITTREDGE.

Mr. Kittredge was born in the town of Bedford, Hillsboro' county, New Hampshire, in 1812. He came to Illinois in 1850 and purchased his present farm. In November, 1838, he married Mary Hurd, a native of Newport, New Hampshire. They have one child, Samantha. Mrs. Kittredge is a member of the Congregational church. At a reunion of Mrs. K.'s family which was held at the Kittredge mansion on the 2nd of January, 1880, being the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Owen, the youngest child of the late Stephen Hurd, there were seventy-two members present. They had an enjoyable time, as might be expected upon such an occasion. Eating, singing, friendly discussion and a general exchange of views on all topics interesting to the assembly was the order of the day. Able

addresses by the Rev. Hall, Congregational minister. Mr. George M. Lock and others wound up the business and pleasures of the day. The evening was spent at the Congregational church, where a social reunion of the members was held and a large amount of musical talent displayed, to the enjoyment of all present. Mr. Kittridge owns a farm in Stark county, immediately adjoining his residence, which, with its grounds, comprising some ten acres, is located in Marshall county.

ROBERT SCOON.

Mr. Scoon was born in Roxboroughshire, Scotland, in 1812, and came to the United States in 1853. He lived one year in New York, moved to Michigan, where he remained five years, then moved to Marshall county in 1859. He married Mary Nichol in 1837. She was born in the same place in Scotland. They have ten children—Margaret, Jane, John, Jessie, James, William, Charlie, Minnie, Elizabeth and Robert. They are members of the U. P. church. He owns 160 acres of land handsomely located. Mr. Scoon is a hard worker and a shrewd manager, the two elements leading to success. For several years few men have made money so rapidly by legitimate farming. He has a large force of boys, all working in unison, and each striving for the general good. Besides raising grain, he is largely engaged in stock raising.

DAVID AITCHISON.

Mr. Aitchison was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1833. He came to the United States in 1855, and located in McHenry county, Ill., and moved to Marshall county in 1863. He married Miss Agnes Shearer in 1869, born in Ayrshire, Scotland. Their children are Elizabeth, David S., Mary, Gracie, Kate and Henry. They are members of the U. P. church. He has served as path-master and school director, and owns 80 acres of land, which he has substantially and tastefully improved, with good buildings handsomely located. Like most of his countrymen in La Prairie, he is energetic and indefatigable in the prosecution of his business, hence successful. He is a pleasant gentleman and a good citizen.

L. H. WETMORE.

Mr. Wetmore was born in Oneida county, N. Y., in 1824, and moved to Marshall county, Ill., in 1849. He married Miss Geneva Hill in 1850, also a native of New York. Their children are Francis, Carrie and Lillie. They are members of the Congregational church, of which Mr. Wetmore is deacon and trustee, and has been for the last 18 years. His daughter Francis is the wife of a native Grecian missionary, and is now in that country assisting her husband in the duties of his mission. They sailed from the United States February 4, 1879. Mrs. Wetmore died in 1874. He married his present wife, Cornelia Sanford, in 1876. She was also born in Oneida county, N. Y. Mr. Wetmore owns 173 acres of land with good improvements.

NATHANIAL P. GREEN.

Mr. Green is a prosperous farmer, and was born in Albany county, New York, in 1826. He came west and located on his present farm in 1851, and married Miss Hannah Powell in 1854. She was born in Green county, N. Y. They have two children,—John W. and Ann E. They are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Green is also a member of the Masonic order. He has served as road commissioner and school director, and is trustee in the church. He owns 290 acres of land, with fine improvements. Mrs. Green's father and mother reside with her. Henry Smith their oldest child, died when two years old.

X. C. WILMOT.

Mr. Wilmot was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1827, and came west with his parents in 1845, first locating in Adams county, where they remained one year, then removed to Peoria county, from whence he came to his present farm in 1847. He married Miss Mary E. Waughop in April, 1863, a native of Tazewell county, Ill. They have three children,—Rosa May, Arthur X. and John A. He has two children by a former marriage,—Veatula Ann and Stephen D. Mr. Wilmot is a member of the Masonic order, and his wife belongs to the M. E. church. He has served as assessor and filled other positions. He owns 160 acres of land in a good state of cultivation, and one of the most pleasant residences in the county, on either side the approach to it being bordered with evergreens artistically and tastefully arranged, affording shelter and a most pleasing effect.

MICHAEL DODD.

Mr. Dodd was born in the county of Durham, in England, in 1824, and came to the United States in 1853, and to Marshall county in 1854. He married Matilda Arkless in 1852, born in England, in 1829. They have nine children living,—Thomas, Hannah (Currie), Edward, Ellen, Frederick F., James C., Robert W., Walter H. and Wallace H. He owns 160 acres in his home farm, with first class brick house, and 320 acres in Ford county, all improved. He owns the only brick residence in the township, of any pretensions, which was erected in 1858, and is as substantial now as then.

MRS. ANN C. CALDER, *Widow.*

Mrs. Calder was born in Green county, New York, in 1818. She married James Calder in October, 1842, also a native of New York State, who died in 1853, leaving three children—Marion C., L. G. and Clarence. Mrs. Calder is a member of the M. E. church. She purchased her present farm of 160 acres in 1853, when she first came to this country, her husband having died in the fall of that year. She has devoted her life to the interest of her children.

ll of whom she has handsomely provided for. She has very fine improvements upon her well cultivated farm, and is surrounded with every comfort of this life. Mrs. C. has been successful beyond most men or women under like circumstances. Deprived of her husband when her children were small, and his help and counsel most needed, she has reared, educated and aided them, and seen them comfortably started in life.

ANDREW SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a farmer, and was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1827, and came to the United States with his parents in 1840. He first settled in Peoria county, where he lived until 1847, and then moved to his present location. His father died in the winter of 1843. His mother is still living with him, and is smart and active at the advanced age of 77 years. She is an active member of the U. P. church. He owns 160 acres of land in the highest state of cultivation with first-class improvements. He has been one of the most successful men on the prairie, and this is not due to chance, but persevering industry and the steady following out of certain rules that always lead to a competence. Mr. Smith is widely known and everywhere respected.

ROBERT RIDDELL.

Mr. Riddell was born in Lanark, parish of Glassford, Scotland, in 1819, and came to the United States in the fall of 1842, locating first in Chillicothe. He went to St. Louis and worked at his trade the first winter, then purchased a claim and went to farming on section 25. When the gold excitement raged in California he tried his fortunes there, and lost both money and health. Returning, he went on to his present farm and regained both. In 1863 he married Elizabeth Cameron also born in Scotland. They have four children,—John, Harriet, Margaret and Flora A. Are members of the U. P. church. He is a school director, has held other local offices, and owns 160 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, with a good house and beautiful surroundings. He has a pleasant family, is well off so far as this world is concerned, minds his own business, and lets the world wag as it will.

CYRUS ROOT.

Mr. Root belongs to a family of pioneers that settled in Peoria county at an early day, and whose home is just across the line of Marshall. He was born in 1838, and came to this county in 1872. In 1869 he married Mary C. Stowell, likewise born in Peoria county. Te have one child, Weber S. Mr. Root enlisted in Co. C. 86th Ill. Vols. August 27, 1862, and was mustered out June 6, 1865. He was wounded at the battle of Kennesaw mountain, June 27, 1864, and was confined in hospital some time. When he became convalescent he served in a brigade of picked men made up from other detachments, which was engaged in the battle of Nashville, under General Thomas. He served in this command two months, and then rejoined his regiment at Goldsboro', N. C. He owns 100 acres of land, with good improvements, is a good citizen, and his wife is a lady of refinement.

DAVID SHEARER.

Mr. Shearer was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1812, and came to the United States in 1852. He first settled in Peoria county, and came to Marshall county in 1858. He married Miss Nancy Manock in 1870. She was born in England. He has six children by a former marriage. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He owns 800 acres of land now, and has given his children 320. The farm he now occupies is one of the best in the township, and he paid for it \$62.50 per acre in 1868. Mr. Shearer is a very intelligent man, and keeps well informed of events transpiring around him.

JAMES SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born in 1825, and came to the United States in 1840 along with his parents. He was brought up on a farm, and owes his success to good management and hard labor. Is one of the best farmers in the township. He married Miss Lucy Canterbury in 1866. She was a native of County Dublin, town of Rathdrum. She died in 1878 leaving 5 children—Fannie, Minnie, Mary B., Sarah and Lucy. He has served as supervisor, road commissioner and school director several terms. He owns 490 acres of land in the highest state of cultivation. The Smiths, of LaPrairie, are alike noted for industry, thrift and intelligence. They are wealthy, and use their large means in improving their farms and embellishing their homes. They are one and all temperate, order loving citizens, and their example is worthy of imitation.

E. S. BELL.

Mr. Bell was born in Virginia in 1815, and came to Ohio in 1846, when he located in Muskingum county. He lived there ten years and came to Marshall county, Ill., in 1856. He married Miss Ellen McCoy in 1841. She was born in the same state. They have five children living—Samuel McC., Robert H., William W., Ellie and John B. Are members of the U. P. church, of which he has been elder 30 years. He owns 400 acres of excellent land, all in cultivation. Mr. Bell's large property was made by honest labor. He has defrauded no man, and he owes no man, and when himself and wife go to their last home their places will be hard to fill.

JOHN MCGILLICK.

Mr. McGillick was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1839 and came to the United States in 1857, and located in New York State. He married Lucinda Holmes in 1865, her maiden name, Mansell. She was born in Suffolk county, Mass., and raised in Plymouth county. She came west with her brother in 1843, and lived in Brimfield, Peoria county. In 1844 she married Levi Holmes. He was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1813, and died in 1864, leaving four children—Morris, Milton, Ada (Mrs. Doyle), and Willie. She married Mr. McGillick in 1865. They have

one child by that marriage, George F. Mrs. McGillick is a member of the M. E. church. He is a member of the Catholic church. They own a farm of 160 acres, all in cultivation, 20 timber, making 180 acres. Mr. McGillick enlisted in Co. A, 113th Ill. Vol. in the spring of 1862, and served until the close of the war. He was promoted through the different grades up to orderly sergeant, and was mustered out as such in Memphis, Tenn. He was attached to the provost guard at Memphis in 1864-5.

JOSEPH BAKER.

Mr. Baker was born in Grafton county, New Hampshire, in 1819, and moved to Massachusetts when thirteen years old, and from thence to Delaware county, New York. While here he learned the printing trade, and worked some time for Horace Greely, but in 1839 took the latter's advice and came west, substituting the hoe and the spade for the "shooting stick." He first located in Stark county, and came to Marshall in 1862. He married Miss Henrietta Weaver in 1814, born in Delaware county, New York. They have four children living—Josiah B. William H., Mary A. (Doran, and Nancy E. (Jillett). One child is dead. He is a good farmer, owning 160 acres of excellent land under good cultivation, has held various local offices, and has a pleasant family.

WILLIAM SMITH.

Mr. Smith is a farmer, living on section 10. He was born in Dumfrireshire, Scotland, in 1823, and came to the United States in 1840. He married Miss Ottilia Fosbender in 1859, born in Prussia. They have seven children—Mary C., Christiana F., William A., Charlotte J., Charles T., Minnie J. and James C. Are members of the U. P. church, and is one of the trustees of the church. He has served as supervisor, and in other local offices of his district. He owns 320 acres of land in cultivation. Mr. Smith is one of the most successful farmers of the township, and one of its leading citizens. He owns a princely residence, and his home is the abode of comfort and happiness.

AMOS F. LEIGH.

Mr. Leigh is a farmer living on section 9, and was born near Columbus, Ohio, in 1826. When two and a half years old his parents moved to Illinois and located in Tazewell county near Peoria. They came to Peoria in 1842 and to Marshall in 1848. He married Caroline B. Choate the same year. She was born in Switzerland county, Ind. They have ten children—Olive (Meyers), Alvin L., Elwio R., Anna (Bradford), James, Cassius A., Alda L., Lanella, Haven R. and Charles. They are members of the M. E. church, in which he has been class leader for the past 31 years. He is commissioner of highways, has always been a solid Republican and lover of his country, and although not in the army during the late war, he sustained the government by his money, his example, and his personal exertions in the community in which he lives, and is respected by all. He is widely known, and his name is the synonym of truth and justice. He owns a large and well stocked farm, and his property was honestly earned by the sweat of the brow.

HUBBARD G. HURD.

Mr. Hurd was born in New Hampshire in 1808, and came to this state in 1839, locating first in Fulton county, then in Peoria county, and in the spring of 1840 he went to driving stage from Peoria to Farmington, Fulton Co. He went to Trivola in the same year, and in 1850 he moved to Lawn Ridge, Marshall county, and has lived in this county most of the time since. In the winter of 1860 he went to Michigan, Mendon, St. Joe county, where he conducted a hotel, and in 1862 he went to Waterloo City, Ind., where he run another hotel, and in 1863 sold out and went to Goshen, thence to Lazinaier. He then went to Kendalville, Ind., where he run the "Air Line" hotel, and remained there until 1865, when he came to Chicago and run the "Jarvis House" until 1866, when he returned to Marshall county, where he improved his property and has since lived. Married Miss Mary D. Hoyt in 1835, born in New Hampshire. They have four children,—Horace, Caroline D., Mariam L. and W. Owen. Himself and son own 240 acres of land with good improvements.



STEUBEN TOWNSHIP.

WILLARD ODELL.

Mr. Odell was born in Alleghany county, N. Y., in 1847, and located in this county with his parents in 1852. His father purchased the farm Mr. Odell is now occupying. He married Jane Newingham in 1867. She was born in Brown county, Ill. Their children are Lewis C., Mary A., W. E., Maud E. and Wilson N. Mrs. Odell is a member of the Baptist church. He owns 372 acres of land, which he cultivates well and receives good returns. His farm is eligibly situated and very valuable.

L. B. THOMAS.

Mr. Thomas was born in Kentucky and moved from there when a child with his parents and located in Indiana and then to Edgar county, Ill., in 1842. He came to Woodford in 1844, where he learned the carpenter trade which he followed in Metamora, Spring Bay Washington and Marshall until 1850. He started to California with his brother in 1852 and got as far as Missouri, remained there that winter and finally settled permanently and bought a claim and entered other lands. He married Sarah Campbell in 1853. She was born in Missouri. They have three children living—James Monroe, John, W. and Louis W.—and two deceased. Mrs. Thomas died in 1861. He married Elizabeth Bishop in 1863, born in Ohio. They are members of the M. E. church. He located in this county in 1851 and owns 140 acres of land, well improved.

JAMES CHARLES.

Mr. Charles was born in Monmouthshire, England, in 1817, and came to the United States in 1851, stopping a while at Danville, Pa., and coming to this county in 1853. He married Mary Lloyd in 1834. She was born in the same place. She died in 1875 leaving six children—Mary, John, Susan, Sarah A., William and Elizabeth. He owns 80 acres of land in a good state of cultivation. He has one son, a deaf mute, whom he has given a liberal education. The young man is attached to the occupation of farming and is successfully engaged in that business.

CHARLES SCHULZ.

Mr. Schulz was born in Prussia in 1824, and came to the United States in 1854 and located in Marshall county. He married Mrs. Barbara Bassett. (Wolfa) in 1859, a native of Baden, Germany. She had six children when he married her—John, Mary, Christian and Jacob—and two by a still earlier marriage, Henry and Conrad, and by the present marriage three—Elizabeth S., George L. and Fred M. They are members of the Lutheran church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. He owns 220 acres of land in good state of cultivation. He is hard working, industrious and knows how to make money.

AARON C. FOSDICK.

Mr. Fosdick was born in Washington county, New York, February 28, 1808. He moved to Alleghany county in 1830, and came to Marshall county in 1841. His wife was Alice D. Moon, whom he married in 1827. She was a native of New York also. She died February 13, 1873, leaving seven children—Reeny, Levi, Joel, Delphia, Ruth A. (Webster), Alpha M. and Aaron J. His present wife was a Miss Electa Allen—widow Chapman when he married her. She had four children by her first husband—Samuel, Delia, Sophia and Laura. Mrs. Fosdick was born in Vermont, December 16, 1808. She is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Fosdick served as postmaster of Steuben from 1851 until it was abolished at his suggestion in 1865, as he declined to hold the unprofitable office longer. He owns 260 acres of land, having sold 160 some time ago, which made his farm, previous to the sale, 420 acres. His property is in a prosperous state of cultivation, with good improvements. He is one of the oldest settlers of the county, respected by all his acquaintance, and is kind, generous and hospitable.

MRS. ELIZABETH ORR.

Mrs. Orr was born in Lawrence county, Pa., and came west with her parents in 1850 and located in Marshall county where she married James W. Orr in 1852. He was a native of Maryland and came to this county with his parents when a small boy. They located about one mile from Lacon. Mr. Orr died in 1868, leaving four children—Nellie, Annie, Jennie, and Hattie. Mrs. Orr and daughters are members of the M. E. church. They own 153 acres of land. Although left alone, with four daughters, by good and careful management and business tact Mrs. Orr surrounds herself and children with every comfort from the proceeds of her farm. Her house is the picture of neatness and careful attention, herself and daughters bearing the impress of culture and refinement. Of Mr. Orr's

and fate brief mention can be made. He left home in the morning, bidding his family a cheerful good bye, to go to Lacon and transact some business, and never returned. A year previous he had sold a farm and taken notes due about this time, and it is supposed unknown parties suspecting the purpose of his visit was to collect those notes, laid their plans so effectually that they were able to murder him and conceal his body so as to ever after escape suspicion. Although twelve years have elapsed no light has been thrown on the mystery. His domestic relations were of the pleasantest kind, and as no possible motive existed for absentsing himself, the conclusion is irresistible that he was foully murdered.

JAMES BUSSELL.

Mr. Bussell was born in Somersetshire, England, in 1820, and came to the United States in 1841. He first settled in Ohio, then removed to Peoria county, and came to Marshall county in 1861. He married Miss Johannah Howard in 1862. She was born in Ireland, and is a member of the Catholic church. He owns 560 acres, all in cultivation, except 80 which is timber. He is one of the solid old farmers of LaPrairie township, influenced only by that which he believes to be right. He is a good neighbor and kind friend.

H. TESMER, M. D.

Sparland, Illinois.

JOHN J. DUNCAN.

Mr. Duncan was born in Indiana county, Pa., in 1825, his father being a soldier in the war of 1812. He came to Marshall county in October, 1869. His wife was a Miss Eliza A. Davidson, whom he married in April, 1853. Their children are Thomas, Annie, Robert, John, Agnes, James, William, Dollie and George. They are members of the U. P. church. He owns 158 acres of very choice land, beautifully located, with fine improvements. Mr. Duncan desires to sell his elegant home, with a view to purchasing a larger place, as he has a large family for whom he wishes to provide.

H. J. ADAMS.

Mr. Adams is superintendent of the county poor farm, and was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1820. He came to the United States with his parents when ten years old, and located in Ohio, where he remained until 1857, and then came to Lacon, Marshall county, Ill. In 1849 he married Ann Holt, born in Shadfield, England. They have six children,—Anna A. (Mrs. Moreland), Rosena A. (Mrs. Sands), Edward A., Martin A., Una Bell and John H. Mr. A. is a member of the Masonic order and I. O. O. F., and has been for thirty years. He has been superintendent of the county poor farm since 1876, filling the position to the satisfaction of all concerned. Both himself and wife are eminently qualified for the place, and while the dictates of humanity prevail they will be continued.

SAMUEL E. THOMPSON.

Mr. Thompson was born in Athens county, Ohio, in 1812, and came to Marshall county in 1835, where he has lived ever since. At that time there were only a few families living west of the river. In 1836 he married Sarah Drake, born in 1817, in the same county and state as himself. They have two children living, George F. and Delia A., and two deceased. Joseph C. died in hospital at St. Louis in 1861, while serving in the 47th Ill. Vols., Capt. Andrews. Mrs. Thompson is a member of the M. E. Church. He has filled several local offices, and cultivates 156 acres of land, besides owning other tracts. Mr. Thompson and his wife are among the few first settlers of the county who still live. When they came the country was a wilderness, and most of their neighbors have moved elsewhere or sleep in the cemetery. Their lives have been long and useful, and when they die they will not be forgotten.

AMASA GARRATT.

Mr. Garratt was born in Washington county, Ohio, in 1817, and came to Putnam (Bureau) county, along with his father, in 1836, and to this county in 1850, and located on section 9 in Steuben township where he remained twelve years, then moved to section 17, where he now lives. He married Sarah A. Orr in 1851. She was born in Maryland. They have five children living—James O., Josephine, Augustus, Clara and Alison. He served as supervisor of his township, and has served as justice of the peace some fifteen years. Has filled other local offices, attended closely to business, accumulated a handsome property, and owns nearly 900 acres of land.

HENRY SARGEANT.

Mr. Sargeant was born in St. Clair county, Ill., in 1824, where he lived for 31 years, and settled in Marshall county in 1855. He married Miss Amelia F. Williams in 1854, born in Ohio. They have eight children,—William H., George F., Charles T., James, Sarah, Electa, Amelia E. and John L. They are members of the M. E. church. He owns 300 acres of land, about 175 of which is in cultivation, with good brick dwelling. Mr. Sargeant is one of the representative men of his neighborhood, and a successful farmer.

A. J. BAUGHMAN.

Mr. Baughman was born in Chambersburg, Franklin county, Pa., in 1829. He moved to Ross county, Ohio, with his parents when five years old, and to Marshall county, Ill., in 1858, locating in Steuben township. He followed his trade as carpenter down to 1871, when he became identified with the furniture business and followed it successfully until 1878, when he associated with him his brother-in-law Mr. Tarbill, and embarked in the hardware and farming implement trade. The firm is doing a large business in all branches of their trade. Mr. Baugh-

man married Miss Elizabeth Tarbil in 1847. She was born in Pickaway county, Ohio. Their children are Catherine U. and Angie F., and one, Nancy J., deceased. They are members of the M. E. church, and Mr. B. is also a member of the I. O. O. F. He is a good business man, pleasant, sociable and reliable.

ROBERT WAUGH.

Mr. Waugh was born in Selkirkshire, Scotland, in 1838. He came to the United States in 1850 and remained some time in Ontario county, N. Y., and came to Marshall county, Ill. in 1853. He worked by the month on a farm in La Prairie township for three years, and then farmed on his own account in that township until 1862, then moved to Steuben township where he worked one year, and two years in Longpoint, Livingston county. He entered Col. Baker's 1st cavalry, of the District of Columbia, in Jan., 1865, and served until December of the same year, when he was mustered out through disease contracted in the service. He commenced peddling dry goods, etc., in 1867, and established his present business in 1870. He married Lina Stevenson in 1877. She is a native of Woodford county Ill. They have one child, James. He carries a very full stock of boots, shoes clothing and dry goods suitable to his trade. He is a liberal, pleasant business man and reliable.

HENRY HOSKINS.

Mr. Hoskins was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1823, where he lived until he was twenty years old, and then settled in Steuben township. His wife was Mary A. Bonham, whom he married in 1852. She is a native of Ross county, Ohio. They have eight children—Clayton, Eveline, Clarissa, Eliza, William, Louis, Thomas and Elmer. They are members of the M. E. church. He has served as road commissioner 12 years, and school director several terms. In the dark days of the rebellion, Mr. Hoskins being unable himself to give his personal services to the government, he furnished a substitute to whom he paid \$800. He owns 254 acres of land in Marshall county and 300 acres in Livingston county. He is not in good health but is reconciled to the will of Providence.

WILLIAM J. DUNCAN.

Mr. Duncan is a farmer, living on section 6, who was born in Indiana county, Pa., in 1820. He entered the service of the United States during the war of the rebellion, and served until disabled in the Signal Corps. On one occasion he got within the rebel lines and encountered a "gray back," who presented his shooting-iron and told him to "come in." Suspecting the Dutchman couldn't read, he told him he was a spy going through the lines, and showed an old letter as his authority. The intelligent soldier turned it upside down, looked it carefully over, "hefted" it, and drawing out, "Yas, dat ish goot," allowed him to pass on. In 1842 he married Elizabeth Clark, and there was born to him A. Jackson, George, Matilda, Sampson, Annie, Estep, Watson and Mary. Jackson enlisted in a Pennsylvania regiment when 15, and was killed at the battle of Bull Run. George also enlisted and lost a leg in the service. His wife having died, he married Martha Parks in 1864, by whom he has one child, Maggie.

DAVID WATKINS.

Mr. Watkins was born in Athens county, Ohio, in 1818, and moved to Marshall county, Ill., in 1837, when there were but few settlers on the prairie near him. He married Miss Eliza J. Hoskins in 1844. She was born in Pickaway county, Ohio. Their children are Wesley, Albert W. and Eliza Jane. Mr. Watkins owns some 500 acres of choice land, the fruits of an industrious life. It is all in cultivation, except 40 acres of timber. He has good buildings, and personally oversees its cultivation.

JAMES GARRETT.

Mr. Garrett was born in Steuben township in 1850, and comes from a family whose ancestors fought in the Revolution, and one of whom fell at the massacre of Wyoming. He married Miss Charity Newingham in 1878, born in Brown county, Ill. They have one child, named Emmett, born Aug. 26, 1879. He is a member of the Masonic order, and owns 150 acres of land. Is principally engaged in raising sheep and hogs. He has about 200 sheep at present, and will increase his herd. Mr. Garrett is a good farmer and citizen.

JAMES TANQUARY.

Mr. Tanquary was born in Washington county, Ohio, June 17, 1831, where he lived until 1855. In 1853 he wedded Mrs. Lucinda Blackwell, and to them was born one son, Nathan Q. Another member of their family is Ebial J. Keyes, a boy whom they raised. Mrs. Tanquary's maiden name was Watkins, she having married in 1846 a Mr. Blackwell, who became the father of two sons, William E. and David R., now grown to man's estate. Her parents' names were Josiah and Mary Watkins. Are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Tanquary and his sons have a finely cultivated farm of 240 acres. He is a substantial citizen, well known and widely respected.

JAMES GALLUP.

Mr. Gallup was born in Windham county, Conn., in 1825, and moved to this state in 1840, locating in Peoria county, and in Marshall county in 1852, where he purchased a farm in La Prairie township, and put up a house and moved into it that year. He had occasion to return to Peoria for part of his goods, and left Mrs. Gallup alone in their new house on the prairie three days and three nights. The first night a pack of wolves invaded the premises, making the night hideous with their terrific cries. It was new music for the ears of Mrs. Gallup, who had but recently left the refined civilization of Rhode Island, where she was born and brought up. But she came out all right. He lived in La Prairie about 11 years. Engaged in the meantime in the grain business at Sparland, and in

1870 he associated with him Mr. Noon, and added the lumber trade to his business. He married Miss Patience C. Stone in 1849. She was born in Rhode Island, Aug. 31, 1826. They have five children.—George H., Benjamin, William, Juliette and Charles F.; and three deceased. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and has been through all the chairs and encampments. He left home at the age of 15, was superintendent of the large woolen manufactory of Fox, Rice & Co., Worcester, Mass., at 20, and was the first to produce fancy cassimeres in the United States of home manufacture. The king of England had a pair of pants made from the first piece produced in England of a fancy pattern. Mr. Fox had a portion of the same piece sent him, which he submitted to Mr. Gallup, with the question if he could make it, which he set about and successfully produced. This gave him great prominence in the manufactory. He owns 160 acres of land in La Prairie township and some seventeen lots in Sparland. Having made his "pile," he takes the world easily, and hunts, fishes or travels as fancy dictates. Last year he ascended to the headwaters of the Missouri and floated down in a canoe to its mouth.

MRS. MARY P. THOMPSON.

Mrs. Thompson is widow of the late Asa Thompson, and daughter of James and Sarah (Hamsáy) Orr. She was born in Cecil county, Md., and came with her parents to Danville, Ill., and in 1833 to Lacon, going upon the old homestead, one mile above town. She married Mr. Thompson, February 8, 1834. He was a son of Joseph and Jane (Ewing) Thompson, natives of Virginia, but removed to Athens county, Ohio, in an early day, where their son Asa was born. Mr. Thompson first settled in Chillicothe, and worked at his trade of wagon making, but removed to Steuben township in 1835, where he lived until his death, Feb. 15, 1874. He left behind him a good name and six sons and daughters—Norton, who resides in Steuben; William E., in Lacon; Margaret (Mrs. Boye), in Livingston county; Melford J., in Blandville Ill.; Joseph A., and Mary at home. Mr. Thompson was a man of ability, and accumulated a large property, owning nearly 800 acres of land when he died. He held various local offices, and was respected by all who made his acquaintance. Since his death Mrs. T. has managed the estate with good judgment and prudence. One of the sons is treasurer of Marshall county, and another is a successful grain dealer. They inherit their father's prudence and their mother's executive ability, and are sons any parent would be proud of.

SAMUEL B. McLAUGHLIN.

The subject of the following sketch comes from an old Scotch covenanter family that some 250 years ago lived on the coast of Scotland, and followed the occupation of millers as had their fathers before them. It was a time of bitter religious persecutions. When Catholics were in power they persecuted Protestants without mercy, whipping, branding and murdering, and when the disciples of Calvin obtained the upper hand they paid off in like kind. The McLaughlins were Covenanters, and would not belie their religion. Through persecution and threatened death they clung to their faith, and when grim old Claverhouse, who was never known to show mercy, ordered the head of the family to recant, he stoutly refused, and told Black John to do his worst. Eleven times they strung him up, but life did not desert him, and still he refused to give up his religion. But it was not the Papist leader's purpose to take his life. Good millers were scarce and could not well be spared, so they left him more dead than alive, swearing to return again. Far in the distance across the blue channel the Irish coast was visible. The miller knew his vindictive enemies would surely return and then unless he recanted no mercy would be shown, so making his arrangements hastily and secretly, he embarked in an open boat with his family and such goods as he could carry and bade adieu to his native land forever. He found an asylum in Ireland, where he lived and died, with his wife also. The family here became farmers, and nearly a hundred years later one of the name, bidding his relatives adieu, sailed for the new world and settled in Virginia. Of their history there little is known in detail. The name is prominent in the annals of the time, and several members served in the war of the Revolution, fighting manfully on the side of the Colonists. After its close they drifted to the "dark and bloody ground," and one became a noted Indian fighter. After the border tribes were defeated and dispersed they settled down to peaceful pursuits, one branch locating on Green River, where, on the 17th day of Feb., 1813, Samuel B., the subject of this sketch, was born. His father was a tanner and likewise cultivated a small farm. The country was new, the people poor, and though soil and climate were unsurpassed, the imperfect means for tilling the earth made life one continued struggle for existence. Imagine the artistic steel plows of to-day transformed into a clumsy affair, with a short beam, a blunt iron point, and a wooden mould-board, warranted never to scour, and you have the "Clipper" plows of our forefathers. It was commonly drawn by a mule, the lines and traces made from homespun and twisted hemp, passing through the wooden hames and tied with a knot; a shuck collar, and the whiffletrees fastened with withes of hickory bark to the plow. Wagons were unknown, a clumsy sled being the only means of conveyance in summer or winter. Good schools there were none. During the winter months some tramping pedagogue would gather a few scholars, and ply the birch and ferrule in some out of the way cabin until cleaned out by the larger boys, which usually happened about the middle of the term, when there would be no more school that year. The knowledge obtained under such circumstances could not be great, yet he learned sufficient to transact ordinary business, and it must be a sharp one who can profit by his want of information. The food of those days was plain and simple, corn bread and bacon, or "hog and hominy," formed the living of rich and poor, the luxuries of wheat bread and home-made coffee being indulged in only once a week—on Sunday mornings. Very little sugar or coffee was used or to be had if desired. Books and newspapers in that benighted region were unknown, and information from the outer world came through those adventurous voyagers who made annual trips by flatboat to New Orleans, and for six months thereafter were the self-appointed oracles of the village. When sixteen years old his father promised, as a reward for extra labor, that all the corn raised, besides filling a certain crib, should be his. It may be believed the weeds had little show that season, and his labors were rewarded with a surplus of 150 bushels. A Christmas, and then left me. On this day commenced what has ever since been remembered and designated as the

neighbor, the proprietor of a keel-boat, was going on his annual voyage to the gulf, and young McLaughlin bargained, in consideration of the aid he should give, for ten feet of space therein. In addition to his share of the corn, he loaded it with a thousand hoop-poles, while his mother sent along a venture of chickens, ducks, etc., with many admonitions as to the careful expenditure of the proceeds, which were to be laid out in such products as most delight the maternal heart. The question of getting the hoop-poles on board involved much thought and labor. A team to haul them to the boat was out of the question, so a place was selected as near the river as possible, and then cut, conveyed by hand, and rafted to where the boat lay, four miles below. For a sixteen-year boy this was an undertaking, unaided, of no small magnitude, but it was accomplished after infinite labor and pains, and the craft was got afloat. All went well until it struck a sand-bar, and refused to hudge another peg. Throwing off his clothes, although it was November, he swam ashore, walked four miles to where a six-foot brother-in-law lived, and by their united efforts at lifting and pushing, the raft was afloat again. The venture was a success, the corn, hoop-poles and chickens finding a ready market, and with the proceeds laid out in a suit of store clothes, some sugar and coffee for his mother, a drawing-knife for his father—a wonderful implement in those days—he returned to enjoy his well earned laurels, and relate his surprising adventures. For the next three years he lived at home. When 19 he started on horseback for Illinois, ostensibly to see the country, but in reality to find the possessor of a pair of bewitching eyes that had stolen his heart away and had it in her keeping. Both were found, and during the season he was married to Rachel L. Hammett. His choice was a good one, and to her industry, frugality and careful management he is indebted for much of his after success.

After the wedding he went back to Kentucky with his wife and worked on a farm, built a boat, etc., in which he returned to Illinois in 1833 with ten dollars in his pocket. He took up a claim above Chillicothe, put a cabin of primitive construction, which to its owners seemed a palace. The floor was made of puncheons, the roof of shakes, and the windows of greased paper. Wooden stools sufficed for chairs, a store box in which their goods were packed answered for a table, and the cradle—soon needed, was hollowed out from a log of wood. In this primitive style many of the now wealthy families of Marshall county began housekeeping. During the winter he cleared five or six acres of land, which with the aid of his wife he planted to corn and potatoes. A severe cut in the foot disabled him, but the corn was properly cultivated and produced a good crop, though he was obliged to labor supported by a crutch. They lived here four years. Markets were too distant and transportation too expensive to make the raising of grain profitable, so he turned his attention to raising cattle and hogs, marketing the latter with Jabez Fisher, at Lacon. It was a great event to him, when after paying all his debts he had a clean surplus of \$50 left. He has sold wheat for 15 cents and corn for 8 cents a bushel. Occasionally a trip was made to Chicago, loading in with grain and out with lumber, salt and household necessaries. When lands came into market there was much difficulty in raising the entrance money—many losing their homesteads. McL. had little money, but he had two yoke of oxen and a cow, with which he started for Galena, hoping to convert them into money. A cash customer could not be found, and he sold them on credit with the solemn promise that payment should be sent down before the sales. There were no banks or express, and the money must be risked by mail, carried by a tow-headed boy on a blind horse for a hundred and fifty miles. But those were days when men were honest and women virtuous, and the cash was duly paid according to promise, and safely arrived. The homestead was saved, and from this time prosperity was theirs, and riches came almost unbidden. In due time the old cabin gave way to a showy house with all the modern improvements. The home made chairs were replaced with costly mahogany; the old spinning-wheel to a thousand dollar Knabe piano; the puncheon floor to costly carpets; the gourd cup and tin plates to cut glass and china. He owns nearly 1300 acres of land, is out of debt, has corn and wheat in the crib, hogs in the pen, and "cattle on a thousand hills." To himself and wife thirteen children have been born, nine of whom survive. Their names are Martha J., John B., Andrew J., Jefferson M., Jennette C., Susan R., Samuel A., Harriet A. and George W. Are members of the Presbyterian church. He has filled various local offices, and is a good neighbor and citizen.

MRS. RACHEL L. McLAUGHLIN.

My maiden name was Hammett, and I was born in Warren county, Ky., six miles from Bowling Green, in 1812. My father was a farmer, and likewise a blacksmith, cultivating a few acres of ground on which the necessary food for a numerous family was grown, together with the cotton for our clothing and tobacco for home consumption. Money was scarce in those days, and with many mouths to fill we were early taught to work, and I remember when but ten years old of carding and spinning sufficient cotton to make half a yard of cloth. It was my duty to attend to this department, and I early learned to plant and tend the cotton, to pick it when the time, and separate the seeds. This was our summer labor, and the winter was devoted to carding, spinning, coloring, weaving and making up, leaving but little time for going to school. My father had a numerous family, and was anxious to get where land was cheap and the boys could each get a farm. We heard much of Illinois; many of our neighbors went, and they sent back such glowing accounts that in the year I was twenty he started with his family. We had two large wagons, five yokes of oxen, with sheep, horses and cows. Myself and sister drove the sheep, my younger brothers drove the cattle and horses. After a long but not eventful journey we reached the hoped-for land of promise and settled on Senachwine creek, one mile north of Chillicothe, where the railroad now crosses. Father and my brother-in-law immediately set about preparing for a crop, and succeeded in breaking, fencing and plowing sufficient for a few acres of corn. A rough cabin was made out of rails, into which we moved until a larger and better one could be built. We had been here but two weeks when all but father and mother were taken down with the ague. Peoria, twenty-one miles distant, was the nearest place where either doctors or drugs abounded, and I thought I should surely die; but a good constitution pulled me through. My attack of fever and ague lasted until "great snow storm." On the 1st of February there came a heavy rain, carrying off the snow and creating a great

flood. The Senachwine overflowed its banks, and the back water from the river came up so rapidly that our stock was like to drown. At ten o'clock at night my brother and sister waded out to the canoe and made their way through the driftwood to Brother John's, while the rest of us climbed on the beds to keep out of the water. My father was not at home. When he returned he entered the house in his canoe and took us off. In the spring we made sugar, and the next summer succeeded in raising a very good crop of all kinds. There was no mill in the country at that time, and our corn and wheat was ground on a hand mill made by my father, and the bran separated by a sieve. My wedding cake was made from flour ground in this manner. In the fall of 1831 I was married to S. B. McLaughlin. We returned to Kentucky and lived there two years, but didn't get ahead much, and determined to return to Illinois. We reached my father's with ten dollars in cash and a pair of ponies, gave five dollars to a Mr. Jones for a claim, and paid five dollars for dishes. Our first labor was to build a cabin, after which we cleared ten acres and built a fence. After the land was "logged" and the brush piled, my husband cut his foot and could do nothing, so the burning them up devolved on me. Women of now-a-days, with a young babe and no "hired girl," if left in similar circumstances would have very likely sat down and cried, but I had no time for that, and so set to work and burned the log heaps and brush and hired the ground broken up and laid off, and then planted it, my husband being able to stand on one foot and assist some. We raised a good crop, and have since been, on the whole, quite successful, for which I sincerely thank the Lord. In course of time the cabin on the bottom gave place to a more convenient house on the place where we now live, and this in its turn has been replaced by one of more modern style, yet after all I think I found as much true enjoyment in the little cabin where we began housekeeping as I have since. I have had thirteen children, nine of whom survive; seven are married, and I have fourteen grandchildren.

RACHEL L. McLAUGHLIN.

MRS. DELIA DORAN.

Mrs. Doran was born in Athens county, Ohio, in 1824. Her father was Frank B. Drake, the pioneer settler of Drake's Grove, from whom it received its name. When ten years old she came to this county, and in 1853 married Thomas Doran, a native of the Isle of Man. They came to the old homestead to live, and have ever since remained there. Two children have blessed their union, Mai and Leasia. When Mrs. D. came to this country it was almost a desert, and their journey here is best described by herself. The journey was made in company with her parents, two brothers Frank and George, and the children of the latter, one of whom is now Mrs. Sherburn and the other Mrs. Cotton, of Sparland. The little company passed through a wild and uncultivated country, infested with game and innumerable snakes, and often made a reluctant halt beside swamps in place of a better locality. F. B. Drake, who is noted for his able reading of a good yarn, describes the traveling as endured with less fortitude when some poor soul would startle them with a deafening yell of "Get off my head!" Their team being part oxen and not decidedly fleet, were forsaken at one point by Mrs. D., who describes the self importance with which she set forth, remarking she would walk to the next house and wait till they arrived the following day, but was met with the withering reply there was not a house within 15 miles. They intended wintering at Springfield, but could find no habitation excepting those whose former inhabitants had all died of the cholera, and not liking these, they pushed on 8 miles further to a settlement of southern people, who had been there for 20 years, and owned 300 acres of splendid land and large droves of cattle, feeding them on unhusked shocks of corn, which the following spring was burnt if not consumed by the stock, preparatory to another crop. Their food consisted of bread ground on an ox or horse mill, and pork fried to a cracklin over their fire-places—stove; being unknown—no fruit or vegetables, excepting a very few sweet potatoes. Their school house, 12 by 14 feet square, furnished light from one window having but four small panes of glass, and scholars numbering about 60, all of whom, both boys and girls, had learned to chew tobacco. In the winter these resolute emigrants received a visit from Dr. Wm. Thompson, who having some acquaintance with the country and being most pleased with what is now Marshall county, advised their removing there, which they accordingly did in the year 1835 and found the country very sparsely inhabited, save with wolves, deer, wild hogs, prairie chickens and wild turkeys.

They settled on Senachwine Creek, what has since been called Drake's Grove, in honor of Mrs D's father, F. B. Drake, sr., who was the first white settler. Their nearest neighbor on the east was a Mr. Graves, living where Sparland now stands; on the west was Gen. Thomas, at Wyoming, a distance of 16 miles; on the north lived Elder Chenoweth, a Baptist minister, this being 15 miles distant. In Lacon there was but one house, though there were several scattered along the river bottoms. The wild animals were fierce and quite dangerous, wild hogs sometimes "treering" settlers and keeping them there until friends came to their relief, which might not be until starvation seemed imminent. Deer were so plenty that the hunters killed several a day, while the Indians were peaceable, but caused much anxiety from their peculiar mode of association, coming into the house and searching for something they wished, and upon finding it, would offer to swap their venison and wolf meat, the latter of which the settlers invariably declined. The distance to mill being twenty-five miles, the trip, including detention at the mill, would often occupy a week, while those at home would pound corn upon which to subsist during their absence. Obligated to travel over a trackless prairie, they often became lost from wandering round and round, supposing they were taking a direct route for home. To pay for their land they took their cattle on foot to Chicago, receiving \$6 to \$10 a head for the best, while Mrs. Drake's mother took cheese, etc., to St. Louis to lighten the family expenses. Mr. Drake was once employed by William Fenn, then engaged in merchandising, to plough a furrow from Sparland to Wyoming, to direct people here. It may be set down as the longest advertisement ever made. While living in the state of New York himself and two others discovered a den of rattlesnakes, and destroyed 300. One of the men fell in convulsions from the poison inhaled and died on the ground, the other died not long after, while Mr. Drake was ever after subject to cramps, and finally died from cancer in the face, the effect, as stated by physicians, of inhaling the poison.

SARATOGA TOWNSHIP.

WILLIAM J. TOWNSEND.

Mr. Townsend is a merchant residing in Camp Grove, Saratoga township. He was born in Pike county, Ohio, in 1850, and came west with his parents in 1853. His father located at Camp Grove the same year. Mr. T. married Miss J. E. Houghtaling in 1875. She was born in Beardstown, and have had three children, one of whom died in December, 1879. Stella and Henry Everet are living. Mr. Townsend has been in the mercantile business since 1876. He carries a general stock of all goods suitable to his trade. He owns a fractional 80 acres of land where he is doing business.—section 31. He has been postmaster since 1877. He is a successful young business man.

PETER CARY.

Mr. Cary is a farmer, living on section 33. Postoffice, Sparland. He was born in Albany county, New York, in 1830, and located in this county in 1854, where he has followed farming ever since. He married Miss Henrietta Halsted in 1869. She was born in Albany county, New York. They have one son, Charles D. Mrs. Cary is a member of the M. E. church. Mr. C. is justice of the peace at the present time, and has been for the last seven years, and has also been school trustee. He owns 160 acres of land, all in good cultivation.

JOSEPH RAY.

Mr. Ray was born in Ohio county, Va., in 1815, and located in this state in 1853. He married Miss Mary Becks in 1837, born in Washington county, Pa. They have three children,—Elizabeth, Newton and Luther. He is an old resident of the township, owns a good farm of 160 acres, and is very pleasantly situated. He has filled several local offices, and is well known and widely respected.

PATRICK DORAN.

Mr. Doran was born in county Meath, Ireland, in 1827. He came to this country in 1851, locating first in New York, and in Illinois in 1854. He married Miss Ellen Mornan in 1854, also born in Ireland. They have eight children,—Ann, Walter, Philip, Johannah, John, Ellen, Patrick and Bridget E. They are members of the Catholic church. He owns 80 acres with fine improvements. Mr. Doran is a successful farmer, generous and hospitable.

GEORGE SCHOLLES.

Mr. Scholles was born near Manchester, England, in 1826, and came to the United States when only two years old with his parents, who located in Providence, Rhode Island. They came to Peoria county in 1838, and to this county when he was 18 years of age. He married Miss Lola Wilmot in 1848. She was born in New York, and moved to this state when 18 years old. They have five children living—Ann, Elizabeth, Clarissa F. (Faris), William and Walter (twins), and George. Has served as justice of the peace for 12 years, school director and trustee, and road commissioner, etc. Mr. Scholles owns one of the finest farms in the township, and his home is the abode of every comfort. He is a leading citizen in the county socially, politically and financially, and his family is one of which any parent may be proud.

MRS. NANCY CAMERY, *Widow*

Mrs. Camery was born in Rockingham county, Va., in 1801. She married Mr. Christopher Camery in 1821. He was born in Winchester county, Va., in 1791, and died March 11, 1875, leaving nine children—John, James, Christopher, David, Isaac, Elijah, Samuel, Mary and Armand J. Her maiden name was Nancy Messick. Mr. Camery was a soldier in the war of 1812, and served with distinction, and Mrs. C. claims a pension on his account. She owns 160 acres of land with good improvements.

PATRICK COLLINS.

Mr. Collins was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, in 1823. He came to the United States in 1847, when only 18 years old, and at once assumed his position in the world as a man prepared to battle for his share of God's gifts, clothed with integrity and armed with the strong bow of determination and perseverance. He first worked at daily labor at \$6.00 per month, but his aim was upward. He soon discovered that under the bright rays of the western sun—under the glorious constitution of this free republic the young shoots of honest labor would bloom for all men alike, the foreigner as well as the native born. He has successfully demonstrated by his grand success, that the narrow-minded prejudice of the few can in no way impede the progress of the many who come to this

country to enrich it by their labor. He first located in Chester county, Pa., and in 1851 in Marshall county, Ill. He married Miss Margaret Monier in 1858. She is a native of the Isle of Man. They have eight children—Sarah J., Thomas, Charles, Annie, James, Charlotta, John and Edward. Mr. Collins owns 240 acres of land, all in cultivation. He has just completed undoubtedly the finest residence in the township, furnished in the most elegant and substantial manner from cellar to garret, including all available modern improvements. The location is a very desirable one, commanding a view of the entire country in every direction. He has sold off most of his other property, as he believes that a farm of 240 acres, well managed, is better than a section neglected. He was one of the first in this part of the country to introduce the great improvement of tile draining, and has reaped a large interest from the investment. And lastly we can say, that Mr. Collins is not carried away above his fellow men by his success, like too many. He is the same plain, unassuming, kind-hearted, hospitable man he always was. He truly retains in a practical manner the characteristics of his native land. His latch hangs outside the door.

JOHN CARVER.

Mr. Carver was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in 1828, and came to the United States in 1853. He first located in Connecticut, came west in 1855, and settled in Bureau until 1859, and then located in this county. He married Mary Sullivan in 1857. She was born in County Kerry, Ireland. They have had two children, both deceased. Are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Carver owns 80 acres of land, and is a thrifty, industrious, liberal citizen, taking an active part in all matters of general interest in his neighborhood. He might be classed as an Americanised Irishman.

FERDINAND YERGER.

Mr. Yerger was born in Baden, Germany, in 1828, and came to the United States in 1856, locating in Marshall county, Ill., where he married Nancy Harenden in 1864. She was born in this state. They have two children, William and Robert, and are members of the Catholic Church. During the war Mr. Yerger could not leave his business to serve in the army, and furnished a substitute. He is a good citizen, owns 160 acres of land, and is a thrifty farmer.

MOSES HERTLEY.

Mr. Hertley was born in England in 1826, and came to the United States with his parents when only three years old. They located in Wheeling, Va. He went to St. Louis in 1845, and in 1854 came to Henry, Ill., where he followed his trade of bricklayer until 1861. He purchased 160 acres of land and removed to his present homestead. He married Jane Maxwell in 1861, born near Wheeling, W. Va. They have three children, Britt, Annie J. and Adna. He has served as school trustee several terms. He purchased 80 acres in Saratoga in 1861, and 80 acres in Whitefield township in 1871, which he maintains in excellent cultivation.

HENRY APPLEN.

Mr. Applen was born in Peoria county, Ill., in 1818 and moved to Henry, Marshall county, with his mother in 1851. He is a son of Jnb and Elizabeth Applen, who came to Peoria county in 1833. Mr. Applen, sr., died in 1850. Henry Applen married Mary Wilcox in 1869. She was born in New York in 1850. They have five children—Harry, Frank, Alice, William and Lane. Mr. Applen attends the M. E. church. He owns 80 acres of land with good improvements. He is a good blacksmith and the ring of his hammer is heard early and late.

MICHAEL DOUGHERTY.

Mr. Dougherty was born in County Longford, Ireland, in 1830 and came to the United States in 1852, where he located in Marshall county. He lived in Senachwine township, Putnam county, 14 years, and married Mary Mulhern in 1860. She was born in County Donegal, Ireland. Their children are Sarah, Jane, John, James, Charles and Mary. They are consistent members of the Catholic church. Mr. Dougherty is school director. He owns 80 acres of land in a prosperous state of cultivation. He is a liberal, generous hearted man and a good neighbor.

GEORGE C. LOMBARD.

Mr. Lombard was born in Maine in 1833, and came west and located in Marshall county in 1855. He married Mary P. Hayes in 1861, born in New Hampshire. They have three children—Nellie L., Lillie D. and Charlie. He was road commissioner and school director. He is well informed upon matters of daily import, stands in good repute among citizens of the township and is a careful farmer.



WHITEFIELD TOWNSHIP.

CHAUNCEY W. BARNES.

Mr. Barnes is a son of Jeremiah Barnes and Betsey Condrey, of Hampden county, Mass., and was born in 1814. Their sons were John N., located in Bradford county, Pa.; Robinson in Sullivan county, Pa.; Jeremiah C., in Bradford county, Pa. Chauncey W. left Massachusetts in 1823, and came to Bradford county, Pa., living there until the fall of 1836, when he went to Florid, Ill., and in the spring moved to Evans township in this county, and from there came to Whitefield, where he has ever since resided. In 1833 he married Miss Sallie B. Martin, daughter of Benajah and Abigail Easterbrooks, of Bradford county, Pa., formerly from Woodstock, Conn. They have had seven children, three of whom are living.—George M., resides in Kansas, Chauncey C. in Whitefield and Charles L. in Missouri. George M. enlisted in the army and served until the close of the war. Has held the office of justice of the peace. Owns a farm of 160 acres. His wife died in 1872. Mr. Barnes has been a prominent citizen in the township, and is a member of the "Old Settlers' Association." His recollection of early history is distinct, and he is good authority on the subject. Is a man of enlarged views, clear-headed, and a good citizen.

RUDOLPH KING (*deceased*).

Mr. King was born in the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, in 1820, and came to the United States in 1852, locating first in Henry, and in Whitefield in 1855, remaining there until 1865, when he purchased the home where he afterward lived. He married Emily Kendrick in 1855. She was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1827. Mr. King died Jan. 27, 1877, leaving seven children—Sarah L., William H., Sophis R., Albert B., Francis M., Willetta and Laura A. Mr. King devoted his time to the elegant farm which he was engaged in cultivating. Sophia R. married Charles Hawksworth. They have one child, Arratta Demarch, born March 11, 1879. Mrs. King and heirs owns 320 acres of land in a high state of cultivation with first-class improvements. This farm is one of, if not the best improved farms in Saratoga township, or in the county. Sarah L. visited Europe for her health, in company with . . . and Mrs. Marshall, of this township, in 1878.

KERLEY WARD.

Mr. Ward was born in 1820 in Fulton county, N. Y., and is a son of Jesse Ward and Sarah Johnston. They had eight children—Jesse (deceased), John G., resides in Beloit, Wis., Sarah Meacham, in Williamston, Mass., Mary A. (deceased), Jeremiah, in Iowa, Samuel (deceased), Thomas (deceased). The subject of this sketch came to Indiana in 1846 and located in Switzerland county, and in the autumn of 1851 came to Henry, Ill. He is a farmer and owns 240 acres of land. In 1846 he was married to Roxey J. Phillips, daughter of Porter Phillips and Polly Bliss, of N. Y., who died in 1865. He married a second time, Hannah Payne, daughter of Thomas Payne and Margaret Fletcher, from England. The grand-father of Mrs. Ward resides in Whitefield at the advanced age of 95 years. Mr. Ward has six children. Alvena E. married Horatio Clark and lives in Bureau county; Jennette R. is a teacher in Bureau county; Emma L. is a teacher, and lives in Iowa; George W. resides in Bureau county; William K. and Mary live at home.

ADDISON TANQUARY.

Mr. Tanquary was born in Steuben township, Marshall county, Ill., in 1837. He married Miss Ellen Williams in 1859, born in Clay county, Ill. They have five children—C. M., Mary A., George S., Lawrence H. and Nellie. Mr. T. is a Member of the M. E. church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. He enlisted in company E. 86th Regiment Ill. Volunteers Aug. 13, 1862, and served during the war. He took part in all the battles in which his regiment fought and shared the glory of Sherman's march to the sea. He was wounded at Bentonville, N. C., March 19, 1865 and was discharged for disability from the effects of his wound. He has never recovered the use of his arm which is stiff at the elbow joint.

RICHARD WAUGHOP.

Mr. Waughop was born in Portsmouth, Va., Oct. 8, 1830, and was a son of Richard Waughop and Eliza Willis. They had five children—Jane F., Rebecca (deceased), Eliza (died in infancy), Ames and E., living in Decatur, Ill. Mr. Waughop, sr., married a second time to Mary A. Bowman, of Virginia, by which marriage they had eight children, four sons and four daughters. Mary E. married Xenophon Wilmot and resides in La Prairie; Dr. J. W. re-

sides in Olympia, Washington Ty.; William H., in Davis county, Ia.; Virginia A. married S. B. Wilmot, deceased; Benjamin F., of Ford county; Prof. Geo. W., of Hedding College, Knox county, Ill.; Sarah A., deceased; Emma married Rev. E. Van Petten, of Peoria. Mr. W. was married April 21, 1857, to Mary C. Bon Durant, daughter of Isaac G., a native of Virginia, and Marcy S. Hay, born in Kentucky, residents of Tennessee, and her grand father, John Hay, was a native of Boston, Mass. To them were born four children, Clara B., Isaac W., Marcie A. and Richard L., all living at home. Came west in 1834 with her parents, settling in Tazewell county, Ill., where they passed their days. His father was a ship carpenter by trade and afterward a farmer. Left Tazewell county at the age of 23 and came to La Prairie township and lived there four years, returned to Tazewell county and remained four years, and came to Whitefield in the spring of 1865. He has a farm of 160 acres. Is a member of the Christian church. Mrs. Waughop was a school teacher for many years in Tazewell and McLean counties.

DEACON M. DUNLAP.

Mr. Dunlap was born in Licking county, Ohio, in Nov. 3, 1838, and is a son of John Dunlap, born and raised in Rockingham county, Va., and Margaret Robinson, born in Licking county, Ohio, who had eleven children, only four of whom survive. Sarah, married William York and resides in Henry: John in Iowa; Ann Eliza married Nelson Ham, and located in Kansas. Mr. Dunlap came west with his parents in 1817, settled in Fulton county, then went to Peoria county, and in 1852 came to Marshall county. Mr. Dunlap, sr., died in 1864. He was a blacksmith and gunsmith. Mr. D. married Sabra E. Wood, daughter of Thomas Wood and Rachel Flowers, April 10th, 1867. They had two children—Lois M. and Oscar M., deceased. He is a farmer by occupation and his farm consists of 80 acres. He is a member of the Harmon G. Reynolds Lodge, No. 395. Also a member of the M. E. church. Mr D., sr., was a member of the same church and an earnest and zealous worker in the community in which he lived. Deacon M. is a zealous worker in the temperance cause, likewise is a class leader in the M. E. church. Mrs. D. was a teacher for twelve years in Marshall and Stark counties.

JOHN HENRY SAXBY.

Mr. Saxby was born in county Kent, England, Feb. 12, 1819. He came to the United States in 1855 and located in this county. He is a bachelor and lives for the good of others. He is a liberal, kind hearted man, and a consistent member of the Congregational church. He owns 160 acres of land in a good state of cultivation.

WARNER COMBS.

Mr. Combs was born in Hampshire county, Va., in 1825, and was a son of Jacob Combs and Sarah Edwards, of Virginia, from which marriage were born nine children, six of whom are now living—Harriet married George Eyeestone and resides in Wyandotte county, Ohio. Mary Jane married Benj. W. Pitegall and resides in Kewanee, Henry county, Ill. John resides in McDonough county, Thomas in Whitesfield, and Isaac in the Indian Territory. Mr. Combs married Elizabeth Wood, daughter of Frances Wood, of Wyandotte county, Ohio, by whom he had five children—Sarepta, Horace, Emma, Electa, and Sherman. Mrs. Combs died in 1866. He entered the marriage state a second time in May, 1868, marrying Hannah Johnson, daughter of Henry Johnson and Mary Davidson, of Kentucky. Of this union are two children—Charles Harrington and Edna Viola. Mr. Combs came to Illinois in the spring of 1852 and located where he resides at the present time, on a farm of 160 acres, also owns a stock farm of 800 acres in the town of Steuben. The grand parents of Mr. Combs on the paternal side were John, born in Frankfort, Germany, and Ellen Snell. On the maternal side, Thomas Edwards and Martha Cesner.

ELNATHAN PLATTER.

Mr. Platter was a son of Jacob Platter and Hannah Coxe, of Miami county, Ohio, where the subject of this sketch was born May 31, 1823. Mr. Platter, sr., was a native of Washington county, Pa. Hanna's Coxe, of Miami, O., and her mother were among the earliest settlers of Cincinnati. Of the union of Hannah and Jacob Platter were born 12 children, 8 of whom are now living. Nicholas H. resides in Wells county, Ind., David P. in Missouri, Abraham H. in Polk county, Oregon, Jeremiah F. in Wayne county, Ia. Elizabeth married John Combs and resides in Champaign county, Ill.; Bethebeba married H. B. Allen and resides in Sullivan county, Ill.; Sarah married Franklin Kirk and resides in Davenport, Iowa; Zerniah married Timothy S. Hunt and resides in Marshall county. Two died in infancy and one at the age of nine years. Elnathan came to Illinois Oct. 8, 1841, and lived in Peoria county until 1852, and then removed to Whitesfield township where he now resides. He was married in 1861 to Maria Gage, daughter of Philo Gage and Elizabeth Tull, both of New York state. They have had ten children, eight of whom are still living—Ella May, Jacob E., Rhoda, Maui, Stella Grace, David (deceased), Nellie Augusta, Mary Caroline, Sarah (deceased), Ida and Caly Daisy. Mr. Platter has followed the vocation of farming, and owns 190 acres in the township. Is a member of the Christian church and a leading citizen.

CHESTER BIDWELL.

Mr. Bidwell was born in Cumberland county, New Jersey, June 17, 1845, son of George Bidwell and Phebe Davis. Mr. Bidwell, senior, was a native of Middlebury, Vt., and Mrs. Bidwell, of Cumberland county, N. J., and were married December 1, 1836. He came to this state in June, 1852, and located in Whitesfield township. His vocation was that of a farmer. In early life had been teacher in the state of New Jersey. Held the offices of school trustee and a commissioner of highways, and assisted in laying out many of the public roads of Whitesfield. While a citizen of New Jersey was a member of the seventh day Baptists. Died June 13, 1879. His widow, the daughter of Rev. John Davis, is a firm believer in the doctrines of the seventh day Baptists as taught by her father. Mr. Bid-

well was a man of great intelligence and highly respected in the community in which he lived. He preserved an individuality to a remarkable degree, was a lover of antiquities, revered the relics of the past, and held sacred the mementoes of friends. Chester Bidwell retains a relic in the shape of a fowling piece in perfect preservation, handed down from George Bidwell, his grandfather, whose name is graven upon the mounting made for him when a young man and who carried it in the war of the Revolution, and at the siege of Ticondaroga and Crown Point, also a set of silver spoons that were given to his father by his mother, which are more than a century old. He resides on the old homestead with his mother in her 74th year, and carries on the farm which contains 120 acres. A sister, Delia, married William True, October 27, 1859, died January 1, 1861. A brother John died February 24, 1861, aged nine years.

ALFRED J. DEIHL.

Mr. Deihl was born in Frederick county, Md. in 1833, and is a son of Daniel Deihl, of York county Pa., and Mary A. Kohler, a native of Adams county. They had eleven children, seven of whom survive. Ezekiel resides in Whitefield; Alice married Jas. S. Brassfield, of Sparland; Mary A. married A. W. Forney, Woodford county; Calvin resides in Sedgwick county, Kan.; Irena married Ichabod McKinney, Champaign county Ill.; Martin L. lives in Ford county, Ill. Mr. D. came west in 1862, first settling in Peoria county, and then in Marshall county. Was married in 1867 to Sylvia M. Annt, daughter of Richard Hunt and Ruth Horram, residents of Whitefield, formerly from New Jersey. They have four children—Mahton A., Blanche May, Carrie R. and Ina Pearl. He enlisted in 1862 in company B. 86th Ill. Volunteers. Was corporal ordnance sergeant, and color sergeant Fought at Mill Creek, Tenn., Dec. 4, 1862; Chicamauga, Ga., Sept. 18, 19, 20, 1863; Mission Ridge, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863; Buzzard Roost, Ga., Feb. 25, 1864; Kenesaw Mt., Ga., Jan. 27, 1864. Was discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., Aug. 5th, 1865, for wounds received in battle. He is a farmer and owns 241 acres of good land.

H. D. BONHAM.

Mr. Bonham was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1831, and came to Marshall county with his parents in the spring of 1835. He is a son of Warford Bonham, who died July 23, 1869, leaving nine children, of which the subject of this sketch is the youngest. He married Miss Luana Swift in 1852. She was born in Angelica, N. Y. They have five children living—Alice R., Rosco L., Millard F., Carrie M. and Emily N., and one deceased, Lillie S. He is school director, and has been assessor two times. He owns 210 acres of land in sections 35 and 36. The father of H. D. Bonham was a man of more than ordinary note. He was born in Maryland in 1781, and lived there until his tenth year, when his father having died his mother removed to Washington county, Pa., where he labored on a farm until 18 years old, when he visited Ohio and selected a location near the then new town of Bainbridge. In 1808 he married Rebecca Mason, and opened a hotel. In 1812 he enlisted and throughout the war commanded a company serving in north-western Ohio, returning at its close to his hotel, which he ran until 1824, when he removed to Pickaway county, Ohio, and went to farming, following it until his removal west in 1834. In that year, with an outfit of one four-horse and two two-horse wagons he came to Illinois, settling on the place where he ever after lived in 1834. A partial sketch of him is given elsewhere. He died in July, 1869, aged 88 years. He was the father of 12 children, the grandfather of 83, and the great-grandfather of 27.

CHARLES WILSON PECK.

Mr. Peck was born in Canton, Fulton county, Ill., November 12, 1845, son of Wilson Peck, of Greenwich, Conn., and Phebe Alward, of Tioga county, Pa., of which union there are six children living, namely, Benjamin W., Alice M., Elisha R., William and Willette (twins). Benj. W. and Elisha R. reside in Kansas. Alice married George Vale in Whitefield township. William is in Woodford county; and Willette married Albert J. Martin, and resides near Minonk, Ill. Chas. W. married Sophrona Ketchum, daughter of Eddy Ketchum and Harriet Smith, pioneers of Peoria county. By this marriage have been born five children—Millicent, Harriet, Eddy, Charles and Harry. Mr. Peck enlisted in Co. I, 47th Reg. Ill. Vol., served one year and was mustered out at the close of the war. Is a farmer. His ancestral line is so distinctly defined and so worthy of emulation among the citizens of the west that it is entitled to prominence as connected with the records of the olden time. His father, Willson Peck, was son of Elias, who was son of Robert, born June 30, 1730, all of Greenwich, who was the son of Samuel, born in 1706, the son of Jeremiah, born in 1659, both of Guilford, Conn., and son of Jeremiah, born in 1623 in the city of London, Eng., who came to this country with his father, William Peck, who was one of the founders of the New Haven Colony in 1637. Mrs. C. W. Peck has six brothers and two sisters as follows: Daniel resides in Henry county; Mrs. John Combs in McDonough county; Eliphalet in Ford county; Ichabod C. in Champaign county; Smith in Henry county; Spencer and Sidney in Marshall county; and Martha E. married Horace J. Stancell in Ford county.

CHARLES TAYLOR BRANDENBURG.

Mr. Brandenburg was born in Harrison county, Ind., in 1849, and was a son of Joseph Brandenburg and Sarah Guartney. He came to Marshall county in 1863, formed the acquaintance of Miss Sarah E. Andrews, with whom he united in marriage in 1875, and has one child, Sarah Edna. Miss Andrews was daughter of Harroo Andrews, who was born in the city of New York in 1820, and Eliza Peterson, of Westmoreland county, Pa. They were married in Fulton county, Ill., Nov. 22, 1843, and to them were born eight children, five of whom are now living,—Benjamin C. and Daniel H. reside in Ford county, Ill.; Mrs. Sarah E. Brandenburg lives on the old homestead; Jas. H. in Marshall county, and Jennie lives in Lacon. Mr. Andrews in early life was a ship carpenter, but located in Fulton

county in 1843, and followed farming until the war with Mexico, when he enlisted and served until its close. An old flint-lock gun is preserved in this family, bearing the inscription, " Vera Cruz, March 27th, Cerro Gordo, April 18th, 1847," battles in which he was actively engaged. In 1855 he came to Marshall county and entered 160 acres of land by the warrant issued him for service in the Mexican war. In the beginning of the late rebellion he raised Co. G, 47th Ill. Inf. Vols., but afterward resigned and formed another company, of which he was captain and was attached to the 151st reg't Ill. Vols. He was taken prisoner Oct. 31, 1862, at the battle of Corinth, Miss., and paroled Oct. 15, 1862. The circumstances of his capture were as follows: A shell bursting near his company, a piece struck him so as to stun him, and on regaining his senses he found himself alone, his company having passed on in the battle. He was mustered out at the close of the war, having served with honor, and returning to private life, resumed his vocation as a farmer. He served as county treasurer two terms, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1875, owned 240 acres of land in Marshall and 500 acres in Ford county.

ROBERT S. ERWIN.

Mr. Erwin was born in Butler county, Pa., in 1829, and was a son of John Erwin and Mary Batts, of Hagers-town, Md. They had seven children, of whom six are living. Mr. E. came west in 1855, and has lived in Whitefield ever since. When the 86th Reg. Ill. Vols. was formed he enlisted, and was severely wounded at the battle of Peach Tree Creek, and confined in the hospital until the close of the war. His brother Charles also enlisted, and served some time in the artillery service. Both were honorably discharged when the war was over. Mr. John Erwin, father of the above, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and obtained a land bounty for his services. One of Mr. Erwin's sister's married Henry Kirk, the descendant of a British soldier of the Revolution, who deserted from his command and settled in this country.

CYRUS BROWN.

Mr. Brown was born in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., April 22, 1823. Son of Luther Brown, formerly of Grotton, N. H., and Permalia Parker, daughter of Anson Parker, formerly of Dorset, Vt. Came to Stenben county, Ind., in 1840, with his parents and resided there until 1849 where his father died in 1843. His mother died March 25, 1864, at Fairbury, Ill. In September, 1849, came to Marshall county, and in 1856 located in Whitefield township. Married in February, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of William G. Barnes, of Bradford county, Pa., and Clarissa Warfield, also of Pennsylvania. Has four children,—Florence N., Jasper W., Carrie E. and Edmund L. Served in the army during the late rebellion one year, from Sept. 30, 1864, to October 25, 1865, in the 32d Reg. Ill. Vols. Has held the several offices of constable, supervisor, school treasurer and justice of the peace. Has three sisters and two brothers living,—Mrs. Alvira Malcolm, who resides in Cambridge, Henry county, Ill.; Mrs. Eliza Jones, in Ventura county, Cal., and Mrs. Lydia A. Patten, San Jose, Cal. Anson resides in Sumner county, Kansas, and Orson in Cass county, Iowa. Mrs. Brown, grandmother of Cyrus, lived in the days of the Revolution, and often related seeing the burning of Charlestown on the morning of the battle of Bunker Hill. Mr. Brown owns a farm of 320 acres.

SOLOMON NIGHSWONGER.

Mr. Nighswonger lives in Whitefield township, Marshall county, Illinois. He was born in West Virginia, October 13, 1815, son of Reason Nighswonger and Susan Buffington. To them were born six sons and three daughters, namely: Jane Sargent, who resides in Stark county, Ill.; Peter, in Davis county, Mo.; Abraham, Whitefield; Samuel, Iroquois county; Lena Rickard, Pike county; Reason, Monlton, Iowa; Asa, Steuben, and Mary Robinson, Livingston county. In 1833 he married Anna Johnson daughter of Henry Johnson and Mary Davison, from Kentucky. Have had thirteen children, three of whom are dead. Those living are: Mary Marshall, who resides in Whitefield; Henrietta Holler, Whitefield; Margaret Boomer, Wayne county, Iowa; Richard J., Green Co., Iowa; Lewis, Livingston county; Josephine Holler, Sparland; Luania Kerr, Whitefield; Joshua F., at home; Susan Holton, Chillicothe, and Paul at home. Two died in infancy, and Adaline Burson died at the age of 32 years and left two children. Solomon and Alice, who are living near Princeton, Bureau county. In early life Mr. Nighswonger followed the business of building boats, piloting and as captain of boats on the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. In the year 1834 or 1835, after the completion of a steamer built at Naples, Ill., those engaged in its building went on an excursion down the Illinois river to St. Louis. On account of the name of the boat—"Cold Water"—the citizens of that city refused to permit her to land, the temperance name in those days being incompatible with the habits and customs of the people. She was therefore obliged to cross to the opposite side and change her name before the passengers could effect a landing in that city.

ENOCH GEO. GREEN.

Mr. Green is a wealthy and influential farmer of Whitefield, born in Saratoga county, New York, in 1827, and son of Philip and Nancy Addington Green, to whom twelve sons and daughters were born, nine of whom survive. Their names are Malissa Pettitt, Isaac A., Susan M. Lake, Sally Berry, Caroline Hepperly, Philip H., Samuel L. and Elizabeth M. Doty. Mr. G. came west in 1837 with his parents, and lived in Peoria county until 1849, when he moved to Henry. Has been a resident of Whitefield township 13 years. In 1849 he married Harriet M., daughter of J. B. Coykendall, of Allegany county, N. Y., and to them were born nine children, seven of whom survive as follows: Braganza and Andrew J., living at Yates City; Jonathan at San Jose, Cal.; Mary Grayson at Russell, Iowa, formerly eight years a teacher in Farmington and Lewiston; John R. Tecumseh, in Kansas, and Horatio G., at Bismark, Dacotah. One sister, Augusta, died in infancy, and Elizabeth W. was a very successful

teacher in Peoria county, who died in 1861. Jonathan is engaged in the packing business at San Jose, and John R. was a gallant soldier in the 11th Ill Cav., serving until the close of the war. Horatio went into a Wisconsin battery as private and returned with a captain's commission. Mr. Green was for a number of years in the lumber trade at Henry, and has always acted a conspicuous part in the business and politics of the county. He filled the offices of supervisor, justice and several others, and bears a high reputation for ability, loyalty and integrity. He owns a large farm, and is "well to do" in the world.

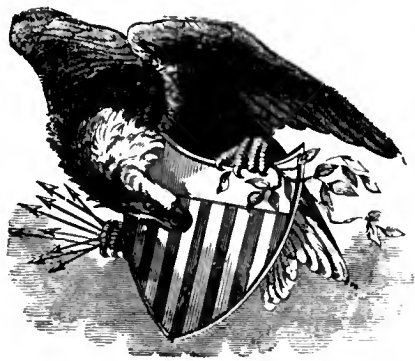
WILLIAM FOUNTAIN.

Whitefield, Ill.

S. P. HILL.

Whitefield, Ill.





APPENDIX.

The following articles and biographies were omitted, for accidental causes, from their proper places in the body of the work, and are inserted here.

SANDY CREEK OLD SCHOOL BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was organized September 3, 1836, at Caledonia, Putnam county, Ill., the Presbytery being composed of Elders Jeriel Root and James B. Chenoweth and Deacon Jesse Sawyer.

Following are the names of the original members: Wm. E. Larkins, John Brumsey, Joseph Ash, Joel Corbel, J. D. Glenn, Rachel Larkin, Elizabeth Ash, Marian Graves, Sarah Glenn.

Of this number but two are living. After the church was constituted Wm. E. Larkins was chosen deacon, and J. D. Glenn clerk, the latter holding this office in the church until his death. In the November following the organization Jas. B. Chenoweth was chosen pastor and moderator.

The church now has a membership of 55.

CLEAR CREEK CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Clear Creek congregation of the Cumberland Presbyterian church was organized by Rev. S. E. Hudson, of Pennsylvania Presbytery, Nov. 26, A. D., 1854, with twenty-four members, the following names comprising the original membership: Able Campbell, Eliza Campbell, Able W. Campbell, Oliver P. Price, Eliza A. Price, Melissa McCall, Greenberry Bosley, Huldah Bosley, Jacob S. Bosley, Lucinda A. Bosley, Martha J. Harford, Maria Wise, John Taylor, W. H. Brown, John N. Wood, Sarah J. Wood, Isaac Ong, Mary Ong, H. C. Morris, Elizabeth Morris, Dr. Jas. M. Barber, Mary Ann Price, Matilda Mills, Benonia Harford.

In 1874 the membership had increased to forty.

EMANUEL CHURCH OF GRANVILLE.

This church is the result of a union of the Evangelical and Methodist Protestant denominations, and was organized in 1867. The present membership is fifteen.

MT. PALATINE COEGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This church was organized February 7, 1869, Rev. J. E. Roy officiating, assisted by Revs. J. West and H. V. Warren.

The first pastor was Rev. Wm. Baldwin. Present pastor, Rev. R. E. Robinson.

The original membership was thirteen in number. Present membership, twenty-eight.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LACON.

The First Baptist Church of Lacon was organized March 31st, 1855, with eight constituent members, viz: L. Holland, L. G. Thompson, James McWhinney, B. T. Baldwin, I. S. Mahan, Jane Mahan, Jane McWhinney and

Ether Bonham. The organization was effected mainly through the labors of Rev. I. S. Mahan, who became the first pastor.

In 1857 the present church building was erected and dedicated the same year, free of debt excepting a small amount due some of the members of the church. The house and lot cost about \$4,500. The adjoining lot was bought and the present parsonage placed upon it in 1871.

At the outbreak of the great Rebellion in 1861 the male membership of the church was less than a dozen, all told. Of this number four offered up their lives a sacrifice on the altar of their country. George Wright was the first from Marshall county to lose his life during the war, dying near Cairo, Ill., June 6, 1861. Deacon Martin Hoagland and John S. Stockton fell in the charge at Vicksburg, May 22, 1862. James M. Powers, jr., died on a hospital boat on the Mississippi, and rests in an unknown grave. How many churches can show a better war record, actually losing one half its male membership?

Since the organization of the church about four hundred persons have been received into its membership, a little more than half of this number being received by baptism.

The Sunday school connected with the church was organized May 1, 1855, and has been maintained without intermission to the present time.

The church has had the pastoral labors of the following ministers in the order in which they are named: Revs. I. S. Mahan, A. P. Graves, J. P. Agenbroad, S. H. D. Van, D. Heagle, J. H. Parmelee, L. M. Berry, J. Cairns, A. B. Tomlinson, J. P. Agenbroad, G. C. Vanosdel and W. D. Shields.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVANS TOWNSHIP.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church on Sandy was organized by Rev. Patton Mitchell, in 1835 or '36. The Society when first organized consisted of John S. Hunt and wife, J. Morley and wife, and ——— Gates and wife. J. S. Hunt was the first Ruling Elder elected by the Society. In the winter of 1836-7 the Society was strengthened by the addition of Samuel Cox and wife, George Beatty, Anna Paget, James Caldwell and wife, Wm. Brown and wife, James Beatty and wife, Jacob Myers and wife, Wm. Swarts and wife, and Jane Bowman. Soon after Charles Paget, Albert Bowman and Sarah Bowman joined the Society, and Albert Bowman was elected an Elder in the church. Mr. Mitchell was in charge of the Society for three years, and was then succeeded by Archibald Johnson,

The first camp meeting ever held in this Township, and perhaps in the county, was under the administration of Mr. Johnson, in the summer of 1841, and was held on the Adams farm, then owned by Samuel Cox. Robert Taylor succeeded Mr. Johnson, and in the summer of 1842 held another camp meeting on the same ground. These meetings and other special occasions were attended by Cornelius Johnson, a brother to Archibald Johnson, and a man of much more than ordinary ability. At the camp meeting in 1842, Mr. Taylor at the close of a very earnest sermon drove the people all from the encampment under a peremptory order for all to retire to the woods for prayer. While the sinners began to scatter for their homes, the faithful obeyed the order, and in a few minutes in every direction was heard the voice of earnest supplication. Toward the close of the same meeting Mr. Taylor chose for his text: "Rejoice, O young man in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart and in the sight of thine eyes." He began by telling the people that he had been trying to tell them how to get to heaven, but they were not disposed to hear him, and now he proposed to tell them how to go to hell.

Other pastors that followed were W. Lorance, D. Vandevender, D. Carry, W. Hutchinson, W. Bishop, P. Bishop, Patten Trowdale, S. Hudson, J. J. Houston, S. Shull, Marlow, Kreider and Rogers.

The Sandy Cumberland Presbyterian Church was erected in 1868, under the administration of John J. Houston. The present pastor, Mr. Rogers, is serving that Church in connection with the Society at Clear Creek.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Wenona was organized in 1861, by S. R. Shull. The Ruling Elders were John Taylor, Robert Snodgrass and John N. Wood. The following ministers have since been in charge of the Church: S. R. Hudson, F. K. Hedges, D. M. Harris, L. R. Woods, R. T. Marlow and J. O. Morneya. For the past three years the Church in Wenona has had no pastor.

BETHEL CHURCH, STEUBEN.

Rev. Zadok Hall preached and organized an M. E. Church at Joseph Thompson's, appointing James Tanquary class-leader in 1836. About that time Rev. Palmer, from Crow Creek, also organized a Christian church at Warford Bonham's Sr., where dinner was always prepared for the congregation, who had an invitation to stay for afternoon services. Shortly after Margaret Thompson (daughter of Joseph T.) taught school in a house built by Mr. McGuier, of Virginia, near the former location of Bethel church, the first school in that vicinity.

In the year 1837 the people built a respectable log school house on the hill near Sparland, Mrs. Elizabeth

Moffit first teacher. The people there organized a Sabbath School, which was attended by people from Lacon, who crossed the river in canoes, and also from other directions, who walked miles to help carry on the work.

The contract to build Bethel church was taken by Asa Thompson in the fall of 1848, to be located on his land near his residence, and framed of oak or black walnut, having four pair of principal rafters, with oak sheeting and pine shingles, to be built in a substantial, workmanlike manner, and completed by the first of November, 1849, for six hundred and fifty dollars. The Trustees were John S. Hoskins, James Tanquary, Jehial Watkins, Leonard Timmons and I. Q. Tanquary.

THE VILLAGE OF SPARLAND.

The pioneer of Sparland was Franklin Ward Graves, whose tragic fate is told in these pages. He was succeeded by George Sparr, who gave it a name. The opening of valuable coal mines here laid the foundation for the village, and the building of the Bureau Valley Railroad gave it life and animation. In course of time came a grain warehouse and stores, and it became one of the most important points of shipment along the road. It is the outlet of the large and productive territory west of it, and here is annually shipped immense quantities of grain, cattle, hogs, etc. It contains two dry goods and two grocery stores, one hardware, one drug store, one lumber yard, an elevator, and several mechanic shops. It has a fine school building, several churches, an Odd Fellows and Masonic hall, a number of fine private residences, and an intelligent, enterprising population.

ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHIES.

GREENBERRY L. FORT, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Greenberry Lafayette Fort was a son of Benjamin and Margaret Fort, and born October 11th, 1825, in French Grant, Scioto county, Ohio, where he lived until May, 1834, when they removed to Round Prairie, now Marshall county, Illinois. Steamboats rarely ascending above Peoria, a keel-boat was procured, upon which they embarked, and landed at the mouth of Crow Creek, from whence they obtained transportation by wagons to the family of James Dever, a brother of Mrs. Fort, then living in the old stockade erected as a defence against the Indians during the Black Hawk war, where they remained until his father built a house on land he purchased. Greenberry at this time was about nine years old, and the first labor he performed was dropping corn and driving a breaking team of seven yoke of oxen for his father. His first school was taught by Elizabeth Orr, now Mrs. Hancock. He likewise attended schools taught by A. Johnson, Jesse B. Baue, Samuel Work S. P. Ogle, Jas. H. Brown, Harvey Scott, and others. His education was finished at Rock River Seminary. He was a good worker on the farm, and occasionally hunted deer and other game with hounds, but did not take kindly to carrying a gun. Their own harvest over, he assisted others. Has hauled wood to Lacon and sold it for 50 cents a cord, helped run a threshing machine, and once hauled wheat to Chicago and sold it for 49 cents a bushel, camping at night where the city hall and court house now stand. He studied law in Lacon, and was admitted to the bar in 1860. His first "brief" was in the Woodford circuit court, where he appeared for a Dr. Barney. Judge (now Senator) David Davis presided, and Abraham Lincoln was the opposing counsel. In 1850 he was nominated by the Whigs for sheriff, and ran against Addison Ramsay, Democrat. The election was sharply contested, and he was elected. In 1852 he ran for county clerk on the Whig ticket, and was elected over S. J. McFaddin, Democrat. His father died in August, 1854, aged 80, and his mother in June, 1855, and both are buried in the family cemetery on a high bluff overlooking the valley of Crow Creek. He was much attached to them, and a fine monument marks their resting place. In 1857 he ran against P. M. Janney, of Henry, for judge of the county court, and was elected. He was married May 25th, 1858, to Clara E. Boal, daughter of Dr. Robert Boal, and to them two children have been given.—Nina, born in November, 1861, and died in April, 1863, while he was in the army. He was tenderly attached to this little girl, and still grieves for the loss. A son, Robert B., was born April 25th, 1867, and is attending school. April 17th, 1861, upon the first call for troops, he enlisted as a private, was elected 1st lieutenant of Company B, 11th Reg. Ill. Vols., was mustered in at Springfield April 22d, and served three months. Returning, he recruited Co. I for the three years service. Owing to the exigencies of the times no arrangements for transporting men to the field had been made, and these expenses, amounting to over \$1200, were paid by him, and have never been returned. He served in the army of the Tennessee on both field and staff duty through all its campaigns, and was chief quartermaster of the 15th army corps on the famous march from "Atlanta to the Sea," and until the final surrender of Johnson's army. He participated in the grand military review at Washington, and was ordered with Sheridan's command to Texas, where he was mustered out as Colonel at Galveston, returned to Lacon and resumed the practice of law. In 1866 he was sent to the Illinois State Senate, was made chairman of the penitentiary committee, and secured the passage of a law giving persons credit for good behavior, to be deducted from their term of service. Was elected to the 43d

Congress in 1872 as a Republican over Geo. O. Barnes, Independent; was re-elected to the 44th over Jas. G. Bayne, Independent; to the 45th over Geo. W. Parker, Independent, and to the 46th over C. C. Strawn, Greenbacker, and T. M. Shaw, Democrat. During his time in Congress he has endeavored to do his duty and serve his constituents, representing not them alone, but the whole Northwest. He is now a partner with Joseph E. Ong and J. C. Boal in the practice of law. Col. Fort is now in the very prime of life, and coming from a line of long lived ancestors and blessed with good health, will probably live for many years.

WILLIAM FORD, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Ford was born in Tompkins county, N. Y., in 1805. The family were farmers and came from Connecticut. His life was like that of most boys in a new country, laboring on the farm in summer and attending school in winter where he picked up a scanty education. With the first money earned he bought a sheep, to which he afterward added a calf and next a colt. This laid the foundation of his fortune. Having a natural aptitude for mechanics he learned the carpenter's trade and followed it thirty years, though his money was made mainly by farming. In 1830 he married Rachel Hollister, who brought him nine children all of whom are dead, and in 1867 his wife died also. In 1868 he married Mrs. Emily W. Loveland (Gould), with whom he has happily lived until the present time. While living in the state of New York he cleared up a fine farm which he sold at a round price and removed to Valparaiso, Ind., from whence he came to Lacon in 1869. He owns a fine farm across the river and has a good sum at interest, while Mrs. Ford owns 230 acres of land in her own right, besides other valuable property. They take the world contentedly, accept the blessings God has given them thankfully, and live happily in the enjoyment of their pleasant home and the society of their friends.

ERASTUS R. MCKINNEY, *Nursery, Florist and Gardener, Lacon, Ill.*

Mr. McKinney was born in New York state in 1834. He moved to Lacon in 1847 and worked at the carpenter trade until 1861, when he enlisted in Company 1, 11th Ill. Vol. Inf., August 20, 1861, and served until wounded at Pittsburg Landing, April 16, 1862, and was discharged through disability arising from the effect of his wounds Aug. 19, 1862. He returned to Lacon, and as soon as sufficiently recovered returned to the quartermaster's department as overseeing clerk in the repair shop, where he remained until April 20th 1863. He married Cynthia Cooper in 1857, born in Ohio. They have six children—Sarah A., Belle I., Nellie A., Minnie M., Arthur W. and Aluah R.

SMITH M. GARATT, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Garatt is of French descent, the ancestor of his family in this country having been an officer in the French army, who came here long before the Revolution. He was the engineer who constructed a work of defense, in Connecticut, known as "The Old Stone Fort." His descendants served in the war of the Revolution, one of whom, Major John Garatt, was an officer in a Connecticut regiment, killed at the massacre of Wyoming, Pa. Smith M. Garatt is a cousin of Amasa Garatt, of Steuben township, in this county, their fathers being brothers Corinth Garratt, the father of the subject of this sketch, came from Connecticut about 1820, and afterwards settled in Spencer, N. Y., where Smith M. Garatt was born. He was educated at Alfred University, graduated at the Albany Law School in the class of 1861, and the same year came west and opened a law office at Lacon, Ill. From 1868 to 1872 he served as State's attorney of the then 23d circuit composed of Marshall, Woodford and Putnam counties. In 1862 he married Bell V. Cook, daughter of Hon. W. E. Cook, of Lacon, Ill., by whom he has three children—Corinth C., Leonora J. and Eunice Monroe, (the name Monroe being conferred because it was the maiden name of the mother of Mr. Garratt. He is a Republican in politics, his first vote having been cast for Abraham Lincoln for president when he ran the second time. He voted twice for General Grant for the same office, and is decidedly in favor of nominating him again.

WILLIAM J. FORT, *Judge of the County Court of Marshall County.*

Mr. Fort was born in Richland township, on the place where he now resides, in 1844, and was a son of the late G. W. Fort. The family name was formerly LaFeurt, and traces its lineage back to LaBelle France. He obtained his education in the schools of the vicinity, and was brought up on a farm, having followed the plow more or less until 1862, when he entered the army as quartermaster's agent, and filled the position up to the close of the war, having followed its movements and witnessing many notable events. After the peace he returned to the farm again, and for a short time was engaged in merchandising, but the death of his father threw the care of the large estate left on his hands, and he remained on the farm until elected to the position he now holds. In politics Mr. Fort is like his family, uncompromisingly Republican, and takes an active part in politics. He is an indefatigable worker, and one of the strongest men in the party. As a judge, he is clear-headed and logical, making his decisions only after thoroughly comprehending the case, and seldom seeing them disturbed by the higher courts. In 1872 he married Emily C. Stevens, daughter of Phineas Stevens, formerly a well known banker and merchant of Lacon, now of Marshalltown, Iowa.

JAMES HOYT, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Hoyt was born in Stamford, Conn., in 1807, and comes from an old family that traces its lineage back to Simon Hoyt in the days of the New England Pilgrims. His father died when he was six years old, and when 15 he was put to learning the tailor's trade, at which he served six years. When 21 he went south and found a situation in New Orleans. Staid seven years, and then went to New York and opened a merchant tailoring establishment, which he conducted five years. In 1834 he married Maria Hitchcock and went to Ohio, where he lived three and a

half years, working at his trade. Nine children were born to them, four of whom survive. His wife died in 1850. He came to Springfield, Ill., in 1837, staid one winter, and in the spring of 1838, with wife, two children and three dollars and fifty cents cash, landed in Marshall county. At first they lived in Joe Bennington's cabin, rented land for three years, and then bought 60 acres from Jesse Kestor. Worked at his trade winters and farmed summers. Saw hard times. Lived on cornmeal and fat pork for six months, without a penny in the house. In 1853 married Eliza J. Mathis, of Oxbow, by whom he has two children, Charles and Jennie. Of the children by his first marriage, J. H. Hoyt lives in Dade county, Mo., and is county judge; Seymour is a surveyor; Julia (Mrs. Bobbitt) lives in Nebraska, and Sarah (Mrs. Clifford) on Sandy. Mr. Hoyt is a good financier and able manager. He has realized from the products of his farm as high as \$6,000 in a single year. He owns 421 acres of land, the greater portion under cultivation.

WILLIAM WRIGHT, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Wright was born near Russellville, Brown county, Ohio, in 1826, and comes from a long line of patriotic ancestors who settled in Virginia prior to 1750. In the war of the Revolution they fought with the colonists and several were killed in battle. In the second war with Great Britain, two or three of his uncles lost their lives, and in the last war four brothers volunteered, one of whom died in the service, and another from disease contracted there. Geo. Wright was the first soldier from this county that lost his life. He died near Bird's Point, Mo., June 6, 1861. The father of Mr. Wright was born near Paris, Bonham county, Ky., in 1797, and in 1800 emigrated with his parents to Brown county, Ohio, where in 1820 he wedded Rebecca McLaughlin, who still survives. Mr. William Wright settled in Lacon in 1851, and in 1853 married Julia A. German, born in Ohio in 1830. He learned the trade of a cooper and followed it a number of years, was engaged in merchandising with the late Edwin Jones, and later by himself. Was appointed U. S. storekeeper in 1871, and has held the position for nine years. Is a member of the Baptist church, a friend of temperance and education, and a respected and valued citizen.

DAVID MUIR, *Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Muir was born in Ulster county, New York, and lived there and in an adjoining county until he had nearly reached man's estate. His parents dying when young he was early thrown upon his own resources for a livelihood and education. Drifting west he engaged to labor for G. L. Barnes, who became his friend, and through him made the acquaintance of G. O. Barnes and entered his office as law student. He was a hard worker, and applied all his energies to a mastery of its principles. He read early and late, picking up information valuable for the future, and storing it away in memory's receptacles. He passed a brilliant examination and began practice. It was no experiment, he knew just what he was about. The tools he had been forging and sharpening were at command, and forthcoming when wanted. He took rank at once with old lawyers, and his right to the place has never been disputed. His cases are worked up with care, and he never goes into court until fully prepared and strongly fortified, and the result is he seldom fails.

JERRY R. FEAZEL, *Hopewell Township, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Feazel was born in Ohio, July 4th, 1832. The family is of German-Scotch descent, and emigrated from Virginia to Ohio soon after marriage. When thirteen years old they moved to Illinois, lived one season on the Bullman place, went to the Larkin's farm in Hopewell and lived six years, and then on to the prairie, where he lived until his death. His father died in 1860. His mother was Hannah Murphy. They had 12 children of whom Jerry R., William and Hiram reside in this vicinity. He was brought up on a farm, and received his education in part at the old log school house on the Broadus place. In 1856 he married Eliza Wright, born in Madison county, Ohio. They have no children, but are educating a nephew and neice. Mr. Feazel is one of the best farmers in the township owning 420 acres of good land. He owns the Edward Harris farm, one of the first located in the county. His attention is largely devoted to feeding and dealing in stock, of which he is an excellent judge. In 1876 himself and wife made an extended journey to the Pacific coast, visiting all the places of interest and spending considerable time in the mining district, where he made some investments. They are genial and hospitable.

MELVIN HULL, *Richland Township, Marshall County.*

Mr. Hull was born in Sciota county, Ohio, in 1830, and came to this county with his parents, who located in Richland township, where he has lived ever since. He married Miss Hattie Bayne in 1871. She was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1850. They have one child, Hattie, born in 1872. Mrs. Hull is a member of the M. E. church. He owns 160 acres of land, all in cultivation, with good improvements. He is a son of Isaac and Sarah Hull. His father is now in his 89th year, whose long and useful life is drawing to an honorable close. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and draws a pension from government for services.

ENOCH SAWYER, *Hopewell Township, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Sawyer lives in Hopewell township, Marshall county, Ill. He was born in North Carolina in 1816, where his father was a planter, merchant, etc., owning a large plantation, which he sold out, and with his family set out for the state of Illinois, a place as distant in those days to emigrants as was California before the completion of the Pacific R. R. They traveled in wagons along with a neighbor named Forbes, and reached their destination in 1831, where they built cabins and settled down. Enoch Sawyer assisted his father on the farm, and in 1840 built a saw mill on Sandy Creek, which he run for a number of years. He married Elizabeth Broadus, and to them nine children have been born.—Lundsford, Jesse, Lemuel (dead), Simeon, Jordan, Enoch, Lucy, Mark and Christopher (twins). Lemuel and Jesse enlisted in the 77th regiment, the former dying at Camp Douglas of disease contracted

in the service. Jesse served through the war. Mr. Sawyer is a large farmer, and a type of the old Virginia planter—generous, hospitable, wedded to his opinions, a warm friend, an open foe, loves hounds and hunters, pays his debts, and never lays awake nights for fear of the sheriff.

ANDREW SCHURTZ, *Henry Township, Marshall County, Ill.*

Mr. Schurtz was born in Hunterdon, New York, in 1805, and moved to New York city in 1819, where he learned his trade as engineer and blacksmith, and was foreman in old James P. Allaire's foundry and steamboat building, at \$6 00 per day, seven days of the week. He moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1830, where he followed blacksmithing until 1842, when he came to Aurora, Ill., where he bought 320 acres of land covering the present site of the greater part of East Aurora. He lived here until 1848, and purchased 1600 acres in White-side township, and had eight quarters deeded to his children and two quarters to his father and mother, and purchased 160 acres for his cousin and fitted him out. He married Miss Jane Nevins in 1869. She was born in New Jersey, and had eight children, all married. Mrs. Schurtz died in 1856. He married his present wife, Ann Trimble, in 1857. She was born in Alexander, Va., and had one child—Celesta. He moved to Minnesota in 1856, and pre-empted 60 acres of land, which they still own. He lived there two years and owned and run the Marshall Hotel at Red Wing Landing, in Minn., and sold it out in 1869, and got only \$300 more than he gave for it in 1856. He then located in Henry, and started his business in 1869. He spent nearly a year in Virginia with his brother-in-law, and saw both armies at his brother's house alternately. Mrs. Schurtz is a member of the Presbyterian church. He was school director and road commissioner several years. In February, 1866, he went to Marshall county, Ky., and assisted his uncle, who is a large farmer there, in making plows, etc. He then went to Louisiana and Texas, where he was engaged in the stock business. Mr. Schurtz remained there some 13 months, and got home in January, 1869. Has followed the blacksmithing business. He is going to Colorado in 1880.

L. H. FARR,

Henry township, Marshall county, Ill.

D. N. BLOOD, *Henry Township, Marshall Co., Ill.*

Mr. Blood was born in Hollis, New Hampshire, in 1813. When quite young he moved to Boston with his parents, lived in several places in Massachusetts, and finally located in Rochester, N. Y., in 1823. They came to Fulton county, Ill., in 1845, and to Marshall county in 1851. In 1838 he married Miss Saloma Root. She was born in Ontario county, N. Y., in 1814. They have had six children, four of whom are living.—William M., James A., Mary L. and Daniel N. Jr. Mr. Blood has been supervisor several terms, school director ten years, and has served as assessor. He owns 210 acres of choice land, in a high state of cultivation, with a first-class, substantial brick dwelling.

THOMAS ROBINSON,

Stenben township, Marshall county, Ill.

DAVID BOYLE,

Magnolia township, Putnam county, Ill.

TIMOTHY WOOD,

Senachwine township, Putnam county, Ill.

GEORGE SPARLING, *Senachwine Township, Putnam Co., Ill.*

The subject of this sketch was born in County Limerick, Ireland, November 19th, 1819, a son of James and Mary Atkins Sparling, and is descended from the Palatines, a body of 110 families of Germans from the Palatinato on the Rhine, who embarked for the new world in the reign of Queen Anne, and were shipwrecked on the coast of Ireland. To this German colony is due the honor of furnishing the first Methodist preacher to the United States in the person of Philip Embury, a connection of the Sparling family. When Mr. Sparling was but two years old his father died from exposure while serving as a soldier in the Irish rebellion of 1822-23. Three brothers of his mother were then living in America—two in Canada and one in Clark county, Indiana, and at their earnest solicitation she finally in 1832 started with her two children, George and a sister younger, for the new world. Arrived in Quebec, Mr. Sparling, then a boy of 12, was prostrated with ship fever and taken to the hospital, and before his recovery his mother fell a victim to the cholera, at that time alarmingly prevalent and fatal in Quebec. He recovered to find himself an orphan among strangers, frantic with grief at the loss of his mother, and unable to gain any trace of his sister. He found a home with Dr. Marsden, hospital physician, and worked in his dispensary about two months, when learning that his sister had been sent by the Bishop of Quebec to their uncle, near Montreal, he availed himself of the Bishop's generous assistance in his own behalf and joined his sister at the home of his uncle Philip, where he was received as one risen from the dead. After living with one Captain Williams about two years, where he had an excellent home and was kindly treated, his uncle Robert, at whose instance the family had come to America, and who lived in Upper Canada, 40 miles north of Toronto, claimed custody of the children and took them to his home. Here they were first compelled to do hard work, threshing, clearing, hoeing, planting and other work incident to a farm in a new country. One year of this life determined young Sparling to quit his uncle and learn a trade, and he bound himself to a carpenter for four years. At the expiration of one-half his term of apprentice-

ship his employer went into the rebellion of 1837, and being defeated was compelled to leave the country. Young Sparling was left in charge of his employer's property and business, and faithfully attended to it until the following spring, when a letter from his employer summoned him to Niagara Falls, where he had taken a contract. Here they worked two or three months; then went to Tonawanda, at the mouth of the Erie Canal; then to Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Mackinaw, Milwaukee, and finally to the lumber regions of Michigan, where they worked at their trade until both were prostrated with ague, when they embraced the first opportunity and went to Chicago. Here they worked some time for Mr. Sherman, proprietor of the Sherman House, and for Mr. Ryan, of the Vermont House, refusing in payment for their labor town lots upon the present court house site at the rate of one lot each for a month's work. From Chicago they came to Dixon, Ill., when Mr. Sparling's employer returned to Canada for his family. On the journey to Dixon Mr. Sparling was prostrated by a severe attack of bilious fever, which lasted about one month, and just as he was recovering from that he became again a victim to the ague, from which he had fled in Michigan, and which hung to him for six years. The winter succeeding his arrival in Dixon he entered a claim, but abandoned it in the spring and bought another partially improved. On this he erected a log house, barn and corn-cribs, and cultivated ten acres of corn, working at his trade a portion of the time. In January, 1840, he came to Crow Meadow, Putnam county, to work at his trade, subsequently disposing of his claim and settling at Crow Meadow, among other jobs helping to build the Bradley store-house in Henry, the first frame house finished in that place. His summer's work amounted to \$200, for which he took the place upon which he now lives. January 12th, 1843, he married Adeline Morgan, a native of Connecticut and daughter of Alanson and Melinda Peters Morgan, and settled down to farming and the development of the fishery interests at Senachwine Lake. He bought the most valuable tracts for fishery purposes, amounting in the aggregate to some 800 acres, and for 35 years carried on the fishing business on an extensive scale, his receipts for much of the time prior to the building of the Henry dam averaging \$3 000 per year. But the construction of the dam ruined the business and rendered the hundreds of acres in which he had invested his savings almost worthless. April 13th, 1857, Mrs. Sparling died at the age of 35 years 1 month and 7 days, leaving eight children.—George Edward, born Nov. 3d, 1843; James Alanson, May 26th, 1846; Mary Melinda, Feb. 22, 1848; Helen Elizabeth, Jan. 27, 1850; William Henry, Jan. 16th, 1852; John Stanley, Dec. 10, 1853, and Adeline and Albert, twins, born August 15th, 1856. Albert died August 25th, 1857, and James Alanson died May 10th, 1863. August 8th, 1858, Mr. Sparling married Sarah McClung, daughter of Harvey and Sarah Bird McClung. She died Feb. 8th, 1871, at the age of 35 years, 5 months and 14 days, leaving six children.—Martha Jane, born May 2d, 1859; Sarah Evalena, born Sept. 1st, 1860; Kate Bird, born Jan. 3d, 1862; Samuel Martell, born June 8th, 1864; Lincoln Frederick, born Sept. 25th, 1865; Embury Harrison, born Sept. 27th, 1867. August 18th, 1874, he married Margaret McElroy, widow of James Sparling, his cousin, she having four children by her first marriage—Charlotta, Violet, Nettie and Annie. The result of this union is two children—Susan Mabel Atkins, born Jan. 3d, 1876; Homer Lewis, born Jan. 19th, 1878. In 1844 a two-year old daughter of Lewis Thompson being deserted by its mother, Mr. Sparling adopted and raised her until she was 14 years old, making in all 21 children he has had to care for, 9 boys and 12 girls. Seven of the girls are school teachers. With the exception of four dead one living in Iowa, they are all residents of Senachwine township, Putnam county, with the addition of ten grand children.



ERRATA.

Chapter XLI., page 422, in the description of Belle Plain township, fourth line, for "thirty-six townships" read "thirty-six sections."

BIOGRAPHICAL DEPARTMENT.

Hennepin township, Putnam county, page 645, second biography, "John Bunges" should be "John Bonges."

Hennepin township, Putnam county, page 644, in the biography of Jacob Zenor, for "Alvina" Skeels read "Elvira" Skeels.

Hennepin township, Putnam county, page 643, in the biography of Mrs. Flora Zenor, first line, "H. K." should be "H. B." Zenor.

Magnolia township, Putnam county, page 655, in the biography of Mr. Morrell, the initials should be "L. C." instead of S. C.

Magnolia township, Putnam county, page 656, for "John Van Horn" read "J. V. Horne."

Lacon township, Marshall county, page 691, in the biography of Mr. Speck, for "Lewis" read "Louis."

Hennepin township, Putnam county, page 646, second biography, for "James S. Zena" read "James Zenor."

Evans Township, Marshall county, page 720, in the Gants biography, read "Edwin, born Nov. 14, 1850," instead of "Nov. 19, 1852." Nathaniel Gants died Feb. 21, 1860. Emma died Sept. 27, 1857.

Evans Township, Marshall county, page 719, fifth biography, for "John Algoe" read "John Alger."

