

TOWNSHIP HISTORIES.

BY L. H. NEWTON.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Washington is one of the tier of townships forming the eastern boundary of Kosciusko County. It has an area of 36 square miles, or 23,040 acres, which, like other portions of the county, were originally covered by a dense growth of timber. It is watered by Deeds' Creek and Willow Creek, the latter being an outlet of Mud Lake. Its surface is characterized by undulating land, but low and flat in a few localities. Its farms of to-day are uniformly fine and productive, and are of themselves, substantial monuments to the memory of those of whom we shall speak hereafter—the advance guard of the pioneer army, and the forerunners of an era of prosperity; men who braved the hardships of the forest, and labored year by year to transform it to a fertile region, and earn from the kindly earth a livelihood and a competence. Some sank down in the struggle and died, their life-work but half completed; some have survived the shock of time, and, in their declining years, enjoy the fruits of their labors, and tell to younger generations the tale of their trials, during the years of pioneer life. To these we are indebted for the facts which go to make up the history of the township, and by which we are enabled to assign to their proper places, the names of those who took part in the struggle.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In the fall of 1835, the first white settlers entered the township, with the view of making it their home. Their names were John and Vincent Makemson. They came from Logan County, Ohio, and settled on Section 3. It was John Makemson's ax that first awoke the echoes of the forest with the key-note of a struggle, destined to culminate in the downfall of that mighty barrier, and under his well-directed strokes, the first giant fell. For an entire year, the Makemsons were the only white occupants of the township. In the fall of 1836, they were joined by John McNeal and Henry Hoover, from Ohio; George and Henry Sommerville, from Virginia; Samuel Firestone and William Moore, from Logan County, Ohio; Alexander Graham and William Beasley, also from Ohio. Mr. Graham returned to Ohio shortly after, where he remained about two years; then returning to the scene of his former labors, he made his home in the township until death called him from earth.

During the year 1837, came John Hoover, William Stephenson, Jehu Dunham and Robert McNeal, from Ohio. Mr. Stephenson died in 1838. Robert McNeal still lives, and is now located at Warsaw, in the service of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad Company. John Duke came from Logan County, Ohio, in 1837, and for many years was identified with the interests of the township; but a few years ago, he removed to Iowa, of which State he is now a resident. James Crouch came in the same year, and resided in the township until his decease. In 1838, came James Chaplin, from New York, and Charles Chapman, from the same State. Jesse Little came in the same year, and still lives in the township. Lewis Keith, James Stinson and John Elder also came in 1838. Later in the same year, came James T. Stinson, who was distinguished from James Stinson only by the middle initial of his name. In the fall of that year, George W. Ryerson came from Turkey Creek Prairie, and erected a cabin, to which he moved his family in the following spring. In the same year, came Martin Braysted, John Bratt and Asa Pratt. There were many others who came within the next few years and took an active part in the development and improvement of the township. Among this number were George Wagner, William O'Brien, Abe K. Leedy, James Humphreys, Thomas Logan, John McDaniel, Samuel Elder, Absalom Brown, John O. Crutcher, Henry Phillips, Jacob Phillips and James Clinger. For several years after immigration to the township first began, each new arrival was known and hailed with joy by the little community; but, by the year 1839-40, the population had grown so that the arrival of new settlers ceased to be regarded as an event of more than a casual interest, and thus many names have passed from memory. All were stimulated by a common purpose, and each applied his individual energy for its accomplishment. The years have borne their fruit, and the survivors of that community have reaped the reward of their toils.

The First Houses.—The first house in the township was erected by John Makemson, in 1835. In the labor of building it, he was assisted by his two brothers and a hired man; and after its completion, all united in assisting his brother, Vincent, to erect the second house in the township. The first hewed log house was erected in 1853, by Lewis Keith. It was used as a tavern, and stood on what is now Lot No. 1, Block 15, in the original plat of Piercetown. It was removed in 1875 or 1876.

The First Store was established in 1850, by Nathan Chapman at the village of Fairview. He kept a stock of general merchandise, and conducted a profitable trade.

The First Blacksmith.—In 1839 or 1840, Lewis Keith opened the first blacksmith shop in the township, and carried on his trade, in connection with farming.

The First Mill was built by Lewis Keith in 1839, on Deeds' Creek. It was a grist-mill, and received its motive power from that stream. Several years after, Alexander Minzie erected the first steam saw-mill in the township.

The First Physician in the township was Dr. Banta, who remained a number of years, administering to the ills of its people, and also served in the capacity of Postmaster at Piercetown.

The First Orchard was set out by George W. Ryerson in 1841. The trees were raised from seed brought from Fort Wayne, Ind. In the next year, James Chaplin set out the second orchard.

The First Road was surveyed in 1837, and was known as the Fort Wayne & Chicago Road. This was the route over which the mail was carried on horseback, to and from the first post office in the township. This post office was kept at the house of G. W. Ryerson. Mr. Ryerson was Postmaster, and his son, Ira J., was deputy. In the next year (1838), the second road was surveyed, from Warsaw to Wolf Lake.

The First Tavern was established in 1839, at the Ryerson homestead, by G. W. Ryerson. The house was near the Fort Wayne & Chicago Road, and although not built for a tavern, it was, nevertheless, a favorite stopping-place for travelers on that thoroughfare, who found there the comfort of home, as well as cheerful company.

The First School.—In 1840, a log building was erected on the farm of William Moore, to be used as a schoolhouse. The funds for maintaining it were raised by subscription, and the first term was taught in the winter of that year, by Adam Laing. Among its surviving pupils are Rev. Alfred Laing, a minister of the Gospel, and Andrew and Abner Makemson, who are respected farmers. The second schoolhouse was erected near the home of G. W. Ryerson, and was known as the "Ryerson Schoolhouse." Like the "Moore Schoolhouse," it was a private institution, and sustained by subscription. Among its surviving pupils are Mrs. William H. Spayde and Ira J. Ryerson.

The free-school system was introduced in 1851, and, after a few years, each district in the township was supplied by public munificence, with the means of offering to its residents a free education. There are now 11 substantial school-buildings, having a total of 506 scholars enrolled.

The First Religious Meeting was held at the house of John Bratt in 1838, by William Devinney, a missionary of the M. E. Church. The occasion was the funeral of Mr. Bratt's daughter. The second religious meeting was held by Revs. Denman and French, of the Baptist Church, at the house of William Moore, in 1839. An organization was subsequently effected by this denomination, and, after several years, a church was built, which, for awhile, was prosperous; but for reasons not now known, it began to wane, and the congregation finally disbanded, and sold their house of worship to the German Baptist denomination, by whom it is now occupied.

After the funeral sermon at the house of Mr. Bratt, Robert McNeal requested Mr. Devinney to hold meetings thereafter at his (McNeal's) house, which proposition was accepted; and two weeks later, the first of a series of regular meetings was held there. At the third meeting, the first Methodist congregation in the township was organized, with twelve members. The society was placed under the pastoral care of Thomas Owen, also a missionary of the M. E. Church, and Mr. McNeal's house was the regular place of holding meetings for five years thereafter. They then rented a house which had formerly been occupied as a residence, and in this building they held services for several months, after which they removed to a neighboring schoolhouse. One year later, John McNeal donated to the society a lot upon which to build a church, and preparations were at once begun to accomplish that object. In 1839, a frame house of worship, 40x50 feet, was erected on the land thus set apart for that purpose. For a number of years it was very prosperous, and its membership increased; but after the organization of the M. E. Church at Piercetown, some of its members united with that body, and some moved away; and in 1854, the congregation disbanded, and the building was sold.

EARLY DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

The First Death in the township was that of a young daughter of John Bratt. She died in 1838.

In 1839, Abner McQuigg died and was the first corpse interred in the Ryerson Cemetery.

The First Marriage was celebrated in 1840, Morris P. Chaplin and Miss Sarah A. Morris being the contracting parties. In the same year, Adam Laing was united in marriage with Miss Mary Chaplin.

The First Cemetery was laid out on a tract of land donated for the purpose by George W. Ryerson, in 1839. It is the last resting-place of many pioneers of the township—among the number, its founder.

The First Election.—The township was organized at the March term of the Board of County Commissioners, 1838; and, in April following, the first election was held at the house of Martin Braysted, resulting in the choice of Lewis Keith as Justice of the Peace.

The First Railroad.—In the fall of 1856, the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad was completed to Piercetown. That day marked an event in the history of the town and township, and was observed with appropriate ceremonies. It opened to them a means of communication with the outside world, and a mode of transport for their wealth of produce.

On the day of its completion to this point, a grand dinner was prepared by the citizens, for the officers and employes of the road, and the day was hailed as an omen of prosperity.

That this expectation was realized is well known, and the benefits derived from the road have redounded to the interest of every citizen of the township.

PIERCETOWN.

With the exception of Warsaw, Piercetown is the largest town in the county. It was laid out by Lewis Keith and John B. Chapman, on the north part of the northwest quarter of Section 27, December 6, 1852. Founded during the administration of Franklin Pierce, it was christened Piercetown, in honor of the President.

The First Store was opened by John B. Chapman in 1852, in a little log cabin, north of the corporate limits of the town, on the farm now owned by J. A. Shorb. He conveyed his merchandise from Fort Wayne by means of ox teams. The medium of trade was skins of animals, furs and "wild-cat currency."

The First Frame Houses—three in number—were built, one where Dr. William Hayes now resides, on the corner of Market and Second streets; one on First street, where the Citizens' Bank is now located, and one on the lot now occupied by Foster & Brother's drug store.

The First Post Office at Piercetown was established in 1854, and was kept in the frame building on the lot now occupied by the Citizens' Bank. O. P. Smith was appointed Postmaster, and served one year. He was succeeded, in 1855, by Dr. William Hayes, who continued in office until the beginning of Buchanan's administration, when he was succeeded by Dr. Banta; and between that time and the present, the following gentlemen have served in the capacity of Postmaster: Mr. Skinner, David Binkley, James Getty, Henry Ruth, S. M. Hayes, John Justice. Mr. Justice served until his decease, and was succeeded by David H. Connell, the present incumbent.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Piercetown was incorporated May 10, 1866, and on that day the Trustees held their first meeting, when the following officers filed their certificates

of election: Trustees, John Moore, First District; Adam Simmons, Second District; Alexander Daugherty, Third District. E. T. Marshall filled the offices of Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor and Marshal.

On the 12th day of May, at an adjourned meeting, the organization was completed by electing Adam Simmons President of the Board. John Moore and Alexander Daugherty was appointed a committee to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, which they reported at a meeting on the 23d of May, when they were adopted.

At a meeting of the Board, on the 5th day of November, 1866, the first School Board was appointed, consisting of Michael Murray, John A. Shorb and John Shaffer.

E. T. Marshall resigned before the expiration of his term, and J. B. Roberts was appointed Clerk and Assessor, John Minnich, Treasurer, and John G. Waldo, Marshal. The total amount of taxes collected for the first year was \$355.18.

The following is a list of the town officers from the organization to the present time:

Yr.	Trustees	Clerk	Treasurer	Marshal	School Trustees
1866	John Moore, Adam Simmons, A. Daugherty	E. T. Marshall	John Minnich	J. G. Waldo	Michael Murray, J. A. Shorb, John Shaffer
1867	" " " "	" " " "	Michael Murray	" " " "	" " " "
1868	Wm. Shaffer	" " " "	W. C. Harvot	E. G. Eddy	" " " "
1869	Wm. Snyder	" " " "	F. V. B. Minnich	" " " "	" " " "
1870	G. G. Frary	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1871	A. Simmons	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1872	G. B. Lesh	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1873	Wm. H. Spayde	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1874	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1875	P. Conrad	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1876	J. H. Taylor	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1877	Wm. N. Graven	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1878	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "
1879	Gus. Freshly	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "

Since the incorporation of the town, sidewalks have been constructed, and the streets graded and kept in repair; and to the visitor, it presents the appearance of a miniature city.

INDUSTRIES.

Furniture Factory.—In 1864, Dr. Baker and W. C. Conant erected a frame building north of the P., Ft. W. & C. R. R., for the manufacture of doors and sash. The main building is 40x80 feet, 2½ stories high, with an "L" of the same dimensions. The boiler-room is detached from the main building, the steam being conveyed through pipes (a distance of 125 feet) to the engine, which is situated on the ground-floor of the main building. There are also two dry-houses, with a capacity of 22,000 feet each; and two warehouses—one 35x75 feet, 2½ stories high, and one 22x100 feet, 1 story.

It was operated as a sash and door factory for two years, at the end of which time it was supplied with the necessary machinery for the manufacture of furniture. Before the close of 1864, Dr. Baker retired from the firm, and was succeeded by John Moore. It was then conducted by Moore & Conant until 1872, when Mr. Conant disposed of his interest to Mr. Moore, who is the present proprietor. Until the financial crisis of

1873, it was a prosperous institution, and a source of profit to its proprietors, and gave employment to about one hundred men; but, when that reaction set in, accompanied by its era of retrenchment and economy, it found this firm with a large amount of manufactured furniture on hand, and but a limited demand for the same. As a consequence, the machinery was stopped, and since then the establishment has not been operated to its fullest capacity. It has been, and is destined again to be, one of the important industries of Pierceton.

The Pierceton Flouring-Mills.—This building was erected in 1862, by Michael Murray, at a cost of \$18,000. The main building is 40x50 feet, 34 stories high, the first story built entirely of stone. The engine-room is 40x21 feet, and the motive power is furnished by a 50-horse power engine. It has four runs of buhrs, with a manufacturing capacity of one hundred barrels of flour per day. The machinery is first-class, and the mill is one of the most substantial in the county. It was owned and operated by Michael Murray for eight years, and was then sold to Stoufs & Bowman. They subsequently sold it to Dr. William Hayes, by whom it was operated a short time, then sold to J. B. Mitchell. By him it was sold to Joseph Kemp. In January, 1877, it was purchased by D. Balliet & Co., the present proprietors. In the same year, they added a new engine-room, built of stone, and placed an iron roof on the building.

Saw and Planing-Mill.—In 1865, Eli and Philip Fluke erected a planing-mill in the northwest portion of town, near the P. Ft. W. & C. R. R., 50 feet square, two stories high. In the spring of 1866, they added a saw-mill building, 24x60 feet. In March, 1868, the buildings were destroyed by fire, and in April of the same year, the site was purchased by Jonathan Thatcher and W. H. Cornell, and the work of rebuilding commenced at once. It was operated by Thatcher & Cornell for two years, when Mr. Cornell sold his interest to Joseph E. Thatcher, and subsequently Jonathan Thatcher sold to his brother, Joseph E., who then became sole proprietor. Soon after, he associated with him as partners, M. R. Bishop and Martin Stoler. Later, G. B. Lesh became a partner in the firm. Mr. Lesh sold his interest to Andrew Thomas, and Mr. Thatcher sold to John L. Douglass. In March, 1877, W. H. Cornell again purchased an interest in the establishment, since which time it has been conducted by Douglass & Cornell, the present proprietors.

The mill is supplied with one large, and one small saw, one planer, and all the necessary machinery for the successful prosecution of the business in hand. They manufacture flooring, siding and finishing-lumber, and have in the yard about one million feet in rough lumber and logs. They give employment to eight men at the mill, beside a number of log-cutters.

Chair Factory.—This establishment was erected in 1872 by B. W. Kirkland, by whom it is now owned and conducted. The main building is of frame, 30x40 feet, two stories high. Connected with this is a warehouse 22x30 feet, and a board kiln 12x16. The engine and boiler room is detached from the main building, and is 18x30 feet. The goods manufactured consist chiefly of wood-seat chairs, and the material used is elm, linn and poplar. He gives employment to four men, and finds his principal markets at Warsaw, Huntington, and neighboring towns.

Rustic Chair Factory.—Shumaker & Humphreys began the business of manufacturing rustic-work in January, 1878, and have succeeded in establishing a good trade in this and adjoining counties. Their establishment is located on the north side of the town, in a frame building, 22x62 feet, two stories high. The motive power is furnished by an 8-horse power engine, and the manual labor of the establishment is performed by the proprietors themselves. A large amount of hickory and other varieties of supple wood is used annually in the manufacture of rustic chairs, vases, hanging-baskets, flower-stands and rustic ornaments.

Wagon and Carriage Factories.—P. Conrad began the manufacture of carriages and wagons at Pierceton, in the fall of 1866. He has two frame-buildings, each 24x40 feet, two stories high, one of which has an inclined platform, conveniently arranged for lowering the completed vehicles to the ground, one blacksmith-shop, and one building 24x40 feet, one story high, used for wood-working and paint-shops, and store-room. He employs from eight to ten men, and manufactures an average of 100 wagons and carriages annually.

M. Rush began business in 1867 in the building which he now occupies, just north of the Central Hotel. This building is a frame structure, 32x35 feet, two stories. The wood-work is done in the lower story, and the painting and finishing in the upper, from whence the work is lowered to the ground by means of an inclined platform. In addition to this he has a warehouse, 22x60 feet, where the work is stored, ready for market, and where the lumber is kept. He employs from three to five men, and manufactures from fifty to sixty wagons and carriages annually, finding his principal markets in Howard and Grant Counties, Ind.

James Atchison.—The establishment now conducted by James Atchison was first opened as a wagon manufactory by B. F. Andlauer, in the spring of 1875, at which time it was run by Runyan & Scholl, who conducted it about six months. Mr. Fashbaugh then purchased the interest of Mr. Scholl, and the firm became Runyan & Fashbaugh. In May, 1879, James Atchison purchased the establishment, and is now sole proprietor. He manufactures farm and spring wagons, and buggies, and pays particular attention to repairing.

Shovel-Plow Factory.—In 1876, F. V. B. Minnich began the manufacture of shovel-plows, and has made this department one of the leading branches among the manufacturing establishments of the town. His personal energy and business ability have been largely instrumental in bringing about this result. He manufactures from five to six hundred plows annually, and finds a ready market. At times, the demand has been in excess of the supply. The work is done chiefly in the winter season, by the men employed in the tinshop connected with Mr. Minnich's establishment. In this department he manufactures all kinds of tin, sheet-iron and copper-ware, and makes a specialty of tin and sheet-iron roofing.

Grain-Dealers.—Samuel Snider entered upon the business of buying and selling grain at Pierceton in 1877, renting the elevator at Balliet & Co.'s flouring-mill. He buys the grain from neighboring farmers, and sells it in the most favorable markets. His principal shipments are made to Baltimore and Philadelphia. During the year ending in August, 1878, he bought and sold 40,000 bushels of wheat.

Gibson, Hira & Co. buy grain from the home market, and rent a store-room at the P. Ft. W. & C. depot, where the grain is stored ready for shipment. During the year ending in August, 1878, they bought and shipped 35,000 bushels of wheat, the cargoes being divided between Baltimore and Philadelphia.

The Pierceton Woolen-Mills at one time occupied an important place among the manufactures of the town; but, like other manufacturing establishments, it was affected by the collapse in prices consequent upon the panic of 1873, and, since that time, has not been operated with the wonted vigor of its proprietor, owing to the limited demand and insufficient prices for such articles as they manufacture. For several months, its doors have been closed, and its machinery entirely inactive; but it is now the intention

of its proprietor to resume work at an early day, and the establishment will again occupy its place as an important industry.

The building was erected in 1865 by F. G. Frary and Michael Murray, and the business conducted under the firm name of Frary & Murray. The main building is 40x50 feet, four stories high, with an engine and dye-room, 20x100 feet, one story. All the buildings are substantial frame structures. It is what is known among manufacturers as a "two-set mill," and was supplied with a full quota of the necessary machinery, at a cost of \$23,700. It has ten looms of the latest and most approved patterns, and has a manufacturing capacity of 300 yards of cloth per day. Twenty hands are required to operate the machinery. The articles manufactured consist of jeans, cassimeres, flannels, blankets and yarns. Mr. Frary retired from the firm in 1871, since which time, Michael Murray has been sole proprietor.

Hub and Spoke Factory.—This enterprise was inaugurated by L. C. Smith in 1867. The building is a frame structure, 40x50 feet, with a warehouse 20x30 feet. The machinery is operated by a twenty-five-horsepower engine. It consists of one hub-lathe, three spoke-lathes, two saws, tenon-machines, throating machines, jointers, hub-boring machine, hub-mounting machine, beltors, etc. About six hundred thousand spokes and ten thousand hubs are manufactured annually, and find a market at Chicago, South Bend and Toledo. Eight men are employed in their manufacture. In 1869, Mr. Smith sold the establishment to Spayde & Miller, by whom it was operated several months, when Mr. Miller sold his interest to J. A. Shorb, who subsequently purchased the interest of Mr. Spayde, and is now sole proprietor. It has been inoperative for several months, but its machinery will soon again be set in motion, and its products be placed in the market as heretofore.

The Citizens' Bank is an outgrowth of the enterprise of private citizens in Pierceton; and whilst it has been productive of the anticipated returns to its founders, it has proved a convenience to the business men of the town, which is highly appreciated. Its capital and resources are ample, and it is recognized as a sound institution. It was organized November 1, 1876, with William M. O'Brien, President; William H. Spayde, Cashier; F. V. B. Minnich and William J. Graham, Directors. The same gentlemen have remained ever since in the positions to which they were then elected. A general banking business is transacted, deposits received, and special attention given to collections.

BUSINESS MEN OF PIERCETON.

Dry Goods, Clothing and Groceries.—Gibson, Hira & Co.; R. M. Lawrence; Froehly Bros.

Merchant Tailor and Clothier.—B. F. Andlauer.

Hardware and Agricultural Implements.—F. V. B. Minnich, and W. R. Schaefer.

Drugs.—Foster & Bro., and C. G. Baker.

Groceries and Provisions.—William N. Graves.

Grocery, Bakery and Restaurant.—O. Palmer.

Boots and Shoes.—Levi Snyder.

Millinery and Fancy Goods.—D. E. Moore, and Mrs. M. E. Boylan.

Jewelry.—B. M. Covert.

Books and Stationery.—D. H. Connell, at the post office.

Harness and Trunks.—William Fenton.

Meat Markets.—Netter & Bro., and D. Simonton.

Railroad Agents.—Nichols Bros., Agents P., Ft. W. & C. R. R., Telegraph Operators, and Agents for Adams Express Company.

Boot and Shoe-makers.—Levi Snyder, William Van Wormer, and S. Widup.

Broom Factory.—J. M. Humphreys.

Retail Furniture.—John Moore, and H. Hackett.

Barber.—Frank Brower.

Undertaker.—H. Hackett.

Physicians.—Dr. J. P. Long, Dr. E. H. Makemson, Dr. H. O. King, Dr. William Hayes, Dr. S. D. Ammerman.

Attorneys.—C. Clemans, and John McNamara.

Justices of the Peace.—J. W. Stinson, D. Kaylor and Samuel Forsythe.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Pierceton Lodge, No. 257, I. O. O. F., received its charter May 16, 1866, and on the evening of July 17, 1866, held its first meeting in the upper story of the building owned by Dr. William Hayes. On the night of organization, fourteen candidates were initiated and admitted to fellowship in the Lodge. The charter members were six in number, viz., D. M. Shoemaker, N. B. Morland, Jacob Klingel, J. W. Shaffer, Eli Hayden and George Watts. On the night of organization, an election was held, resulting in the choice of the following officers: D. M. Shoemaker, N. G.; John Shaffer, V. G.; W. H. Spayde, R. S.; Jacob Klingel, Treasurer. On the morning of August 26, 1878, the lodge-room, with its records and all its contents, was destroyed by fire, after which the Lodge met in the Universalist Church for five consecutive weeks, and from that time until May 20, 1879, the meetings were held in a room just west of the burnt building. In the mean time, measures were adopted for the reconstruction of the building thus destroyed, and, after its completion, the upper story was again rented for a lodge-room, and the first meeting held on the evening of the above-named day. The Lodge is in a prosperous condition, and its membership is constantly increasing. It is free from debt, and has a comfortable surplus in the treasury. The present number of members is seventy-eight. The following are the present officers: David French, N. G.; Samuel Snodgrass, V. G.; H. H. Shank, R. S.; Levi Snyder, P. S.; J. M. Humphreus, Treasurer; William H. Spayde, Daniel Hoover and William Snyder, Trustees.

Enterprise Encampment, No. 103, was organized May 15, 1870, with eleven charter members, viz.: William H. Spayde, S. M. Hayes, E. G. Eddy, Jacob Klingel, Levi Snyder, F. G. Frary, J. W. Shaffer, J. W. Stinson, J. B. Dodge, C. H. Ketcham and H. C. Milice. An election was held on the night of organization, but it is impossible to learn the names of the officers then chosen, as the records were destroyed by fire on the occasion previously mentioned.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month, in the lodge-room. A deep interest is manifested by each member, and the Encampment is in good working order. The present officers are as follows: J. W. Stinson, C. P.; W. H. Cornell, H. P.; Dr. William Hayes, S. W.; Daniel Kaylor, J. W.; William Snyder, Treasurer; William H. Spayde, Scribe.

Pierceton Lodge, No. 377, A., F. & A. M., was organized at Pierceton, Ind., June 20, 1868, with ten charter members. The first election of officers resulted in the choice of the following-named gentlemen: Henry H. Sweet, W. M.; William A. Babcock, S. W.; John G. Waldo, J. W.; Dwight P. Nichols, Secretary; William Shernburn, Treasurer; Jerome Potter, S. D.; Uriah Ruch, J. D.; David Johnson, T. Y. The Lodge is now in good working order, with forty-four members.

Meetings are held in the second story of the building owned by Dr. William Hayes. The lodge-room is very handsomely furnished, and great

interest is manifested by each member. The present officers are as follows: Alfred Ale, W. M.; J. G. Waldo, S. W.; R. M. Lawrence, Secretary; F. V. B. Minnich, Treasurer; Hiram Finton, S. D.; W. N. Graves, S. D.; Josiah Trump, T. Y.

THE CHURCHES.

The First Presbyterian Church.—Pursuant to an appointment of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, Ind., the committee appointed to organize the First Presbyterian Church of Pierceton, met on the 9th day of January, 1858, at the Crawford Schoolhouse. The committee consisted of J. N. Swan and W. S. Wilson, Ministers, and John Allen and Robert Cowen, Elders.

After public worship and a sermon by Rev. J. N. Swan, the committee received the credentials of those who had withdrawn from other churches, resulting in fifteen accessions. On the next day, an election was held for Ruling Elder, resulting in the choice of William Wilson by a unanimous vote. On the same evening, two applicants were received into fellowship on profession of faith. [Church Records.]

The first stated supply of the Church was Rev. W. S. Wilson, then Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Warsaw. Rev. Mr. Lorie, of Fort Wayne, and Rev. Mr. Beach, also filled the pulpit at various times. Rev. W. S. Wilson was the stated supply of the Church until the close of 1865, when he was succeeded by Rev. W. H. Blair, who occupied the position until April, 1870. In 1872, Rev. A. G. Martin was installed as Pastor, and continued in that relation three and one-half years. After the close of his ministry, until January 15, 1877, they were without a Pastor. At that date, the Church was placed under the pastoral care of Rev. F. M. Elliott, who still stands in that relation.

The Church now has a membership of 163, of whom 107 have become members since it was placed under the pastoral care of Mr. Elliott.

The first meetings were held in the Crawford Schoolhouse, and subsequently in the Ryerson Schoolhouse. Afterward, the schoolhouse at Pierceton was adopted as the place of meeting, and continued to be used as such until 1863, when they erected their present house of worship at Pierceton.

Of the constituent members of the Church, only six now survive. One of this number, the venerable Mr. Minzie, is nearly ninety years of age, and in the latest years of his life, is still a devoted member of his church, and has been one of its most active workers, and is unusually well-informed in the Scriptures.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Pierceton was organized in 1854 at the P. Ft. W. & C. Depot, Rev. Camp officiating. After the organization, meetings were held at the house of Robert McNeal, in Pierceton, for one year, at the end of which time they were conducted at the Pierceton Schoolhouse. The early records have been lost or mislaid, and for this reason we are compelled, however unwillingly, to present but a meager history of the Church. The present house of worship was erected in 1862 or 1863. It is a neat frame edifice, and was built at a cost of \$1,500. Rev. McElwee is the present Pastor.

The First Universalist Church.—In 1865, the members of this denomination met at the Pierceton Schoolhouse, and, under the ministration of Rev. Nathaniel Cray, organized the First Universalist Church of Pierceton. The Church organized with twenty-five members, and installed Rev. N. Cray as Pastor, in which relation he continued for two years. During his pastorate, the membership of the Church increased to one hundred. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse until 1868. In the spring of that year, they began the erection of their church, which was completed late in the same year, and dedicated in January, 1869, by Revs. S. Sage and S. F. Gibbs. The church is a handsome frame edifice, built in imitation of stone, and cost \$9,000. It was built in a very liberal spirit, and its members have never considered it their exclusive property, but have freely opened its doors to the use of other Christian denominations. Rev. S. F. Gibbs was retained as Pastor after the completion of the church. For several years the membership increased and the Church prospered, but finally some of its best members died, others removed to distant localities, and the interest began to wane. There is now no regular Pastor in charge of the Church, but its members expect soon to engage one.

St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church.—In 1863, Rev. Father Lawler came from Logansport, Ind., and organized the first Catholic society in the township, at the house of Thomas Murray, in Pierceton. In the following year they erected a neat frame house of worship at Pierceton, at a cost of \$1,800, in which services are now held at intervals of three weeks, by Rev. Father Hellhake, of Columbia City, Ind. The Church now has a membership of twenty-one families. (The above data furnished by George Murray.)

The Pierceton Public School.—In 1870, the School Trustees of Pierceton erected a handsome brick school-building in the southwest part of town, at a cost of \$9,900. The main building is 40x70 feet, with an "L," and has accommodations for 550 pupils.

In the fall of 1870, it was organized as a graded school by Prof. C. P. Hodge, Principal. Miss E. A. Root was placed in charge of the Intermediate Department, and Mrs. Anderson of the Primary. The following are the teachers since that date:

Year.	Principal.	Grammar.	First Intermediate.	Second Intermediate.	Primary.
1871.	C. P. Hodge.	Mathias Scott.	Miss Mary Sanders.		Miss M. A. Beach.
1872.	Isaac M. Gross.	John Iden.			"
1873.	"	J. J. Chaplin.	Miss L. Shertler.		Miss F. Crawford.
1874.	O. W. Miller.	Mrs. J. Widner.	Miss O. W. Miller.		"
1875.	J. H. Lewis.		Miss J. Hartsook.		"
1876.	M. F. Scott.	Miss J. Hartsook.	Miss L. Hartsook.	Miss Belle Stinson.	"
1877.	"	Mrs. Susan B. Knuff.	Miss Josie Brown.	"	"
1878.	W. J. Speer.	Miss Ella Davis.	"	Miss Leora Taylor.	"

The school term begins in September, and continues six months. The number of scholars enrolled at the last term was 336. (The above data furnished by J. W. Miller, Clerk of the Board.)

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Alert Fire Company, No. 1, was organized August 4, 1876, with forty members, and elected the following officers: F. H. Foster, Foreman; R. M. Lawrence, First Assistant Foreman; Levi Snyder, Second Assistant Foreman; S. B. Albright, Secretary; F. V. B. Minnich, Treasurer; Josiah Trump and L. D. Nichols, Pipemen; J. McGonigal, Foreman of Hose. In 1876, the authorities of Pierceton purchased a hand-engine, of the Bean patent, together with four hundred feet of rubber hose and twelve Babcock fire-extinguishers, which they assigned to the custody of the Company. The hose-carriage was manufactured at Pierceton, by P. Courad.

The Company is well organized, and has rendered very efficient service in the protection of property on various occasions. The officers for the year 1879 are as follows: F. H. Foster, Foreman; James M. Lawrence, First Assistant Foreman; M. Deardorf, Second Assistant Foreman; George E. Baker, Secretary; R. M. Lawrence, Treasurer; Josiah Trump and L. D. Nichols, Pipemen; J. McGonigal, Foreman of Hose.

On the morning of August 26, 1878, an alarm was sounded at 3 o'clock, to which the Company responded promptly. The cause of the alarm was a fire which originated in the Hayes Block, and was not discovered until it had burned through the roof. Being fed by a draught from an open hallway, it was beyond control before water could be thrown upon it. The firemen, however, determined to save adjacent buildings, if possible, and, to that end, endeavored to set the engine at a cistern near the burning building, when three kegs of powder, which were in one of the rooms, exploded in rapid succession, wounding several members of the Company, and they were compelled to remove the engine half a square away. In the mean time, the flames communicated with the building opposite and across Market street, which required the most determined efforts of the firemen to save it. They were compelled to stand so near the flames that their hands and faces were blistered by the heat; and they were only enabled to maintain their position by the citizens, who formed a line with buckets and threw water upon them continually. Their valor won the day, and the building was saved. The property destroyed consisted of the Palmer House, eight business rooms, and one dwelling.

A telegram was sent to Warsaw for assistance, but, the fire having been subdued in the mean time, a second message was sent, releasing the Warsaw department by the time they reached the depot.

This was the first great struggle in which the Pierceton Fire Department participated, and on this occasion they proved themselves worthy of the confidence reposed in them by the citizens.

KOSCIUSKO POST OFFICE,

otherwise known as Wooster, is a way-station on the P., Ft. W. & C. R. R. It is a small village, and possesses no commercial importance.

MONROE TOWNSHIP.

Monroe Township is situated in the southeastern portion of Kosciusko County, and is bounded as follows: North by Washington Township, east by Whitley County, south by Jackson Township, west by Clay Township. It has an area of twenty-four square miles, or 15,360 acres. The soil is of black loam, intermixed with sand, excepting the northwest corner of the township, which is characterized by yellow sand and marsh. Throughout the township the soil is very productive. It was originally covered by a heavy body of timber, including a large percentage of black walnut, poplar, oak, cherry, ash, and other valuable building material.

The township was organized March 8, 1855, under the name of Chester Township, but on the 4th day of December, following, was reorganized under the name of Monroe.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Hiram Bennett, who came in the spring of 1836, was the first white settler in the township; and in this fact alone is comprised his identity with its early history, as he was not remarkable for his industrious disposition, and bore but a feeble part in the development and improvement of the township. His cabin was constructed against a large fallen tree, which was made to serve the purpose of a "back-log" for his fire. His chief occupation seems to have been the sale of whisky to the Indians. He was an indolent, good-tempered, good-for-nothing fellow, and took his fortune as it came to him, without complaint, and made no attempt to improve it. But there were those who came to the township with higher ambitions, with a determination to earn from the cultivation of its rich soil a living and a competence. First among that class was William Norris, who, in 1837, cut his way through the woods from the "Hayden Settlement" in Washington Township, and settled on Section 24. Joel Phillips came in 1839, with his mother's family, and Cornelius Hand, Sr., and Cornelius Hand, Jr., settled in the township about the same time. Later in the same year came Thomas York, H. I. Stevens, John Cuppy, John Copelin and others. In 1840, they were joined by Louis Lipps, David Rolson and Samuel Fritz. Henry Clouse, James Norris, William Wilson and — Wey came in 1841. Among other early settlers, may be named William S. Hoagland, Isaac Brockway, George Sherburn, Robert Sibert, Eli Circle, Daniel Lucas, — Hagerman and — Falkner, who came at various times, and were prominently identified with the settlement of the township.

The first ground was cleared and the first crop was planted by Thomas York, on Section 15.

The first death was that of Valentine Phillips, who died in 1839.

The first white child born in the township, was Ulysses Stevens, who was born August 2, 1840.

The first marriage was solemnized in 1840; Michael Ryan and Miss York being the contracting parties.

The first mill was the saw-mill erected in 1843, by H. I. Stevens, at the outlet of a small lake on his farm. It was operated until 1856, when it was abandoned.

The first steam mill was the saw-mill erected by Daniel Miller in 1856, on Section 15.

The first township officers.—At the March term, 1856, the Board of County Commissioners appointed Jacob S. Rogers, H. I. Stevens and James Norris, Trustees of Monroe Township. They met at the house of H. I. Stevens, and appointed Daniel Miller Township Clerk, and at the same meeting numbered and located the road and school districts.

The first election.—In April, 1856, the first township election was held at the house of Daniel Miller. J. S. Rogers, John Gripe and David McPherson were elected Trustees, and David Miller, Clerk.

A. M. Simpson was serving as Justice of the Peace at the time of organization, and was permitted to retain his position until the expiration of his term. He was succeeded by Jeremiah Myers.

The first post office was established at the house of H. I. Stevens, who was appointed Postmaster. Several years later, George Moore, Sr., was placed in charge of the office, as the successor of Mr. Stevens. In 1861, F. P. Sellers was appointed Postmaster, and shortly after that date the office was discontinued.

THE SCHOOLS.

The public schools of this township are among the institutions in which its residents feel a commendable interest and pride. Every district is supplied with a substantial school-building, in which school is regularly taught. The following is a list of the schools and teachers of the township:

Schoolhouse No. 1, William Hackett, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 44; Schoolhouse No. 2, E. M. Idle, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 40; Schoolhouse No. 3, William McConnell, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 29; Schoolhouse No. 4, Benton Thoma, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 35; Schoolhouse No. 5, F. L. Maxwell, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 56; Schoolhouse No. 6, William R. McKinley, Teacher; scholars enrolled, 50. Total, 254.

School institutes are often conducted in the township, and have uniformly been attended with successful results. None are too old to learn, and the teacher leaves these institutes, feeling that his attendance has ultimately in the acquisition of valuable knowledge.

THE CHURCHES.

The Christian Church.—In 1841, the members of this denomination organized a church under the ministerial offices of Rev. John Plummer. It was organized at the house of Abner McCourtney, with eleven members, viz.: James Abbott and wife, Samuel Abbott and wife, Abner McCourtney, John Abbott and wife, Peter Circle and wife, and Alexander Hapner and wife.

Until 1868, the congregation met at the schoolhouses and the homes of its members; but in that year they erected a house of worship on Section 24. The building is a frame structure, 35x48 feet, and was built at a cost of \$1,500.

Services are conducted at intervals of two weeks, and the Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. David Hidy.

The Sunday School was organized in 1841. Samuel Abbott was the first Superintendent. It has now an average attendance of ninety scholars, but is only conducted during the summer. William Norris is the present Superintendent.

The Disciples' Church.—In 1846, the Disciples, or Christians, organized a congregation in the township, with the following officers: Elders, John Norris and Elijah Bird; Clerk, John Norris; Deacon, William Norris.

In 1866, they adopted measures for the erection of a church, but abandoned the project before the building was completed. They now conduct services in the schoolhouse.

The present officers of the Church are: Elder, E. M. Idle; Deacons, J. Newcomer and Caleb Zook; Clerk and Treasurer, E. M. Idle. The present number of members is sixty.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 141, I. O. G. T., was organized August 3, 1878, by J. J. Martin, of North Manchester, Ind., with ten charter members. The first officers were as follows: F. L. Maxwell, W. C. T.; Florence Messinore, W. V. T.; J. P. Driggs, F. W. C. T.; Rita Thoma, W. S.; J. P. Driggs, D. G. W. C. T.

The present officers are as follows: Valentine McPherson, W. C. T.; Ella Wolgamuth, W. V. T.; F. L. Maxwell, F. W. C. T.; J. P. Driggs, W. S.; P. E. Wise, D. G. W. C. T.

Monroe Grange, No. 425, P. of H., was organized October 9, 1873, and elected the following officers: H. I. Stevens, Master; J. P. Thoma, Secretary; D. McPherson, Treasurer; Ira Richhart, Lecturer; E. M. Idle, Chaplain.

In 1878, the Grange erected its hall, in which regular meetings are now held.

The following is a list of its officers for 1879: N. B. Norris, Master; E. M. Idle, Secretary; J. P. Thoma, Treasurer; H. I. Stevens, Lecturer; William Norris, Chaplain. (The above data furnished by Daniel Miller.)

IMPROVEMENTS.

For a number of years, the work of draining has been vigorously prosecuted by the farmers of this township, and has been instrumental in enhancing the value of its land, and redeeming portions once thought useless.

Farming is the only occupation in which the residents of the township are engaged, as Monroe contains no town or village within its limits, and consequently offers but little inducement to the merchant. This careful attention to agricultural pursuits has placed it among the most productive townships of the county, and the thorough system of drainage has added largely to the area of its tillable lands.

STATISTICS FOR 1878.

Wheat.....	28,000 bushels.
Corn.....	50,000 bushels.
Oats.....	14,000 bushels.
Potatoes.....	4,000 bushels.
Sweet Potatoes.....	600 bushels.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

Jackson Township is situated in the southeastern part of Kosciusko County, and is bounded as follows: North by Monroe Township, east by Whitley County, south by Wabash County, west by Lake and Clay Townships. It has an area of thirty square miles, or 19,200 acres. The general character of its surface is what is known as "rolling land," and its natural drainage is excellent. Its farms are very productive, and the township is well improved. It was organized March 8, 1838, and, at that time, embraced what has since become Monroe Township.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

James Abbott and family, and his son, Samuel Abbott, with his wife, were the first white settlers in the township. They came from Preble County, Ohio, and located on Section 13, September 17, 1834. Samuel Abbott entered 160 acres on Section 25, where he and his wife still reside.

In the fall of 1835, Abner McCourtney and Alexander Hapner, from Montgomery County, Ohio, settled on Sections 25 and 26, and each entered eighty acres of land. During the year 1836, Jesse Kyler and James Perkins settled on Section 25, and, later in the same year, Jacob Metzger and Isaac Ulery settled in the south part of the township. During the next year, the settlement received the following additions to its numbers: Nelson Baker, Jacob Cripe, Samuel and John Ulery, Henry Boze, Thomas Widup and Turrill Sisk.

The first orchard was set out by James Abbott in the spring of 1835. Mr. Abbott also cleared the first ground and planted the first corn in the township.

The first white child.—Abner Abbott, who was born June 11, 1835, was the first white child born in the township. He was the son of Samuel and Elma Abbott.

The first road was surveyed through the northeastern portion of the township in 1837, running from Warsaw to Springfield, Whitley County, Ind.

The first mill.—In 1839, John Hall erected a saw-mill and corn-cracker on McCourtney Creek. This was the first mill in the township.

The first steam-mill was the saw-mill built in 1846 by James Abbott & Son, on Section 26.

The first physician.—Dr. Pope settled at Dodgertown in 1859, and practiced his profession until the beginning of the late war, when he enlisted and died in the service.

The first post office.—In 1839, Jesse Kyler was appointed Postmaster and a Post Office established at his house. He served until his decease, after which, his son Jacob was appointed to the position. The office remained at his house about six years, when it was discontinued.

The first township election was held at the house of Abner McCourtney in the spring of 1838. Abner McCourtney was Inspector and Jesse Kyler was elected Justice of the Peace.

THE CHURCHES.

The German Baptist Church.—In 1840, this denomination organized a church in the southwestern part of the township, with fourteen members. Joseph Harter was the first Pastor.

In 1861, they erected a frame house of worship on the farm of Joseph Ulery, 48x75 feet, in which services are now regularly conducted. They now have 225 members. Their Pastors are David Ulery, Jacob Metzgar and Jacob Cripe.

In 1873, they erected a new house of worship on Section 26, to accommodate their increasing numbers; and many of the former members attached themselves to the new congregation. This Church is served by J. Umbaugh and Jacob Snell, Pastors.

The United Brethren Church.—In 1862, the United Brethren organized a church with twelve members. Rev. N. Miller was the first Pastor.

In the summer of 1872, they erected their present house of worship at a cost of \$1,550, and dedicated it in December, of the same year.

The Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. J. R. Brown.

The Sunday School was organized in the spring of 1873, with forty scholars. George Vance was the first Superintendent.

The school is now in a prosperous condition, having sixty scholars enrolled, and a fine library containing 100 volumes. J. W. Pickard is the present Superintendent.

CLAY TOWNSHIP.

Clay Township is situated in the southern portion of Kosciusko County and is bounded as follows: North by Wayne, east by Monroe and Jackson, south by Lake, west by Seward. It is five by six miles in extent, containing 19,200 acres. When first organized, it had an area of fifty-four square miles, but was reduced to its present limits by the organization of Lake Township, in later years. Its surface is generally undulating, and its natural drainage good. Its soil is watered by several small streams or branches, and is very productive. All of its farms have been hewed from the forest, as the entire township was thickly overgrown with timber, when the pioneers (of whom we shall write later) first settled within its boundaries.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The First White Settler was Samuel Bishop, who came from Ohio in the spring of 1836, and erected a cabin on Section 17, but did not occupy it, as he returned to Ohio soon after.

The First Permanent Settler was George Luke, who, in August, 1836, came from Ohio with his family, and built a cabin on Section 4. In October following, he was joined by John S. Popham and Zadoc McCoy, from Knox Co., Ohio, who settled near him. In February, 1837, came Joshua Caldwell, Isaac Minear, Sr., and Isaac Minear, Jr., with their families, from Huron County, Ohio. Mr. Caldwell settled on Section 19, and the Messrs. Minear settled in the immediate vicinity. In June, 1837, Thomas and William Jameson, also from Ohio, settled on Section 19, and within the ensuing two years came Henry L. Farmer, Thomas J. Elder, Samuel Graham, Samuel Daniels, John Homan and George Miller. After that date, immigration progressed slowly, and for several years the settlement received no new families among its population.

The First Crops were planted simultaneously by George Luke, John S. Popham, Zadoc McCoy, Joshua Caldwell and the Messrs. Minear, who began to clear a place sufficient for the purpose immediately upon their arrival.

The First White Child born in the township was George, son of George and Jane Luke. He was born in April, 1837.

The First Female Child was Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Jameson. She was born Sept. 10, 1837.

The First Death was that of Mrs. Sarah Minear, who died in the fall of 1838. Later in the same season, Mrs. Beatty, wife of Samuel Beatty, died, and both were buried on the farm of Isaac Minear.

The First Township Election was held in April, 1838, at the house of Isaac Minear. John S. Popham was Inspector, and Isaac Minear was elected Justice of the Peace. Of the voters who cast their ballots at that election, Thomas Jameson alone now survives.

The First School was taught in a cabin built of poles, in the northwest corner of the township, in 1840. In 1841, a hewed-log building was erected on Section 8, and was made to "pay a double debt," inasmuch as it was occupied during the week as a schoolhouse, and on the Sabbath as a house of worship. It was known as "Mount Pleasant." In 1859, this structure was replaced by a frame building, and, in 1877, a commodious brick schoolhouse succeeded the latter. In addition to this, there are now four brick and four frame schoolhouses in the township, having a total enrollment of 402 scholars.

The Township Library is a well-selected collection, containing about two hundred volumes.

The First Religious Meeting was held at the house of Joshua Caldwell in the winter of 1837-8. The service was conducted by Rev. Eliza Van Schoick, a missionary of the M. E. Church. No permanent organization was then effected, but services were subsequently conducted at irregular intervals by ministers of that denomination.

THE CHURCHES.

Mount Pleasant M. E. Church was organized about 1840, and, until 1841, held meetings at the houses of members of the Church, but in that year the log schoolhouse on Section 8 was adopted as the place of meeting, and continued as such until 1860, when they erected a house of worship on the same section, 38x50 feet. The Church is now under the pastoral care of Rev. I. J. Smith, and the present number of members is seventy-five. The Church officers are: W. A. Shipley and B. Popham, Stewards; S. C. Kinsey and George S. Heisler, Class-Leaders.

The Sunday School was organized in 1845, with twenty scholars. William Palmer was the first Superintendent. There are now about one hundred scholars enrolled. B. Popham is the present Superintendent.

Highland Presbyterian Church was organized May 12, 1853, by J. W. Clusky and Elder B. H. McClure, who were appointed a Committee of Organization by the Fort Wayne Presbytery.

The following were the constituent members: Isaac and Catharine Lucas, Jacob and Catharine Hapner, Nancy and Mary J. Simison. Isaac Lucas was elected Elder.

In 1854, they erected their present house of worship on Section 24, in which services are conducted once each month, by the Pastor, Rev. F. M. Elliott. The present number of members is fifteen.

The Sunday School was organized in December, 1877, with forty scholars, and is now in a prosperous condition. Henry Palmer is the Superintendent.

The Evangelical Association.—This denomination organized in 1865, with twelve members, under the preaching of Rev. S. S. Albert, and met at the schoolhouse and homes of its members until 1868. In that year,

they erected a house of worship on Section 28, in which they have since conducted regular services. Their membership at present is fifty-two, and the Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. J. Dustman.

The United Brethren Church was organized at Claypool, in the spring of 1877, with twenty-two members. Rev. John Good was the Pastor then placed in charge of the congregation. They have not, as yet, erected a church, but still continue to hold regular meetings at the village schoolhouse. Rev. John R. Brown is the present Pastor.

The Sunday School was organized in the spring of 1878, with fifty scholars. Henry Harris was the first Superintendent. During the winter following its organization the school was discontinued, but was re-organized April 13, 1879. Rudolph Collins is the present Superintendent.

THE VILLAGE OF CLAYPOOL.

Claypool, a station on the Cincinnati, Wabash & Michigan Railroad, was laid out May 10, 1873, by John M. and Nelson Beigh, who were the proprietors of the land upon which it is situated. Its principal business interests are represented by the following firms: A. J. Whittenberger, general merchandise and grain dealer; Hazel & Keplinger, drugs and groceries; Hillard & Pinney, proprietors of saw-mill; George W. Thomas, lumber dealer; M. W. Arnold, furniture dealer and pump manufacturer; Drs. H. P. Hazel and B. F. Bigelow, physicians; Elias Tridle, blacksmith.

Claypool Post Office was established in 1840, at the house of Joshua Caldwell. Mr. Caldwell was appointed Postmaster, and held the position several years, and was succeeded by H. L. Farmer, Sarah Jameson, Philip Rhoades and John Skinner at various times. In 1865, the office was abolished, but, in 1873, was re-established, under the same name, at the village of Claypool. Reuben Beigh was appointed Postmaster, and held the position until 1876, when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, A. J. Whittenberger.

LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Lake Township is composed of the north half of Town 30 north, Range 6 east of the Second Principal Meridian, and embraces the south tier of sections of Town 31. It has an area of twenty-four square miles, or 15,360 acres. The township was organized September 20, 1870.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Jacob Rhoades and family came to the township in May, 1837, and located on Section 34. Between that year and 1840, the following pioneers arrived in the township and established homes: Isaac Vangilder, Chris. Correll, Amos Snoke, Joshua Herendeen, Caleb Phillips, Joshua Botkin, George Butterbaugh, Samuel Butterbaugh, John Butterbaugh and William Leffel. Gabriel Swihart came in January, 1840. John and Chris. Frantz, Jacob Hay, John and Sol. Ulery, John Montle and Abraham Roland were also among the early settlers of the township. After their arrival, new settlers arrived in rapid succession, and joined hands with those who preceded them in the common effort of felling the heavy forests by which they were surrounded, and developing farms—a work which was prosecuted with great vigor, and produced good results.

The First White Child.—Enoch Rhoades, son of John and Catherine Rhoades, was the first white child born in the township. He was born in October, 1837.

The First Grist-Mill.—Hall & Paulus built the first grist-mill in the township, in 1859. It was located at the village of Silver Lakeville, and was operated by steam. In 1865, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt in the following year by J. & D. Paulus, and is still in operation. Yotter & Brother are the present proprietors.

The First Saw-Mill was built on Section 34, by Henry B. Funk, in 1848. It was also operated by steam.

The First Store was opened by Jacob Paulus in 1853, on the site of the village of Silver Lakeville. One year after the organization of the village, he built a frame store-room on the corner of Jefferson and Main streets, where he sold goods for a number of years.

The First Hotel was opened at Silver Lakeville, in 1864, by Joseph Keplinger. In 1871, two hotels were erected in the village, viz., the "American House" and the "Silver Lake House."

THE CHURCHES.

The United Brethren.—In 1855, the United Brethren organized near the present site of Silver Lakeville, under the preaching of Rev. S. W. Wells, who remained in charge of the congregation. In 1862, they erected a church at Silver Lakeville, 36x54 feet, which was dedicated in the winter of that year. The number of members at the date of organization was fifteen, and at present fifty-five. The Church is now under the pastoral care of Rev. J. R. Brown.

The Sunday School was organized by William P. Wells in 1855, with forty scholars. Ephraim Wells is the present Superintendent. The present number of scholars is 140.

The Lutheran Church was organized in 1865 by Rev. G. W. Wilson, who, after the organization, was retained as Pastor. Albert Scoles and Jesse Stackhouse were elected Elders, and John Chambers and William Chandler, Deacons. The number of members was eighteen. Until 1871, the Church meetings were held in the United Brethren Church, but in that year they erected a frame house of worship at Silver Lakeville, where services have since been regularly conducted. The present officers of the Church are as follows: Adam Oldfather and Adam Creager, Elders; Adam Stout and John Bilger, Deacons.

The German Baptist Church was erected on Sec. 3, in 1868. It is a substantial frame structure, 32x45 feet, and is a branch of the Church of that denomination in Jackson Township.

The Union Church was erected in 1868, on the farm of John Rhoades. It was built by members of various religious denominations, and is the exclusive property of none.

The Union Sunday School was organized in 1872, with fifty scholars. Adam Stout was the first Superintendent. The present number of scholars is 120. Perry Johnson is the present Superintendent.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Silver Lake Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, December 5, 1873, with the following officers: U. I. Ward, W. M.; Henry Paulus, S. W.; Peter Kepler, J. W. There were eight members at the date of organization. A charter was granted June 18, 1875, and the Lodge was organized under charter by G. W. Piper, Grand Lecturer. U. I. Ward was chosen W. M., Henry Paulus, S. W.; Peter Kepler, J. W., and John Yotter, Secretary. The present number of members is eighteen, and the present officers are as follows: Henry Paulus, W. M.; U. I. Ward, S. W.; W. H. Boulton, J. W.; Adam Stout, Secretary.

SILVER LAKEVILLE

was laid out March 8, 1859, by Jacob Paulus. The following are its principal business men: Henry Paulus, boots, shoes and harness; H. J. Connor & Son, O. P. Jaques and Mack Forest, dry goods and groceries; Fitten & Jauntz and John Kerlin, groceries; John Bilger, agricultural implements; William Boulton, Alvin Robinson and P. J. M. Burkett, drugs; Smith & Farwell, hardware; Decker & Haney, marble works; Adam Hill and Chandler & Tenney, carriage and wagon-makers; Yotter & Bro., grist-mill, saw-mill and broom-handle factory; O. B. Turner, photographer; J. W. Hawley, furniture-dealer and manufacturer; A. McClure, bakery.

SEWARD TOWNSHIP.

Seward is one of the southern townships of Kosciusko County, and is bounded as follows: North by Harrison Township, east by Clay and Lake Townships, south by Wabash County, west by Franklin Township. It has an area of thirty-six square miles, or 23,040 acres, the major portion of which is excellent farming land, and sufficiently undulating to afford fine natural drainage.

Portions of the central part of the township are occupied by lakes, which add greatly to its natural beauty.

Yellow Creek Lake occupies nearly all of the south half of Section 27, and has an outlet by way of Yellow Creek, which flows from the northern extremity of the lake through Seward and Franklin Townships.

It is a beautiful body of water, and is surrounded by impressive scenery. Its eastern and western shores are skirted by a white, sandy beach, around which winds a public road, from which the traveler may observe and enjoy a delightful picture, as he traverses its length.

Its neighbor, Beaver Dam Lake, possesses all the natural beauties which distinguish Yellow Creek Lake, and, being well supplied with fish, it is a popular and profitable resort for sportsmen; and throughout the fishing season its surrounding woodlands re-echo the merry shouts of gay fishing parties, who seek its shores and wage war upon its finny inhabitants.

In the years of long ago, its echoes were awakened by the savage voices of its red possessors, whose right none dared dispute; its waters were parted by their light, bark canoes, and beneath its overhanging foliage the dusky brave told his love.

But the years brought many changes, and a different race of beings, and the hunting-grounds of the savage became the home of a band of pioneers, whose names form the first "roll of honor" of this township.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Samuel Bishop was the first who came to the township with the view of making it his home. He came in the spring of 1836, and, with the aid of a span of horses, erected a rough log cabin on the land which he subsequently cleared and reduced to a farm.

In the fall of 1836, William Davis and James Garvin came from Plain Township, and erected the cabin which still stands on the farm of Mrs. Prudence Garvin, on Section 14.

William Davis settled in the township in 1837, and Girdon Hurlbut, with his three sons, settled later in the same year.

John and Robert Robinson came in 1838, and Milo R. Barbour came in 1839.

Prominent among other early settlers of the township, may be mentioned Jonathan Smith, William Anderson, William Washam, Frederick McSherry, William Raker, Benjamin Sutton, Samuel Magner, John Hanes, Francis Hines, John and Nathaniel Paxton, and Mark Smith, Sr.

The First White Child born in the township was Rhoda L., daughter of C. B. and Gratia Hurlbut. She was born September 23, 1838.

Jorusha Garvin, the second white child born in the township, was born September 30, 1839.

The First Marriage.—September 10, 1839, Thomas Jameson, Esq., a Justice of the Peace in Clay Township, was called upon to solemnize the first marriage in Seward Township. Danforth Hurlbut and Ann Robinson were the principal parties in the ceremony.

The First Schoolhouse was erected in 1842, on the farm of John Robinson. Mark Smith, Sr., taught the first term in the winter of that year.

The free-school system was inaugurated in the township in 1851, and twelve school districts established, in which school has been regularly maintained every year since that date. The present number of pupils is 505. Each schoolhouse in the township is supplied with a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

The First Religious Meeting.—In 1839, Rev. Asa Johnson, a Presbyterian minister from Peru, Ind., preached the first sermon in the township at the cabin of John Robinson.

In 1840, religious services were conducted at the house of James Garvin by Rev. James Martin, of the Baptist Church.

In 1842, Rev. Alexander Lemon, of the Presbyterian Church, began to hold regular meetings in the schoolhouse, where services were conducted until 1850. In that year the Presbyterians erected the first church in the township on the farm of John Robinson. It was a rough log structure, and was the only church ever erected in the township by that denomination. Rev. Alexander Lemon was for several years the officiating pastor, but deaths and removals of members caused disorganization, and after a few years the congregation was disbanded.

The First Road.—In 1840, James Garvin sent to the State Legislature a petition praying that a road be surveyed and located through the center of the township from north to south.

The petition was granted, and the road surveyed by George R. Thralls, assisted by David Garvin and Daniel Underhill, Viewers, Amos Joy and Andrew Nye, chain-carriers, and William Stapleford, blazer.

The First Orchard.—In the spring of 1837, James Garvin set out a lot of young apple-trees, which were grown from seed brought from Franklin County, Ohio. This was the first orchard in the township. In the fall of 1837, John Robinson set out an orchard on the farm now owned by his son Andrew. The trees were purchased at a nursery near Niconza, Wabash County, Ind.

The First Tannery.—In 1856, David Blue established the first tannery in the township, and conducted a profitable trade until 1866. In that year it was removed to Silver Lakeville, since which time this industry has not been represented in the township.

The First Mill.—In 1839, William Magner built a saw-mill on the north fork of Trimble Creek, and operated it successfully for several years, when he sold it to Thomas King. Mr. King operated it but a short time, and finally left it to go to decay. The frame-work of the building still remains, but it is in a ruined condition.

The First Blacksmith in the township was James Garvin, who, in 1846, built a forge and opened a shop on his farm, and carried on his trade in connection with the occupation of farming.

The First Physician.—Dr. George F. Birt came to the township in 1845, and remained eight or nine years, during which time he was engaged in the practice of medicine. He is now a resident of Larwill, Whitley Co., Ind.

The First Store was opened in 1875 by John H. Shoemaker, on the north bank of Yellow Creek Lake; but, as it did not prove a profitable institution to its proprietor, it was subsequently abandoned. There is now no store in the township.

ORGANIZATION.

"Come now Milo R. Barbour and Elias McClure, of Franklin Township, and present a petition signed by some 220 citizens of said township, asking for the creation of a new township, to be taken off of the east side of said township, to the width of 4½ sections, running north and south through said township.

"Whereupon, after due consideration of the same, it is ordered by the Board that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that a new township be formed as follows, to wit: composed of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, E. ½ 5, E. ½ 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, E. ½ 17, E. ½ 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, E. ½ 29, E. ½ 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36, Town 31 north of Range 5 east, and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, E. ½ 5, E. ½ 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, E. ½ 17, Town 30 north of Range 5 east; or otherwise, by line running north and south through the center of Sections 5, 8, 17, 20, 29 and 32, Town 31 N., Range 5 E., and Sections 5, 8, and 17, of Town 30 N., Range 5 E.; said township thus formed to be known and called by the name of Seward. * * * It is hereby ordered that said division shall take effect from and after this date.

"And it is further ordered that Milo R. Barbour be and is hereby appointed Trustee of said township of Seward, to serve as such until his successor shall be elected and duly qualified."—(Commissioners' Records, June 8, 1859; page 198.)

The proposed boundaries of the new township evidently failed to meet the approbation of some of the residents interested, for, on page 215 of the same volume, we find the following record:

"June 14, 1859.

"Comes Moses J. Long, attorney for John Paxton and Abner Wood (et al.), and files the following petition:

"STATE OF INDIANA,
COUNTY OF KOSCIUSKO."

"COMMISSIONERS' COURT,
June Term, 1859.

"Come now the undersigned citizens of Franklin Township, county and State aforesaid, and move to set aside the order given by this Court, dividing the township of Franklin, for the following reason: That we believe that the division of said township will operate against the general interest of the citizens of said township."

"After an investigation of the case and hearing the evidence offered, the Board ordered a reconsideration of their action fixing the bounds of Seward and Franklin Townships, as recorded on page 198 of this Record, and order that the same be, and hereby is, null and void. * * * *"

The new township shall be formed of the north half of Town 30 north of Range 5 east, and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35 and 36 of Town 31 north of Range 5 east.

"And said new township thus formed shall be known and styled by the name of Seward."—(Commissioners' Records; page 215.)

The First Election.—In the spring of 1860, the qualified voters of the newly-made township assembled at the house of Jesse Paxton, near Yellow Creek Lake, to elect one Trustee and two Justices of the Peace.

Milo R. Barbour was elected Trustee, and held the position for two consecutive terms.

Abner Wood and Jesse Paxton were elected Justices of the Peace.

THE CHURCHES.

The United Brethren Church.—On the 23d day of March, 1859, a class was organized under the auspices of this denomination, at the house of G. W. Hutchings, by Rev. N. W. Castle. There were nine constituent members, and the organization was styled "Yellow Creek Lake Class." For two years their meetings were held at the house of G. W. Hutchings, and subsequently in a neighboring schoolhouse.

During the late war, they began the erection of a house of worship, which, however, was never fully completed. It was inclosed and roofed, and in it they held services for several years. Soon, however, deaths and removals reduced their numbers, and there was, in the eastern part of the township, a class of the same denomination, whose numbers had become reduced by the same causes. Both classes united, forming one congregation, and, in 1873, erected "Fairview Church," on Section 27. Their house of worship is a frame structure, 34x46 feet, and was erected at a cost of \$1,250.

The Church has a membership of 120, and is now under the pastoral care of Rev. J. S. Todd.

The Sunday School was organized in 1861, and has been continued during the summer ever since. G. W. Hutchings was its first Superintendent. It had fifty scholars at the time of organization, and at the last session (summer of 1878), had seventy enrolled. G. W. White was the Superintendent at the last session.

The Church of God.—In February, 1863, eleven adherents of this faith met in the building formerly occupied by the United Brethren, and, under the ministerial offices of Rev. David Keplinger, organized a congregation.

They continued to hold meetings at that place for a term of two years, after which services were conducted in Center Schoolhouse. In 1868, they erected their present house of worship, which is designated as "Yellow Lake Bethel." The building is 34x44 feet, and was erected at a cost of \$1,400. Since its erection, meetings have been regularly maintained, and the Church has prospered. It is now under the pastoral care of Rev. B. F. Bear, and has about forty members.

The Sunday School was organized in 1863, since which time it has been maintained during the summer, but discontinued during the winter. Henry C. Smith was its first Superintendent, and B. F. Bear occupied that position at its last session (summer of 1878), during which session it had an average attendance of sixty scholars.

THE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY.

This useful adjunct to the school system of the township was established at quite an early day in its history, but the precise date is not known. It contained, at one time, more than one hundred volumes, but many of these have been lost and no record has been kept relative to the borrower, until the library has become reduced to twenty-four volumes. Among them are historical works, natural history and reports by the Adjutant General. Those volumes which remain, bear the "ear-marks" of frequent use, and are often in demand by the pupils of the township schools.

The library is kept at the house of Joshua Tucker, Township Trustee

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

Franklin Township, in the southwest corner of Kosciusko County, is bounded as follows: North by Harrison Township, east by Seward Township, south by Fulton and Wabash Counties, west by Fulton County. It contains thirty-six square miles, or 23,040 acres. Its surface is what is denominated "rolling land," and its soil is of black loam, intermixed with sand. The process of under-draining has been employed extensively by its residents, and has greatly enhanced the value and fertility of its farms. The only water-course of any importance in the township is Yellow Creek, which flows through the northeastern portion.

The township was originally covered by a heavy growth of timber, among which was a large per centum of good building material. Much of this was destroyed in the process of clearing, when the timber supply was greatly in excess of the demand. This destruction, although probably unavoidable, was yet the means by which thousands of dollars were lost to the township.

At the present time, however, the saw-mill interest is one of the leading industries, and he who now clears land finds a ready market for all available timber.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Until 1837, the solitude of these forests was not broken by the ring of the ax, or other implement of civilization. The report of fire-arms, or the death-cry of the wounded game; the shout of the Indian, or the crackling of the dry twigs beneath his stealthy tread, were the only sounds to which their echoes responded.

It was on the Indian highway from Peru to the Northwest, and for many years after the township had become the home of the white man, the Indian trail through its entire length remained a distinctly-marked feature and a frequent reminder of the once powerful race who trod its forests in native majesty and unquestioned ownership.

The "war of civilization" was first opened within its boundaries by Benjamin Blue, who came from Ohio in 1837, and settled on Section 2, Town 31 north, Range 4 east. His neighbors were Pottawatomies, who, however, were peaceable, and viewed the advent of the white man with apparent composure. Their lands had been ceded to him, by a treaty (consummated several years previously), and they were determined to abide honorably by its terms.

Mr. Blue continued to reside in the township until his decease, which occurred but a few years ago. He was a man of enterprise and energy, and bore a prominent part in the development and improvement of the township. Before the close of the year 1837, Benjamin West settled on Section 7, Town 31 north, Range 5 east. He remained about two years, during which time he made some improvements, but finally left the county. His land was purchased by John Bybee, Sr., who entered heartily into the labors of the pioneers, and, after making a farm, occupied it until his decease.

In 1838, came Dr. I. H. Jennings, who settled on Section 10, Town 31 north, Range 4 east. He took part with his co-laborers in the development and improvement of the township, and yet lives to witness the changes for better, brought forth in the years that have followed.

In the fall of 1838, Jesse Myers settled on Section 19, Town 31 north, Range 5 east, near the present site of Sevastopol. He remained about two years, at the end of which time, he sold his land to Rudolph Hire, and left the county.

Richard A. Lee came in 1838, and settled on Section 1, Town 31 north, Range 4 east. He was a man of industrious habits, and hewed from the wilderness a fine farm.

In the spring of 1839, Prosper Nichols, a former resident of Harrison County, Ohio, settled on Section 35, Town 31 north, Range 4 east. Like those who preceded him, he was of an industrious nature, and, throughout a period of thirty years, was more or less prominently identified with the interests and public improvements of the township. He died in 1868.

In the fall of 1839, his son, Solomon Nichols, settled on the same section. For more than forty years, he has been an interested observer of the advancement of his township, and still resides upon the farm cleared and improved by himself.

In 1841, Amos Baldwin settled on Section 31, Town 31 north, Range 5 east, and George Sarber settled on Section 2, Town 31 north, Range 4 east. Both were skilled in the labors of pioneer life, and both entered into the work before them with the zeal and energy characteristic of their class.

There were others who came at various periods, and who bore a prominent part in the development of the township. Among this number may be mentioned Jeremiah Burns, J. E. Day, John Mollenhour, William Provault, Simon Hartman, Abraham Blue, William Ball, Enoch and William Sturgeon, John D. Highway, John Smart, William Horner, Amer Pierce and William Jeffers, John, Horace and Albert Tucker, Henry Black, James Warren, Robert Cook, Allen Judd, George Barr, Levi Shively, Thomas and James H. Burns, and Caleb Rogers—all good men and true. With strong hearts and noble purpose, they bent their energies to the work before them, and each succeeding year witnessed the accomplishment of some measure for the advancement of the locality which they had chosen for their home; each season witnessed an added number of cleared acres, and those previously cleared were green with growing crops. Year by year their labors were continued, and the fertile soil yielded them a rich return. As the country developed, there was a market demand for their surplus produce, and the fortunes for which they had labored so earnestly began to accumulate.

The first house in the township was a rough log building erected by Benjamin Blue, on the northeast quarter of Section 2.

The first road was surveyed through the township in 1836, and was known as the Logansport and Mishawaka State Road. The Logansport and Warsaw State Road was surveyed and located in 1838.

EARLY BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES.

The first white child born in the township was James, son of Benjamin Blue. He was born in 1839.

Early Marriages.—The first nuptial ceremony in the township was on the occasion of the union of Hugh Bryant with Miss Anna Nichols, daughter of Prosper Nichols. The ceremony took place at the residence of the bride's parents, in the year 1840.

During 1842, life-unions were formed between Samuel Shields and Miss Mary Nichols, William Wagner and Miss Sarah Nichols, Charles W. Holman and Miss Delilah Burns, and Peter Bryant and Miss Lucy Nichols.

THE FIRST CEMETERIES.

In 1843, Prosper Nichols donated a tract of land, on Section 35, to be used as a place of interment for those who died in the township. Its first occupant was a child of Samuel Shields. In the same year, Richard A. Lee donated a lot for burial purposes. Both are still used for the purpose for which they were designed, and are thickly dotted with the headstones of pioneers of the township.

THE FIRST SCHOOL.

In a rude log cabin, erected on the land of Solomon Nichols, Jeremiah Burns taught the first term of school in the township, in 1842. This school was sustained by subscriptions from those having children to be educated, and was the place where some prominent citizens of the township received their education. Among this number was Harmon Mickey, who, in later years, served this county in the capacity of Auditor. Others of its pupils are now influential farmers.

In 1846, the first public school was erected, and, in later years, each school district in the township was supplied with a school building. There are now eleven schools in the township, having a total enrollment of four hundred and fifty-five pupils.

EARLY INDUSTRIES.

The First Mill.—In 1848 or 1849, Edwin C. Gordon erected a steam saw-mill, to which, several years later, he attached a run of buhrs for grinding corn. Subsequently, he erected a steam flouring-mill near the saw-mill. Both were located at Sevastopol, and are still in operation, having been repaired and remodeled from time to time.

The First Tannery.—In 1842, Benjamin Blue established the first and only tannery in the township, on Section 2. It received its motive power from Yellow Creek, on whose bank it was situated. He conducted a successful trade for three or four years, after which he abandoned the enterprise. Since that date, this industry has not been represented in this township.

The First Brickyard.—In 1853, the first kiln of brick in the township was burned by David Hammon, who continued the business successfully until his decease. It is now conducted by his son, Franklin Hammon.

The First Store.—In 1842, Richard A. Lee opened for sale the first stock of general merchandise. The store was located at his farm on Section 1, and was on the line of the Rochester and Warsaw State Road.

In 1848 or 1849, a second store was opened by Charles Garwood on Section 29. He remained but a short time—perhaps, two years—and then abandoned the trade to his only competitor, Mr. Blue.

The First Blacksmith.—In 1848, David Preston erected the first blacksmith's forge in the township, on the land of Solomon Nichols, on Section 35. He remained about three years, at the end of which time, he left the county.

The First Carpenter.—David Bechtelheimer was the first carpenter. He began to ply his trade in 1844, and still resides in the township.

THE FIRST POST OFFICE.

In 1844, a post office was established at the house of Samuel Rickel, and styled Beaver Dam Post Office. Samuel Rickel was appointed Postmaster, and held the position until 1858 or 1859. In that year, the office passed to the charge of Jonathan Weaver. Several years later, Mr. Weaver sold his property and moved to another locality, when the office was removed to the store of Mahlon Middleton, and Mr. Middleton appointed Postmaster. Nathan Hagenbook was the next Postmaster, and had charge of the post office about three years. Jonas Leininger was then appointed, and the office removed to his store on Section 31, where it is now located.

EARLY PHYSICIANS.

Dr. I. H. Jennings was the first practitioner in the township. He practiced his profession in connection with farming. The same was true of Richard A. Lee, who began the practice a little later than Dr. Jennings. Dr. A. M. Towl came in 1854, and is still in active practice.

ORGANIZATION.

"Franklin Township shall comprehend the following territory, to wit: Commencing at the northeast corner of Section 2, Town 31, north of Range 5 east; thence west to the county line; thence south along the county line to the southwest corner of this county; thence west to the southeast corner of Section 14, Town 30, north of Range 5 east; thence north to the place of beginning."

Road Districts Established.—"District number one in Franklin Township shall take the south half of said township. District number two shall take the north half of said township."

Voting Place.—"The place of holding elections in Franklin Township shall be at the house of David Peterson."

"David Peterson is appointed Inspector of Elections until his successor be elected; and said township shall be entitled to one Justice of the Peace, to be elected on the first Monday of April or August next." [Commissioners' Records, page 92, March, 1838.]

The First Township Election.—In August, 1838, the qualified voters of the township met at the appointed place to elect their officers. Richard A. Lee was chosen Justice of the Peace, and James Garvin, John W. Dunnuck and Solomon Nichols, Township Trustees.

THE FIRST RELIGIOUS MEETING.

In 1840, Rev. Jacob Miller, of the German Baptist Church, conducted the first religious services in the township at the house of Prosper Nichols. Later in the same year, or early in 1841, Elder Amos Baldwin, of the Christian denomination, conducted services at the house of Jeremiah Burns, and, in pleasant weather, meetings were held by him or some other minister who visited the township, in the groves near at hand. In 1841, Rev. James Martin, of the Baptist Church, conducted services at the house of Benjamin Blue.

THE CHURCHES.

The Church of God.—In the winter of 1865-66, a small class met in the schoolhouse at Beaver Dam and organized a congregation, with fifteen members. Elder Wesley Lovett was the Pastor in charge. Until 1872, meetings continued to be held in the schoolhouse; but, in that year, they were held at Beaver Dam in a neat frame house of worship, 34x44 feet, at a cost of \$1,200. Services are conducted every two weeks by Rev. B. F. Bear. The present number of members is thirty.

The Sunday School was organized in 1870, by David Leininger and Frederick Krause, Superintendents, with eighty scholars. During the winter, the school is discontinued, and since its last session (summer of 1878), has not been re-organized. Elias Leininger was its last Superintendent, and the average number of scholars was eighty.

The Baptist Church.—In 1858, fifteen members of this denomination met in the schoolhouse at Sevastopol and, through the influence of Rev. Andrew Babcock, organized the Baptist Church. The schoolhouse continued to be the place for holding meetings until 1860. In that year they erected their present house of worship, at Sevastopol. It is a neat, frame edifice, 36x40 feet, and cost \$900. Since its organization, the Church has prospered, and new names have been added yearly to its list of members. It now has a membership of about one hundred, and is under the pastoral care of Rev. Peter Hamner. The Church officers are as follows: Solomon Ernsberger, John D. Highway and Elliott Manwarring, Trustees; John D. Highway and Elliott Manwarring, Deacons. In the year 1860, a Sunday

school was organized in connection with the Church, and was conducted during the summer only, until 1877. Since that date, it has been maintained throughout the year, and now has an average attendance of about forty scholars.

John I. Cox is the present Superintendent.

The German Baptist Church was organized in 1857, and was then called Beaver Dam Congregation, by which name it is still known. Their first communion service was held in the same year, at the house of Prosper Nichols. Elder David Bechtelheimer was the first Pastor, and still serves the Church in that capacity. They contemplate building a house of worship at an early day, and have appointed a building committee for that purpose. The edifice will be of brick, 40x50 feet. Simon Bechtelheimer, James Warren and Moses Sagers are the present Trustees. The present number of members is 165.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Sevastopol Lodge, No. 403, I. O. O. F., was organized in July, 1872, by Joseph A. Funk, of Warsaw, Special Deputy, and worked under dispensation until November, 1872, at which time a charter was granted. The Lodge organized with eight charter members, and, on the night of organization, received ten accessions to its numbers by initiation. The following-named persons were the first officers: A. J. Whittenberger, N. G.; J. I. Cox, V. G.; Dr. A. M. Towl, Treasurer; E. B. Towl, Secretary. In 1876, the Order erected a neat frame building, 24 by 56 feet, two stories high, at an expense of \$1,700. The lower story is occupied by a store, and the upper rooms are the place where the lodge meetings are held.

It is in good working order, having at present forty-five members. The officers for 1879 are as follows: L. P. Jeffers, N. G.; Daniel Tipton, V. G.; John Dunlap, R. S.; George W. Jeffers, P. S.; William Jeffers, Treasurer.

THE VILLAGE OF SEVASTOPOL.

Sevastopol was laid out in 1856 by George W. White, John Tucker and John Mollenhour, who were the original proprietors of the land upon which it is situated. Thomas and A. J. Whittenberger opened the first stock of merchandise in the village, and enjoyed a lucrative trade.

The Post Office was established in 1857, and William Dunlap was appointed Postmaster. The office was kept at his house, about one-half mile west of the village, until 1861. In that year, A. J. Whittenberger was appointed Postmaster, and the office removed to his store at Sevastopol. Dr. A. M. Towl was the next Postmaster, and was succeeded by Dr. C. R. Grubbs. Several years later, the office again passed to the charge of Dr. A. M. Towl, and from him to H. C. Riner, the present Postmaster.

The First Blacksmith-Shop in the village was established in 1856 by a Mr. McCowick.

The First Physicians were Dr. C. R. Grubbs and Dr. A. M. Towl, both of whom still survive, and are residents of the village. The business interests of the present are represented by the following-named firms: Dunlap & Burns, general merchandise; H. C. Riner, groceries; David L. Lewis, hardware; C. E. Newhouse, drugs; Mott & Mollenhour, undertakers and furniture dealers; Richard Doremire, boot and shoe manufacturer; R. J. Lambert and George Kern, blacksmiths; T. M. Paschall and Phillets Leiter, wagon-makers; Towl & Keesecker, steam flouring-mill; J. I. Cox & Bro., steam saw-mill; Dr. H. B. Ernsberger and Dr. A. M. Towl, resident physicians.

HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

Harrison Township was organized March 8, 1838, and was formed from territory originally included within the boundaries of Wayne Township.

It is bounded on the north by Tippecanoe River and Prairie Township, east by Wayne Township, south by Seward and Franklin Townships, west by Marshall County.

It contains 28,500 acres, nearly all of which is arable land. There is but one small marsh, and but a small per centum of timbered land. The soil is watered by Tippecanoe River in the north, and Trimble Creek, which traverses the township from southeast to northwest.

Woodden's Lake is a beautiful body of water, situated on Section 7.

Palestine Pond is situated in the southern part of the township, near the town of Palestine.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

James Woodden and Andrew Sell were the first white settlers in the township. They came from Preble County, Ohio, in the spring of 1834, and located, the former on Section 18 and the latter on Section 19, and entered at once upon the labor of clearing ground, and erecting cabins for the shelter of their families.

They were recognized as leaders in the community, and bore a prominent part in the settlement and improvement of the township.

Immigration progressed slowly, and for two years after their arrival only eight families joined the settlement. They were Thomas Romine, Daniel and John Underhill, Thomas Reed, Joseph Shively, William Blue, Isham Summy and Christian Sarber, with their families. Phildon Romine, an unmarried man, came in 1836, and still resides in the township.

All were endowed with that fortitude and courage which characterized our pioneers, and fought vigorously in the struggle of civilization against the wilds of an undeveloped country; and their labors were not without reward, as the forest disappeared, acre by acre, and the fields of waving grain which succeeded it, provided them with the means of sustenance for their families, and the strength and energy to continue the battle, until nearly the whole of their lands had been redeemed and cultivated.

Some of their number have lived to witness and enjoy the present prosperity of the township, but many entered upon the eternal life, before their eyes beheld the consummation of their hopes.

The First Mill.—In 1838, Isham Summy erected, on the bank of Trimble Creek, the first mill in the township. It was a grist and saw mill, and received its motive power from that stream. Its facilities for grinding were limited, yet it proved a great convenience to the settlers, and a source of at least moderate profit to its proprietor.

The First Store.—In 1836, Daniel Underhill sold the first stock of general merchandise in the township, in a log cabin on the present site of Palestine.

The First Post Office.—In 1836, a post office was established at the house of James Woodden, and Mr. Woodden appointed Postmaster. During the early part of Van Buren's administration, Isham Summy was appointed Postmaster, and the office removed to Palestine.

The First Cemetery was laid out on a lot donated for the purpose by Andrew Sell, near the present location of "Center" United Brethren Church.

The First Death was that of a child of Andrew Sell, who was buried on the home farm, and this fact probably induced the father to consecrate that portion of his farm for a burying-ground.

The First Marriage.—April 29, 1840, Hon. William Williams, now a citizen of Warsaw, was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Jane Douglas. This was the first marriage solemnized in the township.

The First Schoolhouse was built on Section 29, in 1838. Henry Bradley was the first teacher. In later years, the public-school system was inaugurated, and, under the State School Law, a building was erected in each school district of the township. Since the introduction of this system, school has been regularly maintained each year, the term varying from four to six months.

There are thirteen schools in the township, having a total enrollment of 657 pupils.

THE CHURCHES.

The United Brethren Church.—In 1844, Rev. Jesse B. Slight organized a class with four members, viz., Noah Tinkey and wife, and Lawrence Easterly and wife.

For eleven years they met at the schoolhouse, or the homes of their members, their congregation having increased in the meantime.

In 1855, they erected a log house of worship on Section 10, in which they held meetings until 1870. In that year, they erected their present house of worship, opposite the building formerly occupied.

The present edifice is 36x46 feet, and cost \$1,500. It was dedicated, free from debt, by Bishop Weaver. The Church has continued to prosper since its organization, and now has a membership of eighty.

Rev. William Simons is the present Pastor; Caspar Folk, Steward; August Yenner, Class-Leader.

The Sunday School has seventy-five scholars enrolled, and is in a prosperous condition. August Yenner is the present Superintendent.

"Center" United Brethren Church was organized in 1875, and, in the same year, its members erected their present house of worship on Section 13. The building is 36x46 feet, and cost \$1,500.

Rev. Henry Sney was the first Pastor; George Brant, Class-Leader; C. K. Sensabaugh, Steward.

The church is now under the pastoral care of Rev. William Simons. C. K. Sensabaugh still serves in the capacity of Steward; William Slonaker is the present Class-Leader.

Atwood United Brethren Church.—In 1878, a class of ten members was organized at Atwood, by Rev. Mr. Light. Soon after organizing, they purchased the village schoolhouse, where they still conduct religious services.

They are well organized, and now have a membership of sixty-two. G. W. Douglas is Steward, and George Gault, Class-Leader. The Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. William Simons.

The Sunday School was organized April 6, 1879, with sixty-five scholars. Levi Puddyord is the Superintendent.

"Pleasant" Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the spring of 1849, at the house of John W. Dunnuck, with twenty-five members. Rev. Cornelius Dowd was the first Pastor. In April, 1851, a small log house of worship was erected on Section 31, and was dedicated, in the following fall, by Elder John B. De Mott.

In this building the congregation continued to worship until 1860, at which time they disbanded. The house was finally removed.

The Palestine Methodist Episcopal Church.—On the 9th day of October, 1854, the members of this denomination met at the house of Rev. James A. Hallord, in the village of Palestine, and organized a church. The congregation then numbered thirteen members. Rev. James A. Hallord was chosen Pastor, and John Fresh, Class-Leader.

They continued to meet at the house of their minister until the following spring, at which time they renovated an old blacksmith-shop in the village, and converted it into a house of worship.

In the fall of 1856, they began the erection of a church, which they inclosed and had partially completed in the summer of 1857, at which time they began to hold meetings within its walls. It was not fully completed, however, until 1859. In December of that year, it was dedicated by Rev. Jacob Colezzer, P. E. A. E. Mayer, William Sarber and John Fresh constituted the building committee. The Trustees of the Church at that time were A. E. Mayer, William Sarber, Elijah Baker, John Fresh and William Daugherty. The dimensions of the building are 30x40 feet. The estimated cost was \$600, at the time of its erection.

A. E. Mayer has served as Trustee from the inception of the organization to the present time. He has served as Recording Steward since 1855, and as Steward since 1857.

J. T. Alt and wife, A. E. Mayer, J. W. Dunnuck and wife, John Romine and wife, Elizabeth Yarnel and Nancy McSherry are the only survivors among the thirteen constituent members of the Church.

The Church now has fifty-five in full membership, and twenty-eight probationers, and is served by Rev. M. Swadener, Pastor. J. W. McKrill and A. E. Mayer are the Class-Leaders; J. W. Dunnuck, L. P.; T. D. Mayer, Exhorter; A. E. Mayer, T. M. Wiley, J. W. Dunnuck, F. M. Pearman and J. T. Alt, Trustees.

The Sunday School was organized in 1855, in the blacksmith-shop at Palestine. John Dulany was the first Superintendent. Throughout the intervening period, Sunday school has been regularly conducted during the summer, and suspended during the winter, with the exception of the past three years, since which it has been continued throughout the year. The school is in a prosperous condition, having now 140 scholars enrolled, and an annual average attendance of 100. A. E. Mayer, the present Superintendent, has served in that capacity three years. The foregoing data furnished by A. E. Mayer.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Crystal Lake Grange, No. 741, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized at Atwood, December 16, 1873, and worked under dispensation until January 1, 1874, when it was duly chartered. The Grange organized with twenty-five chartered members, and elected the following officers: L. D. Epler, W. M.; Thomas Welch, Overseer; J. W. Griffith, Secretary. Meetings are held in the hall at Atwood, on the first and third Saturday evenings of each month.

The present number of members is thirty-two, and the Grange is in a prosperous condition.

The following named persons are the present officers: L. D. Epler, W. M.; Joseph Goble, Overseer; Joseph Miner, Treasurer; Frank Epler, Secretary. (The above data furnished by Frank Epler, Secretary.)

White Oak Grange, No. 1073, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized January 15, 1874, by V. Gaillet, State Deputy, with twenty-nine charter members. The following persons were the first officers: L. D. Guy, Master; Levi Holloway, Overseer; Elisha Schooley, Lecturer; F. M. Anderson, Steward; Ellis Hayhurst, L. S.; Z. Griffin, Chaplain; B. Hayhurst, Treasurer; J. V. Vangilder, Secretary; John Hoppess, G. K.; Lauretta Hayhursts, Ceres; Catherine Thompsons, Pomona; Amanda Hoppess, Flora; Elizabeth Vangilder, L. A. S. The organization was effected in Schoolhouse No. 8, where meetings were held until the fall of 1876, at which time the order

erected a hall on the bank of Tippecanoe River, two and a half miles south of Etna Green, where the meetings are now held.

The present number of members is twenty-eight.

PALESTINE.

The village of Palestine was laid out by Isham Summy April 20, 1837, and, like many towns of that date, revelled for a few years, in dreams of future greatness and prosperity. Such dreams were warranted, perhaps, by the prosperity which seemed to come to it in the early days of its existence; for Palestine enjoyed an extensive trade with surrounding settlements, by no means limited to county or township lines; but this was before the days of railroads, and the bright dreams of its people were rudely dispelled when they saw their trade diverted in other channels, and to other marts, and Palestine awoke to a realization of the fact that she was suddenly transformed to a country village, and that her anticipated grandeur must be forever only the memory of a hope.

Its population is distinguished by energy, industry and enterprise, and it is still a flourishing village. Its principal business men are as follows: E. W. Uplinger, general merchandise; A. Horn, drugs and groceries; George M. Wirick, boots and shoes; Henderson & Ward, grist-mill; J. W. Hefley and F. M. Pearman, physicians; F. M. Pearman, Postmaster.

ATWOOD.

Atwood was laid out September, 29, 1857, by Harvey Hunt and Mrs. Agnes Tegarden, who were the proprietors of the land upon which it is situated. It is a station on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, and is a lively, enterprising village. The amount of wheat received at Atwood for the year ending May 1, 1879, was 13,812 bushels.

It was first called "Mount Ruska," which name it retained until December 11, 1865, when, by a petition of its citizens, it was called Atwood.

Its business men are as follows: Mac M. Forrest & Co., general merchandise; J. A. Rovenstine, druggist and Postmaster; Wray & Lucas, grocers; D. S. Welch, telegraph operator and agent P., Ft. W. & C. R. R.; George Knightart, proprietor "Atwood House."

The Post Office was established at Atwood in 1864, and Ira Hovey appointed Postmaster. He was succeeded by L. H. Shatto, Isaac Gerard, L. D. Green, John Hayes and James Smith, respectively.

J. A. Rovenstine was appointed November 7, 1878, and still holds the position.

Oak Ridge Post Office was established in 1877, and John Johnson appointed Postmaster. He still serves in that capacity.

ETNA TOWNSHIP.

Etna Township is composed of the east half of Town 24 north, Range 5 east of the Second Principal Meridian, and has an area of 13,440 acres. It is bounded on the north by Scott Township, east by Prairie and Harrison Townships, west by Marshall County. Its southern boundary is formed by the Tippecanoe River. In the vicinity of this stream, the land is characterized by hills; but in other portions of the township it is quite level, with some marshy localities in the eastern and central parts. The general character of the soil is good, and the farms very productive. Camp Creek rises in the northwest part of the township, and joins the Tippecanoe River at a point about two miles south of Etna Green.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In 1843, Robert Reed, Solomon Klingerman and Charles Rockhill came to this township and erected cabins near the present site of Etna Green, where they were joined soon after by George Burg, William Bowman and Abraham Bowman.

The First House was erected by Robert Reed, on Section 34, soon after his arrival in the township, and each new settler was thereafter assisted in the building of his cabin by his neighbors already established. A great amount of labor was involved in the preparation of these lands for cultivation, as the township was covered by a heavy growth of timber; but our settlers knew what awaited them, and did not shrink from the task, and their determined efforts soon removed the forests and replaced them by productive farms.

The settlement of Etna Township was not begun until many of its neighboring townships had long been settled and organized; but it possesses many natural advantages, and compares favorably with other portions of the county.

An Incident.—In the summer of 1845, a wind-storm prevailed during the night, and, in its fury, blew a tree across the cabin of Solomon Klingerman, completely wrecking the cabin, and pinning Mr. Klingerman immovably in his bed. His wife escaped uninjured, and ran to the cabin of Robert Reed for assistance. Mr. Reed returned with her and chopped away the tree, releasing the prisoner, who was found to be injured but slightly.

The First Death was that of Mrs. Thomas Hayhurst, who was the first person buried in the Etna Green Cemetery.

The First School was built in the village of Etna Green in 1854, and was taught by Miss Stallard. There are now five schools in the township, having a total enrollment of 285 pupils.

THE CHURCHES.

The Christian Church was organized at Etna Green, February 10th 1866. Rev. A. J. Clark was the first Pastor; William Bowman, Elisha Schooley, Stephen Thomas and James H. Porter, Trustees. Their house of worship is situated in the village of Etna Green, where services are regularly conducted.

The United Brethren also have an organization and church edifice in the village.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Jubilee Lodge, No. 268, I. O. O. F., was organized at Etna Green, October 25, 1866, by D. D. G. M., Walter Scott, of Warsaw, assisted by members of Kosciusko Lodge, No. 62. The charter members were as follows: Alva J. Clark, Aaron Keesberry, M. T. Davis, J. W. Davis, John Huber, G. W. Baker and Jonas E. Thomas. M. J. Coons was received by initiation on the night of organization. The first officers were as follows: John Huber, N. G.; John W. Davis, V. G.; George W. Baker, Secretary; Aaron Keesberry, Treasurer.

November 21, 1866, they were granted a charter by the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana. The members formed a joint-stock company, and erected a building for a lodge-room 27x56 feet.

Since their organization many new names have been added to their list of members, but of this number some have removed to other localities, in consequence of which the membership has been reduced to thirty-five. John Huber and M. J. Coons are the only charter members who still retain their membership in the Lodge. The present officers are: John Johnson, N. G.; J. W. Hershner, V. G.; B. F. Hamlin, Secretary; James Watson, Permanent Secretary; John Huber, Treasurer; M. J. Coons, D. D. G. M. [The foregoing was furnished by M. J. Coons, Esq.]

THE VILLAGE OF ETNA GREEN.

Etna Green, a station on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, was laid out in 1853 by David Carr and Levi Keeler. The first sale of lots was held on the 4th of July, of that year.

The First Store was kept by Levi Keeler, who built the first store-room in the village.

The First Mill was built by David Carr, in 1852, on the present site of the village.

The Post Office was established soon after the organization of the village, and Levi Keeler appointed Postmaster.

The First Township Election was held at Etna Green in 1853, and resulted in the choice of the following officers: Joel Leffel, Justice of the Peace, and Samuel B. Gay, Constable.

Etna Green is a prosperous village and is improving. Its merchants and tradesmen at present are as follows: M. J. Coons, physician and dealer in drugs, etc.; D. W. Hamlin & Co., general merchandise; J. K. Hershner, dry goods, groceries and notions; J. C. Jordan, drugs; Miss Adda Martin, milliner; Thomas Shennefeld, boots and shoes; Thomas A. Smalls, hardware, groceries, etc.; Abram Bowman, proprietor "Friendship House;" William Bowman, proprietor of saw-mill; Henry Cole, restaurant; B. F. Hamlin, dealer in lumber. The following are the resident physicians: J. N. Holloway, A. B. Surguy and M. J. Coons; S. R. Coons and John Huber, Justices of the Peace; W. J. Lightcap, harness manufacturer; Henry Hettinger, boot and shoe manufacturer. Fred A. Airgood and Bowman & McCrum, blacksmiths and wagon manufacturers.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

Prairie Township is designated as Town 33 north, Range 5 east of the Third Principal Meridian. It is bounded on the north by Jefferson, east by Plain, south by Harrison, west by Etna, and has an area of 36 square miles, or 23,040 acres, in which is comprised about one-half of Big Turkey Creek Prairie. This is very fertile land, and was settled earlier than the timbered regions of the township.

The soil is very productive throughout, and the farms fine. Prairie Township was organized March 8, 1838.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John Powell was the first white settler in this township; came with his family from Elkhart County, Ind., March 31, 1833, locating his cabin on Section 21, where he continued to reside until his decease. (See biography.)

James H. Bishop was the second white settler in the township. He located with his family, on Section 1, April 3, 1833. He proceeded at once to erect a cabin, and, shortly after, planted a small amount of corn. He still survives, and is yet a resident of the township. In the summer of 1833, Jacob Smith erected his cabin on Section 13, and subsequently entered 160 acres on Section 14, where he and his wife still reside. Later in the same year, James Garvin came to the township, and settled on Section 25, where he still resides.

Samuel D. Hall came to the township in 1835, and was prominent among the early settlers. He was the second Justice of the Peace in the township, and in 1852, was elected to the Senate of the State of Indiana, from the district of which this county forms a part.

Prior to the arrival of the families heretofore enumerated, the Government caused a ten-acre tract of land to be fenced and prepared for corn, in the hope of inducing the Indians to adopt a profitable occupation, and engage in farming; but after the sod had been broken, and all prepared to their hand, they refused to take the trouble of planting the corn, whereupon Gen. Tipton, agent for the tribe, caused it to be planted and cultivated for them at Government expense. It is not known that they refused it after it had been harvested and tendered to them.

The First Blacksmith-Shop.—The mechanical art of blacksmithing was first introduced in the township in 1836, when William Bowman erected his forge at Stony Point. He was an industrious man, and, in addition to working at his trade, cleared a farm, and took an active part in the improvement of the township.

The First Physician.—Dr. Harper came to the township in 1835, and for several years thereafter was engaged in ministering to the health of its citizens.

Dr. Edward Parks located at Galveston, in 1846, and practiced his profession about four years.

The First Mill in the township was the saw-mill erected on Section 27, by Hughes & Baker, in 1855.

The First Schoolhouse was a rude log structure, erected on Section 10, in 1836. Mr. Moore was the first teacher. It was supported by the residents of the township, by contribution, or "subscription."

Among its pupils were some who have since become prominent residents in the township, and whose entire school-life is comprised in the short period spent within its walls.

Among the survivors from its list of pupils are Hiram Hall, Mrs. Malinda Parks and Clinton Powell.

Since the introduction of free schools, there have been ten schoolhouses erected in the township, and a marked improvement is manifest in the system of education, with a corresponding effect upon the general intelligence of the community.

The total number of pupils in the township is 439.

The Graded School at Atwood.—In that portion of the village of Atwood which lies in this township, a school-building was erected in 1878, at a cost of \$1,575, in which a graded school was inaugurated in the same year. Henry Graham was chosen Principal, and Teacher of the Higher Department, and Miss Lizzie Reed, Teacher of the Primary.

THE CHURCHES.

The Atwood Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1866, under the preaching of Rev. E. P. Church, with twenty members, and in the second year after organization erected a frame house of worship, in Atwood, 36x56 feet, at a cost of \$2,000. The church was built under the pastoral administration of Rev. Charles W. Shackelford, and has continued to prosper since its foundation. The present number of members is sixty-two. Rev. M. Swadener is the present Pastor.

The Sunday School was organized in 1863, with forty scholars. L. H. Shipley was the Superintendent at that time, and S. Parker and A. W. Lucas are now serving the school in that capacity. It is in a prosperous condition, having seventy-five scholars enrolled at present.

In 1840, a society was organized in the western part of the township, under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and was attached to the Leesburg circuit. This was undoubtedly the first religious organization in the township.

In 1842, they built a hewed log house of worship, which was destroyed by fire a few months later. Soon after its destruction, the congregation erected on Section 17 a frame house, 25x36 feet, in which they conducted

regular services until recent years, when, for causes not known, they became disorganized, and many of the members attached themselves to other churches.

"Pleasant View" Methodist Episcopal Church.—In January, 1842, a little band assembled at the house of Elisha Dunnuck and, under the ministerial offices of Rev. O. V. Lemon, organized a church of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. The following persons were the constituent members: Marshall Trussel and wife, Aquilla Belt and wife, John A. Clow and wife and Elisha Dunnuck and wife. Marshall Trussel was chosen class-leader.

For a number of years the congregation continued to meet and conduct services at the house of Mr. Dunnuck once in four weeks. In 1859, they erected a frame house of worship on Section 6, 30x40 feet, at a cost of \$250, cash, much of the material having been donated by its friends. It was dedicated in the same year by Rev. J. Colclazer, and Rev. James Donahoe was chosen Pastor.

Since the erection of the church, services have been conducted every two weeks.

It was formerly attached to the Leesburg circuit, but, in the present year, was transferred to Atwood circuit. It is now under the pastoral care of Rev. M. Swadener, and has a membership of twenty-five.

The Sunday School was organized immediately after the completion of the church-building, and has been maintained ever since. E. Dunnuck was the first Superintendent, and served in that capacity several years, when he retired, but was subsequently chosen a second time, and is now serving in that capacity. The school is in a prosperous condition, and well organized. The number of scholars enrolled is forty.

The United Brethren Church. In the fall of 1876, the members of this denomination met at Galveston, and organized a congregation, after which they began the erection of a house of worship in the village. A building 36x54 feet was then begun on a lot set apart for church purposes by the original proprietor and founder of the village.

The church was dedicated in 1877, by Elder Sickafoos, since which time, services have been regularly conducted, and the Church has prospered. It now has a membership of sixty. Rev. J. A. Cummings is the present Pastor.

The Sunday School was organized in 1877, with Jasper Goshert as Superintendent. He was succeeded by W. H. Byrer, who is now filling that position. The number of scholars enrolled is 125.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Stony Point Grange, No. 1094, was organized January 15, 1874, with thirty-two charter members. The following named persons were the first officers: S. D. Anglin, W. M.; Thomas Ross, W. Sec.; E. Wolf, W. O.; Jehu Ross, W. L.; J. G. Anglin, W. A. S.; M. Boon, W. S.; J. F. Anglin, W. T.; M. Ross, W. G. K.; W. C. Zinn, W. C.; Sarah V. Martin, W. C.; Adaline Taylor, W. F.; Almira Scott, L. A. S.; Emily O. Anglin, W. P.

Meetings are held in the hall situated four miles west of Galveston, every two weeks; Saturday evening being the regular meeting night.

The present number of members is forty-seven, and the Grange is in a prosperous condition. The present officers are as follows: J. F. Anglin, W. M.; S. D. Anglin, W. Sec.; Jehu Ross, W. L.; J. G. Anglin, W. S.; S. Thomas, W. A. S.; D. Yeiter, W. T.; D. H. Anglin, W. G. K.; M. Ross, W. C.; Matilda Martin, W. C.; Martha Ross, W. F.; Sarah V. Martin, W. P.; Lucina Martin, L. A. S. (The foregoing was furnished by S. D. Anglin, Secretary).

Monard Prairie Grange, No. 1072, P. of H.—The charter members of this Grange, thirty in number, met on the 9th day of January, 1874, and appointed John Banks, Chairman, and C. Harman, Secretary. At the same meeting the following officers were elected: John S. Todd, Master; M. R. Robinson, Overseer; John Miller, Lecturer; Jesse W. Crabb, Steward; I. M. Powell, Assistant Steward; C. Harman, Secretary; Andrew Rarrick, Gate Keeper; Mary Jane Powell, Ceres; Elizabeth Klinger, Pomona; Liza A. Robinson, Flora; Percilla Rarrick, Lady Assistant Stewardess; John Banks, Chaplain; William Miller, Treasurer. They were installed by Deputy V. Calliat, of Marshall County, Ind.

Since its organization the Grange has received forty-seven accessions to its numbers, and now has a membership of seventy-seven. The following persons were elected and installed as officers for the present year (1879): Frederick Klinger, Master; Thomas W. Shanks, Overseer; Christian Harman, Lecturer; George W. Bitikoff, Steward; Henry Ulmer, Assistant Steward; John Miller, Chaplain; Jesse W. Crabb, Treasurer; John Wolf, Secretary; Andrew Rarrick, Gate Keeper; Magdalene Harman, Ceres; Rachel D. Shanks, Pomona; Leonora Miller, Flora; Mary Jane Powell, Lady Assistant Stewardess.

THE VILLAGE OF GALVESTON.

Galveston was laid out in 1846, by Felix Miller, who was its original proprietor.

Later in the same year, William Biggs and Eli Summy opened the first store in the village, and conducted a profitable trade for a number of years. There are now two general merchandise stores, kept by Joseph S. Neely and Hiram Bogges, respectively.

Statistics (1879).—Wheat, 51,400 bushels; corn, 95,400 bushels; oats, 18,200 bushels; grass and clover seed, 500 bushels; fruit, 13,700 bushels; wool, 4,300 pounds.

PLAIN TOWNSHIP.

In June, 1836, when Kosciusko County was first divided into townships, Plain Township embraced a territory six miles wide by twenty-one miles long; but the subsequent organization of Tippecanoe and Prairie Townships reduced it to its present limits. It now embraces all of Town 33 north, Range 6 east of the Second Principal Meridian. A large proportion of its soil is prairie land, constituted by Bone Prairie in the east and a part of Big Turkey Creek Prairie in the west. Tippecanoe River flows through the township in a southwesterly direction, from the lake bearing the same name. With the exception of the prairies, the township was originally covered by a heavy growth of timber, of which fully 50 per cent has been removed and farms developed from the land which it occupied.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In February, 1833, Thomas and Isaac Moore, with their families, left Wayne County, Ind., and arrived in this township on the 4th day of March following. In February, 1833, two cabins were erected in the township by Elijah Harlan and John Rumbley, respectively, who, however, retired to Elkhart County, Ind., to await the consummation of the treaty with the Indians, by which the lands in this township would be offered for sale. Upon the arrival of the Messrs. Moore the cabin of Mr. Rumbley was occupied by them.

The Indians, although nominally peaceable, were troublesome, and, at the solicitation of Mr. Moore, Elijah Harlan consented to locate upon his claim, near by, for the sake of company, and, with his family, he moved to the cabin previously erected, March 6, 1833. Later in the same year, they were joined by Samuel Stookey, William Shelly, Charles Ervin, John B. Chapman, Ichabod Colyar and Jacob Kirkendall. In 1834, came Samuel Stephenson, John R. Blain, William B. Blain and David Roudabush; and, during the year 1835, the settlement received the addition to its numbers of David Rippey and Alexander M. Blain. Prominent among other pioneers of the township were Jacob Rosebrough, Peter L. Runyan, W. C. Graves, Metcalfe Beck, W. W. Eskew and John Wimmers. After the year 1836, the settlement increased rapidly in point of numbers, and some of its members having reaped crops, enjoyed a certain degree of prosperity.

In the fall of 1835, W. W. Eskew built the first frame house in the township, in which he sold groceries and whisky. It was located in the village of Leesburg.

The First White Child born in the township was Peter, son of John Wimmers. He was born in December, 1833.

The First Death was that of Henry, son of John Ruby, who died April 18, 1833. Malinda Harlan died on the day following, and Maria Harlan died on the 23d day of the same month. All were buried on the land now known as the Samuel Thomas farm, on Section 10.

THE SCHOOLS.

In the fall of 1835, a log schoolhouse was erected on what is now Lot 40, in Leesburg. William C. Graves was the first teacher. Like other schools of that period, it was a "subscription school," and was dependent upon private liberality for its maintenance. Free schools were not inaugurated until comparatively recent years; but, since their introduction, they have been regularly maintained. There are now eight districts in the township, in which school is taught from six to nine months each year. The number of scholars enrolled is 391.

The Leesburg Graded School was erected in 1867. The size of the building is 40x50 feet, two stories high. The term extends over a period of nine months each year, and the school is known as an institution of a high order. The following are the teachers now in charge: Prof. L. S. Gibson, Principal; Charles Weaver, Intermediate; Alice Piatt, Primary. The number of scholars enrolled is 110. (These data furnished by Mr. A. M. Sanderson.)

THE CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—In 1834, the first religious meeting in the township was conducted at the house of Charles Ervin, by Rev. Richard R. Robinson, a circuit preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who came from Goshen, Ind. In 1836, this denomination organized a society at the same house, under the ministerial offices of Rev. William M. Fraley, with the following members: Charles Ervin and wife, John Shelly and wife, and Jacob Reynolds and wife.

In the ensuing two years, their congregation increased, and, in 1838, they erected, at Leesburg, a frame house of worship. This church now has a membership of 140. Their present edifice was erected at a cost of \$2,000. From this beginning was formed Leesburg Circuit, consisting of Bone Prairie M. E. Church, with seventy-five members; Monoquet M. E. Church, seventy-five members, and Pleasant View M. E. Church, forty members.

The Sunday school was organized at Leesburg, in 1848. Andrew Nichols was the first Superintendent. The present incumbent is William Armstrong. The average attendance is 125 scholars.

The Oswego Baptist Church.—This Church was organized in October, 1837, by Rev. James Martin and Daniel French, with the following constituent members: Ezekiel French, Elizabeth French, Nancy A. Lepper, Anderson Ashby, John Powell, Lena Lepper, Sarah Moore, Dorothea Powell, Rebecca Merritt, Elizabeth Nil and Moses Powell. They have a substantial house of worship at the village of Oswego, in which services are regularly conducted by Rev. D. W. Sanders, their present Pastor.

The Sunday school was organized in April, 1868, and is in a prosperous condition. The present Superintendent is M. D. Hunt.

The Disciples, or Christians, have a small church at Leesburg, but, having no regular Pastor, conduct services at irregular intervals.

The United Presbyterian Church was organized at Leesburg, in 1834, by Rev. James Worth, who still survives, and now resides in the State of Oregon. In 1840, the congregation erected a small frame house of worship at Oswego, and Rev. John F. Kerr was installed as Pastor, and W. W. Cowan, Thomas Kirkpatrick and James Blain, Elders. The Church prospered and its numbers increased, and, in 1859, the old building was replaced by a larger and more commodious edifice. Rev. J. F. Kerr died while in charge of the congregation. In later years, many of the members removed to other localities, and the congregation became greatly reduced. Rev. John Anderson was the last installed Pastor. Since his retirement from the charge, services have been held at irregular intervals, only.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Roads.—The first road in the township was surveyed in 1834 or 1835, by James R. McCord, of Goshen, Ind., from Goshen south, through the present sites of Leesburg and Milford.

Grist-Mills.—In 1835, Levi Lee built the first grist-mill in the township. It was on the bank of Tippecanoe River, between Monoquet and Oswego. In 1841, a grist-mill was built on the Tippecanoe River, at Oswego, by Messrs. Willard and French. The building has since been removed.

In 1857, David Roudabush built the first steam flouring-mill in the township, at Leesburg.

The excellent water power of Tippecanoe River offers superior advantages to the milling enterprise, which have been well improved. There are now two saw-mills in the township, whose motive power is supplied by this stream. There are also three saw-mills and one flouring-mill operated by steam.

The First Store.—In 1834, John R. and William Blain, of Highland County, Ohio, brought a small stock of merchandise and opened a general store in Bone Prairie. In 1835, they removed their store to Leesburg.

The second store in the township was kept by Barbee, Willard & French, in 1837.

The First Hotel was built at Leesburg, in 1835, by W. W. Eskew. It was a small frame building, and its accommodations were correspondingly limited.

The First Blacksmith-Shop was established at Leesburg, in 1834, by John McConnell, who continued engaged in the trade many years at that place.

Woolen Mill.—During the war of the rebellion, when the demand for woolen goods was great, and prices high, a large woolen mill was erected at Monoquet, by E. F. Scholl. It was conducted successfully for a number of years, but is not now in operation.

The First Physicians.—Drs. Z. C. Johnson and N. A. Chamberlin were the first physicians in the township. They located at Leesburg in 1838, where they practiced in partnership about two years, when Dr. Johnson removed to Oswego. Dr. E. S. Blue was also one of the pioneer physicians, having settled at Leesburg in 1839 or 1840.

Post Offices.—Turkey Creek Post Office was established on Section 4, in 1834, and John B. Chapman was appointed Postmaster. In the latter part of 1835, the office was removed to Leesburg, and Jacob Rannells appointed Postmaster.

In 1840, a post office was established at Oswego, which has been maintained ever since. Ezekiel French was the first Postmaster.

THE VILLAGE OF LEESBURG.

Leesburg, the oldest town in Kosciusko County, was laid out by Levi Lee, in August, 1835. The first lots were offered for sale in that month, and only one was sold. The purchaser, Dr. Sellick, of La Gro, Ind., failed to comply with the conditions of sale, and the lot was subsequently sold to Metcalfe Beck, who erected upon it a store and residence, where he remained for a number of years. During the early years of the existence of the village, its residents entertained high hopes of future greatness for it. At one time, it aspired to the county seat; at another, a plank road was projected, to begin at Leesburg, pass through Oswego and Fort Wayne, and terminate in Cincinnati. Leesburg was the nucleus from which sprang other settlements in the county, and many present residents of Warsaw began their business career and resided there. In point of age, few towns or cities in the northwest are its seniors. Chicago is but little older. Its natural advantages encouraged the aspirations of its citizens, who looked confidently forward to the time when Leesburg should be a large and populous city. Apropos of these high hopes, and probably inspired by the same, a prairie poet poured out his feelings in an ode, beginning,

"Immortal Leesburg! Earth's metropolis,
Before whose luster cities fade to naught."

But its anticipated greatness did not come. The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad reached Warsaw in 1854, and with that event the glory of Leesburg began to wane. Its palmy days were from 1836 to 1854, during which period it was the chief business point in the county. The prairies were called "Egypt" by settlers in other localities, who came hither to buy corn, and Leesburg was the mart for the sale of merchandise. There the settlers from the Eel River purchased their goods when they came to the prairies for corn. John R. Blain, M. E. Horan, Jonathan Moon and Edward Archibald were then established merchants, and found their occupation both lucrative and pleasant.

Leesburg was once regarded as the center of the community, and was quaintly termed "the hitching-post." It may be, not inaptly, spoken of as the Rip Van Winkle of this county, since, after a slumber of many years, its quiet is now disturbed by the din and bustle of railroad traffic, and it has awakened to a degree of life and business activity.

Leesburg Grave-Yard.—The history of this place, which, at the time, was painfully interesting, is summed up in the following subscription paper:

"We, the undersigned subscribers, do promise to pay the sums annexed to our respective names to the Trustees that may hereafter be selected, for the purpose of paying for a piece of land that has been bought of James Mason, near the town plat of Leesburg, by W. B. Blain, Levi Perry and Jacob Rannells, who were appointed for the purpose of selecting and purchasing a piece of land for the uses and purposes of a burying-ground for said town and neighborhood.

LEESBURG, July 4, 1838.	
John R. Blain.....	\$5.00 paid.
Henry Lee.....	2.00
James Knight.....	2.00
Peter L. Runyan, Sr.....	5.00 paid.
Joseph Blue.....	1.00
E. S. Blue.....	3.00
Daniel C. Clark.....	50 paid.
A. Buckley.....	1.00
M. Beck.....	3.00 paid.
James Blain.....	2.00
A. Sears.....	1.00
William Shelly.....	\$1.00
Henry L. Farmer.....	1.00
Robert Robinson.....	1.00
Michael E. Horton.....	3.00 paid.
David Rippey.....	3.00 pd. \$2.
J. W. Coy.....	1.00
John Haecker.....	1.00
John W. Dunnuck.....	2.00
Thomas Rumbley.....	1.50
John Greer.....	50 paid.
E. P. Davis.....	1.00 paid.

The amount paid was \$20.50. The balance, \$19.50, was raised by subscription, with an excess of 11 cents, and the \$40 paid to James Mason for one and one-half acres of ground for a grave-yard for Leesburg and the neighborhood. The final settlement was made April 4, 1849. [The foregoing data was furnished by Metcalfe Beck, who has the original manuscript.]

From an address prepared by William C. Graves, we learn the following: "The Seat of Justice of Kosciusko County was located at Leesburg until its removal to Warsaw by Commissioners appointed for that purpose."

The First Tailor.—Samuel Johnson was the first who raised "the standard of the goose" in the village of Leesburg, and the young men at once began to "rally around the banner of broadcloth."

Leesburg was the first recorded village in the county, although others were recorded in the same year. Its aspirations have been referred to in a foregoing article. We quote farther from the address of Mr. Graves: "The towns north of us, to wit: Goshen, South Bend and La Porte, and south, Plymouth, Rochester, Logansport, Peru and Wabash, possessed the great advantage over us of being situated upon the roads first opened in the northern part of the State, having obtained a good start when the 'flush times' of 1836 came about. For instance: Being away from the thoroughfares, a town in Northern Indiana was remote and obscure, if not located on what was called 'The Great Michigan Road,' running from Indianapolis by way of Logansport, Rochester and Plymouth to South Bend and La Porte. Not to live on that great road (which none ever traveled but to curse, nor left without praise and thanksgiving for his merciful deliverance), was to be a backwoodsman. When any of us ventured into the precincts of the villages thereon, their inhabitants would 'put on airs,' and affect to regard us with as much curiosity as we do the Aztec children.

"But many of these villages have outlived their pretentious notions, and some have relapsed to their original nothingness."

MONOQUET VILLAGE.

BY METCALFE BECK.

EARLY TIMES; DAVE BURELLE; MONOQUET THE INDIAN CHIEF.

"The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself;
Yes, all which it inherits shall dissolve,
And like this unsubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind!"

The changes and mutations of time have ever been in the past, and are likely to be in the future, a fit theme for human reflection. To muse on things of "early days" could be possible only to the old if the pen of the

chronicler brought them not down to later times; and in every country there are some spots, which, above others, by history or tradition, inspire us with thoughts on past events. And now, if the reader has leisure, and will start (at the south end of the lake in Kosciusko County, Ind., whence the Tippecanoe takes its start and name), and go with me about four miles southwest, down the river, and on the north bank of the stream, we shall find the village of Monoquet. Here let us pause and take our reckoning, for this is historic ground, which in time past, has been a theatre for human nature, where tragedy, comedy and farce have in turn been played by fugitive actors, who have left the stage and gone forever.

The Monoquet of the present is one thing, but the village of 1835 and 1836 was quite another, and peopled by a different race of men. At that time, the river had no bridge; the banks had been gashed by no mill-race, and the clear, bright stream ran on its course, its gentle flow unchecked by any dam. Here was Monoquet Village; its inhabitants were Pottawatomies, and their chief was Monoquet, from whom the village derived its name.

Just west of where the Leesburg Road now crosses the river, stood the old village, and its eastern edge was about twenty yards west of the springs, which rise by the side of the road. The springs in latter times made many new acquaintances among the whites, being introduced by James Hawk, whose grocery was over them, and whose grace, and manner, and infinite politeness made it the wayfarer's pleasure to give him a call.

The village contained about fifteen bark-covered wigwams, which were scattered over two or three acres of land on the north bank of the river, the village being longest from east to west. There were no regular streets, and the wigwams were set at random, like the forest trees among which they were placed.

My first call at the village was with Dave Burelle, a notable of those days, and who (to me, at least), was a person of more than common interest; in fact, he was to me a school-master, who taught me a useful vocabulary of Indian words, to assist me in my dealings with the tribe. I will sketch him and give some of his points: He was a clean-limbed, active man, about thirty-three years of age, stood five feet nine inches high, dressed and painted like an Indian, and lived and moved with them as one of the tribe. He spoke French and Indian readily, and enough English to make him a useful interpreter between the Indians and the whites. I think he was a Frenchman, but he acted the Indian so well that it was entirely at his convenience whether he would be French or Indian. When with the Indians he was one of them; but when with the whites, and wanting to buy whisky, he was a Frenchman. He could be "all things to all men." His attainments forced my regard, and when occasion gave him scope for his three languages, his ready use of them won my admiration. Most men of talent have their oddities, and so, also, had the friend whom I admired. Dave was a discreet drinker of whisky, and a good judge of its quality; and it was worth the price of his first dram to observe how wisely and carefully he would proceed to take it. In those days the kind of whisky in common use, was "Smith's Rectified," made in Piqua, Ohio, and brought here by way of Fort Wayne.

"Illustrious Smith, of wide renown,
Whose name prevails in every town."

I make mention of the kind of whisky, because some who read this may have quaffed it in days gone by, and will yet remember its peculiar and thrilling qualities.

David had exalted to the dignity of a fine art the taking of his first dram, and I have seen few, if any, who would show so much form and circumspection in taking a drink. First, he wanted to be certain it was whisky, and of this his keen scent would soon assure him; then, in his left hand holding a glass, he would pour into it about two fluid ounces (his quantity had to be exact), and if he had doubts, he tipped his glass to one side to be certain that he was right; then he was not in haste to sip it, but still holding his glass to view, would spin out pleasure by hope, heighten it by imagination, and then—drink.

I have been thus careful and exact in telling how David used to take his first dram, because the first drink is of vast importance, and has been the turning point in the life of many a man; and right here I will tell young men of a better way than David's and, that is, omit the first drink entirely.

It has been said that he was wise in language and discreet in drinking, but he gave proof anew that "riches are not unto the wise," for there were times when his ready money would not reach beyond the first drink, and his raiment was so scant as to remind one of the "first Adam in the garden."

The attention of the whites had been fixed on Monoquet, even while in the possession of the Indians, and soon after they had quit it, passed into the hands of men who, with choice words and strong reasons, would impart to others a bright prospect of its future greatness. It was in those fancy-colored years, between 1836 and 1840, when hope prevailed over reason, and speculation over both, that Monoquet assumed some of its phases to which the mind may now revert with lively interest. Imagination pictured mills and warehouses, instead of wig-wams, and a great and busy mart, which would make absurd the puny efforts of rival points and neighboring places.

The hamlet did not grow to need a pompous title, but modestly, and perhaps wisely, adhered to its Indian name.

Many men of note have lived in Monoquet who, from its "classic shades," have, in due course of time, come forth to shed their luster on the varied walks of life in the outer world.

Monoquet was a thin, spare man, about fifty years of age; stood five feet seven inches high in his moccasins; his forehead was high and rather square; his eyes small and bright; his nose (something uncommon for an Indian) was aquiline; his voice tenor, clear and sharp. He touched his forehead with the index finger of his right hand, and thus addressed me: "Nin Mon-o-quet," then brought the hand down with a clap on his thigh, and said "cheep" (the Indians could pronounce no word ending with the sound of the letter "f"). It was a warm Sunday in the fall of 1835; his dress was a ruffled shirt of blue calico, reaching midway down his thigh, and his feet were clad in moccasins. Our conversation was brief, for neither knew more than seven or eight words of the language of the other. We soon said all we could, then shook hands and parted; each made a bow to the other, and said, "ba-sho-nick," which in English meant "good-bye." He probably died of lung disease and debauch, though his tribe supposed him poisoned by a young and handsome squaw, then on a visit from Michigan. She was barbarously killed by some of the young Indians on suspicion.

Half a mile south of his village, and about forty rods northwest of the present dwelling of H. P. Kelley, there was a deep shade and a secluded spot in the woods, and thither from his wigwam the Indians took their dead chief, and performed his funeral rites, after the manner of their tribe. In a crib or pen (about six feet long, four feet wide and four feet high, carried up square, built of round logs of the size of large rails, top covered with the same material, the long way of the pen north and south), they placed his remains. He was fixed in a sitting posture, with his blanket

over his shoulders, his face toward the south, and was held in position by two poles across the inner part of the crib, one of which was under the chin, keeping the head in an upright position, and one lower down preserved the position of his hands; and in this attitude I saw him when he had been there about a month. I was in the woods alone with the dead, and in deep thought I looked at the ghastly form, which grinned at me a mute and horrid lesson on the conclusion of human life.

When a few wet and dry days had passed over his hour, and the interest and novelty of his last home subsided, it was soon neglected, and in a short time almost forgotten.

"Thus wags the world."

The spring and summer zephyrs breathe gently, and the fall and winter winds blow fiercely, over the places which once knew Monoquet, and now no enduring monument marks the place of his repose.

THE VILLAGE OF OSWEGO.

In 1837, Messrs. Barbee, Willard & French purchased of Mr. Waugh a tract of land, upon which they laid out the village of Oswego, in the same year. It enjoyed, at one time, a degree of commercial prosperity, and gave promise of becoming a town of importance; but, in the year 1849, a score of its best citizens removed to California, withdrawing their capital and patronage from the village, and from that time dates its decline. It now contains a post office and store, kept by John Hour, and one blacksmith-shop.

The first Physician in the village was Dr. Rolan R. Willard, who practiced his profession for a number of years.

The first Store was kept by Barbee, Willard & French, who conducted an extensive trade with surrounding settlements.

A Blacksmith-Shop was erected in the village, by Elkanah Huffman, in 1843.

A Tannery was put in operation, in 1840, by A. M. Cowan, and was, for many years, one of the principal industries of the village.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Leesburg Lodge, No. 432, I. O. O. F., was instituted by D. D. G. M. Andrew Milice, assisted by eight members of Kosciusko Lodge, No. 62.

The charter members were J. E. Stephenson, B. Burkett, G. D. Vincent, J. J. Wood, William Gunter, Paul Boehm and J. M. Armington. A. Clark was admitted by card, and the following members were initiated on the night of organization: Ross Beatty, T. G. Berst, William Zimmerman, William Archibald, S. N. Garrett, E. D. French and A. B. French. The following were the first officers: J. E. Stephenson, N. G.; J. J. Wood, V. G.; G. D. Vincent, Recording Secretary; A. Clark, Permanent Secretary; William Gunter, Treasurer.

The present number of members is forty-three. The present officers are as follows: A. Garrett, N. G.; W. S. Tracy, V. G.; William Zimmerman, Recording Secretary; W. H. Berst, Permanent Secretary; I. M. Watt, Treasurer.

Leesburg Lodge, No. 181, A. F. & A. M., was organized March 6, 1855, and worked under dispensation until May 31, following. The first officers were: William B. Barnett, W. M.; William Parks, S. W.; Elijah S. Blackford, J. W.; William K. Fiddler, S. D.; William C. Mason, J. D.; Edward Moon, Secretary; Eli W. Summey, Treasurer; Nelson Watts, Tiler.

The Lodge was organized under charter, May 31, 1855, with the following officers: W. B. Burkett, W. M.; William K. Fiddler, S. W.; Elijah S. Blackford, J. W.; Robert Geddes, S. D.; Eli W. Summey, J. D.; Edward Moon, Secretary; Jonathan Moon, Treasurer; Nelson Watts, Tiler. The following were the charter members: Jackson G. Long, Antipas Thomas, Jeremiah Stephenson, William Parks and William C. Mason. November 1, 1857, the lodge-room, together with the furniture, charter and a part of the jewels, were destroyed by fire.

The Lodge now owns a good hall, 36x50 feet, and is in a prosperous condition. The present number of members is fifty-four. The present officers are as follows: William Archibald, W. M.; William D. Wood, S. W.; Samuel Chrowl, J. W.; Fred L. Forbes, S. D.; John Stookey, J. D.; A. M. Sanderson, Secretary; Amos Garrett, Treasurer; E. D. Carpenter, Tiler.

TIPPECANOE TOWNSHIP.

Tippecanoe Township was organized March 8, 1838, from territory which originally belonged to Plain Township. It is bounded on the north by Turkey Creek Township, east by Noble County, south by Washington and west by Plain Township, and has an area of 36 square miles, or 23,040 acres, a large percentage of which is not tillable, owing to the numerous lakes with which the township abounds. Of these, the most notable is Tippecanoe Lake, as it is the source of the river bearing that name. Boydston's and Barbee's Lakes are remarkable, chiefly, for their beautiful scenery.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In the spring of 1835, Benjamin Johnson, from Harrison County, Va., settled on Section 9, and, in the following fall, entered 160 acres of land, upon which he still resides. In the following summer, William Divinney came from Ohio, and settled near Mr. Johnson, and, in the fall of the same year, Ephraim Muirheid, from Virginia, joined them.

In 1836, Henry Warner, from Hamilton County, Ohio, settled on the southeast quarter of Section 9. In the same year, Thomas K. Warner, from Cincinnati, Ohio, settled on the present site of Webster, and Andrew Woodruff, of Huron County, Ohio, settled on Section 6. In 1838, Henry Westlake settled on the same section.

The first Cabin was built by Ephraim Muirheid, in the winter of 1834-35. It was situated near the outlet of the lake. In the following spring, he went to Virginia, and upon his return found that the cabin of his kinsman, Benjamin Johnson, had been built during his absence. Soon other cabins appeared in the vicinity, and the settlement of the township was fairly inaugurated.

The first Road was surveyed through the township in 1834 or 1835, and was designed to run from White Pigeon, Mich., through Goshen, to Huntington, Ind.

The first Marriage was celebrated in 1840, the contracting parties being the Rev. Samuel K. Young and Miss Amelia Ann Warner.

The first Mill was the saw-mill erected in 1836, near the outlet of Boydston's Lake, by Ephraim Muirheid. In 1837, he erected a grist-mill near the same place. The latter is still in good running order (having been remodeled), and is now operated by Benjamin Yohn. In 1837, William Barbee built a saw-mill near the outlet of Barbee's Lake.

The first School was taught by Thomas K. Warner, in the winter of 1838-39, in a cabin built by Warren Warner, and subsequently abandoned. The subscription method was the one then in vogue, and for many years thereafter was the popular system of instruction. Public schools

were, however, among the improvements of later years, and of this class there are now ten in the township, having a total enrollment of 537 scholars.

THE CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—In the summer of 1838, a class was organized at Webster, with fifteen members, by Rev. George W. Warner, local minister. In 1862, they erected a house of worship in Webster, 30x50 feet, at a cost of \$1,600. Rev. Robert Reed is the present Pastor.

The Sunday School was organized in 1848, with fifty scholars—T. K. Warner, Superintendent. It is now in a prosperous condition, having seventy scholars enrolled. Benjamin James is the present Superintendent.

"Oak Grove Chapel," United Brethren.—The United Brethren organized in 1867, under the preaching of Rev. John Todd, and in the spring of 1869, erected a house of worship, three miles east of Webster, to which they gave the name "Oak Grove Chapel." The building is 36x48 feet, and was erected at a cost of \$1,600. In June, 1869, it was dedicated by Bishop J. Weaver. The membership has increased to forty-one, and the Church is now under the pastoral care of Rev. Isaac Cleaver.

The Sunday School, which was organized in 1868, is now in a prosperous condition, having forty scholars enrolled. Cyrus Weimer is the present Superintendent.

The Evangelical Association.—In 1855, a class was organized at Webster, under the auspices of this denomination, by Rev. Christian Glause, with twelve constituent members. Mr. Glause was retained as Pastor, and Henry Kline was the first Class Leader. In 1864, the congregation erected a house of worship 34x44 feet, at a cost of \$1,500. Charles Baugher, Henry Kline and Jacob Stenler constituted the Building Committee. The present number of members is thirty-four. Rev. D. S. Oakes is the present Pastor. (This data furnished by John Kline.)

THE VILLAGE OF WEBSTER.

Webster was laid out May 2, 1837, by R. R. Shoemaker. John Ridinger was the original proprietor of the land upon which it is situated.

The first Merchant was Henderson Warner, a former resident of Cincinnati, Ohio, who opened a stock of general merchandise in 1849.

Its business men at present are as follows: Henry Kline & Son and Ketring & Co., general merchandise; D. H. Carpenter, undertaker and furniture manufacturer; Jacob Stenler, boots and shoes; J. J. Ogle and J. C. Salmon, physicians; Eli Marks, Philip Behtel and Joseph Ritter, blacksmiths; N. W. Kline, Justice of the Peace.

The first Post Office was established at Boydston's Mill in 1848. Thomas G. Boydston was the first Postmaster, and an empty flour barrel did duty as a general delivery. In 1861, it was moved to Webster, and Eli Behtel was appointed Postmaster; but, in 1862, it was again removed to the mill, a mile distant from the village, where it is still kept. Benjamin Yohn is the present Postmaster.

TURKEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Turkey Creek Township is situated in the northeast part of Kosciusko County, and is designated as Town 34 north, Range 7 east of the Second Principal Meridian. It has an area of thirty-six square miles, or 23,040 acres. Prior to 1838, it comprised all the territory west of its eastern boundary, *i. e.*, that which now constitutes the townships of Van Buren, Jefferson and Scott. The soil in the northeast portion of the township is level and marshy, while to the south it is characterized by hills, among which nestle a number of small lakes, some of which are more than 100 feet deep, although only a few acres in extent. Nine-Mile Lake is about five miles long, averaging one mile in width. Syracuse Lake, about a mile by three-quarters of a mile in extent, is situated directly east of the town of Syracuse.

A heavy growth of timber formerly covered the land of this township which, however, has been removed in the process of developing farms, excepting a small percentage in certain localities. The timbered regions of the present afford some good building material. The township was organized June 29, 1836.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In 1832, Henry Ward and Samuel Crawson came to the township and constructed a dam across Turkey Creek, near the outlet, with the view of erecting at that point a grist-mill, so soon as the treaty with the Indians should place the land of this township in market. In 1834, Estin McClintock settled on Section 26, and later in the same year came John C. Johnson, Patrick Johnson, William Cassidy, George Phebus, Andrew Guy, Valentine Slate, Henry Madden and Robert Warner. Valentine Fockler came in 1835, and built his cabin on Section 20. Prominent among other early settlers were John Angell, John Dillon, George Kirkpatrick, John Beck, David Mohler, Andrew Spangle, Joel Spangle and William Strieby.

The first House.—In 1833, Samuel Crawson built a small log house near the site of the mill then in course of erection by himself and Henry Ward. This was the first house in the township.

The first Store was a small frame structure, built by Samuel Crawson in 1836. It was located on the present site of the Lake House. William Kirkpatrick opened a small stock of goods at this house, and subsequently sold out to Samuel Crawson, who, in partnership with Henry Ward, conducted the store. About the same time, William Cassidy built a frame store and dwelling, and became one of the early merchants of the township.

EARLY DEATHS—CEMETERIES.

In 1836, a son of Harvey Veniman died, and was the first person buried in the Syracuse Cemetery. Soon after his burial, Samuel Crawson donated one acre of ground for a cemetery, west of Syracuse.

THE SCHOOLS.

The first school in the township was built on the hill at Syracuse in 1836. The settlers in the southwest part of the township secured the services of a teacher in 1837, and school was taught in a cabin on the farm of Timothy Mote, which had formerly been used as a stable. In later years, a new era in education was inaugurated with the introduction of free schools, which were established at various periods in each district. Under this system there are now nine schools in the township, having a total enrollment of 538 scholars.

The Syracuse Graded School.—In the fall of 1874, a handsome brick school-building was completed in the village of Syracuse, 36x76 feet, containing two stories and a basement. During the winter of that year, the first session of the school was conducted by E. M. Chaplin, Principal; Miss Amie Aber, Teacher of the Primary Department. It was first organized as a graded school by Mr. Chaplin, and the primary, intermediate and grammar departments established by him. The grammar and high schools are combined, and both are in charge of the Principal. In 1875, F. McAlpine was chosen Principal, J. P. Dolan, Teacher of the Intermediate Department, and Miss Amie Aber, Primary.

In the spring term of 1876, Mr. McAlpine retired, and J. P. Dolan acted as Principal of the school during the remainder of that term. In the fall of 1876, H. S. Bortner was chosen Principal, and still serves in that capacity.

The present teachers are: H. S. Bortner, Principal, and Teacher of the Grammar and High Departments; J. P. Dolan, Teacher of the Intermediate Department; Miss Lida Welch, Teacher of the Primary.

Its standard as a school is high, and it is only surpassed by the city schools of Warsaw. The course of study is nearly the same as that pursued at the schools of Warsaw, so far as relates to the primary, intermediate and grammar departments.

THE CHURCHES.

Church of God.—In 1858, a Church of God was organized east of Nine-Mile Lake, by Rev. George Thomas, with ten members. The Church meetings were held in the neighboring schoolhouses until 1860, when, by the united efforts of the various denominations, a union church was erected on the land of N. Crow, on Section 14. In this edifice, services are conducted by this denomination at intervals of three weeks.

The Sunday School was organized with forty scholars, by Samuel F. Isenhower, in 1860, but is not now in operation.

The Church of God at Syracuse was organized in March, 1863, by Rev. George Thomas, with forty members. John Gordy and R. V. Cory were elected Elders, and Amos King and Harvey Veniman, Deacons. Rev. George Thomas was retained as Pastor. In 1865, he was transferred to another charge, and E. Bryan and John Shock were chosen to serve as Pastors. At the same time, James Brady and William Bushong were chosen Deacons. In 1866, Rev. George Thomas again became Pastor of the Church, and during that year they erected a frame church at Syracuse, at a cost of \$3,300, which was dedicated, free from debt, by Revs. J. S. Smith and John Shock. In 1867, Elder George Smith was elected Pastor, and served in that capacity until 1871, when he was succeeded by John Shock. Rev. Edmund Miller, the present Pastor, was chosen in 1877.

The Sunday School was organized in 1872. John Gordy was the first Superintendent. It is in a prosperous condition, having seventy scholars enrolled. W. A. Mann is the present Superintendent.

Methodist Episcopal.—At an early day, the Methodist denomination organized a small class at Syracuse, and have held meetings regularly since, but have not erected a church. Their congregation numbers eleven members at present, and services are conducted at intervals of two weeks, by Rev. William Graham, of Milford Circuit.

The Baptist Church was organized at Syracuse, in the summer of 1843, with ten members. Rev. James Martin was the first Pastor, and Jeremiah Cory and John Gill were the first Deacons. The Church prospered for about ten years, when, owing to deaths and removals of its principal members, it was disorganized and finally disbanded. The church-building was sold to the German Reformed congregation, and one-half of the proceeds applied to benevolent institutions. (The foregoing data furnished by A. C. Cory, Esq.)

The German Baptist Church was organized in the south part of the township in 1851, with twelve constituent members. George P. Rothenbarger and Conrad Brumbaugh were the first Pastors. They were succeeded by John Mock, Jr., Peter Hamman and Samuel Fields. Daniel Rothenbarger and Ephraim Brumbaugh are the present Pastors. In 1860, the congregation built a frame house of worship, 45x60 feet, on Section 14.

The Sunday School was organized in 1862. Balsey Weybright was the first Superintendent. After that summer, the school was discontinued until 1876, when it was re-organized. George Mock is the present Superintendent. The number of scholars enrolled is seventy.

The United Brethren Church.—In 1856, this denomination organized in the south part of the township, under the preaching of Rev. Samuel Wells, with nine members. Rev. Isaac Cleaver is the present Pastor. The present number of members is sixty.

The Sunday School was organized in 1867, with Walter Hurd, Superintendent. The number of scholars now in attendance is seventy. Harrison Malcolm is the present Superintendent.

The Evangelical Association has a small house of worship on Section 11. Their congregation is as yet limited.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The First Road.—About the year 1834, a road was surveyed through the township from north to south, known as the Huntington Road. The survey was made by Dr. Shue, and A. C. Cory carried the chain.

The First Mill was built by Crawson & Davis, in 1833, on Turkey Creek. About four years later, the creek was swollen by heavy rains, causing a freshet, during which the dam at this mill was washed away, and two pairs of mill-stones fell to the bottom of the creek, from which they have never been removed. Subsequently another flouring-mill was built at the lower end of the race, on the site occupied at present by N. Crow's mill.

The First Saw-Mill was built on Turkey Creek, in 1836, by Ward & Crawson. There are now two saw-mills in operation in the township.

Hotels.—The first hotel in the township was kept by George Kirkpatrick, in 1836. In 1848, James Hall purchased the dwelling of Samuel Crawson, at Syracuse, which he converted to a hotel, giving it the name of the "Rough and Ready House." It was located on the corner of Harrison and Carroll streets.

About 1853, the "Lake House" was built on the corner of Main and Huntington streets, by Jacob Renfro, and kept as a hotel by Preston & Miles. It has been occupied for the same purpose ever since, and is now kept by Robert & Bowdler. A frame hotel has been recently completed by Dr. D. C. Kelley.

The First Blacksmith in the township was Joseph Cowell, who started the fires of his forge at Syracuse, in 1834.

The First Physicians.—Dr. Hartshorn located at Syracuse in 1835, and practiced there several years. Dr. John Shue located in the village about the same time.

The First Election was held at the office of Henry Ward, Syracuse, in April, 1838. Samuel Crawson was Inspector.

THE VILLAGE OF SYRACUSE.

Syracuse was laid out August 11, 1837, by Crawson & Ward, who were the proprietors of the land upon which the original plat is located. It was surveyed and platted by Christopher Lightfoot.

William Kirkpatrick was the first merchant. Its mercantile interests are now represented by the following firms: Dietrick & Son and G. W. Stetler, general merchandise; Henry Keefer, groceries and notions; Isaac Kindig, grocery and bakery; C. W. Knorr and Eli Holloway, drugs; Addison Green and Davis Yauce, hardware; John Wayer and Frank Lesh, boot and shoe manufacturers; Ira Widner and William Wallace, harness-makers; George W. Worden, tinner; Henry Mitchell, boot and shoe

manufacturer; Misses Hardesty & Roberts, milliners and dressmakers; Z. Widner & Son and Young & Basney, carriage and wagon-makers; J. A. Kindig, flouring-mill; Samuel Bashone, planing and saw mill. Physicians, Drs. D. C. Kelley, F. M. Thrig, C. Knorr, and A. R. Collar.

The Chicago Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was completed to Syracuse in 1874, and has added largely to the prosperity of the village. Dr. F. M. Thrig (delivered Roy Riddle Feb. 24, 1879) SECRET SOCIETIES.

Syracuse Lodge, No. 454, A., F. & A. M., was organized July 6, 1872, with thirteen charter members. The following officers were appointed: John Wayer, W. M.; S. L. Ketring, S. W.; Preston Miles, J. W. A charter was granted May 27, 1873, and on the 24th day of June, 1873, the Lodge was duly constituted and its officers installed at a grove meeting, W. Piper, of Warsaw, officiating. An oration was delivered by W. Chaplin, of Michigan.

The present number of members is twenty-four. The present officers are as follows: John Stetler, W. M.; Preston Miles, S. W.; F. M. Thrig, J. W.; David Fry, Treasurer; Joseph Rippey, Secretary.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP.

Van Buren Township is designated as Town 24 north, Range 6 east of the Second Principal Meridian. Its territorial area embraces 36 square miles, or 23,040 acres. A portion of this acreage is unutilizable, from the fact that it comprises a "wet prairie," or marsh.

Wauveus Lake, about one mile southeast of Milford, is a beautiful sheet of water, clear as crystal, one and one-half miles in length, and about one hundred rods wide; and, being well stocked with fish, is a profitable resort for sportsmen.

Lingle Lake, in the southeast part of the township, has an area of about two square miles. It is beautifully situated, and in all respects, a romantic spot. From its shores, the banks slope gently upward, terminating in picturesque highlands; and the dreamy beauty of its surroundings, and its clear reflection of adjacent objects, combine to make it the spot where the poet or artist would love to linger.

The natural beauties of the landscape have been impaired, to some extent, as civilization advanced, and industrious men came to claim from the wilderness a home and farm. In those localities not covered by lakes or marsh, the soil is of excellent quality, and very productive. Turkey Creek traverses the northern part of the township from east to west. Van Buren was organized, June 29, 1836.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In March, 1833, Oliver Wright, with his son, Moses, settled on Section 28, and on the 20th day of the same month, William Felkner settled on Section 21. Elijah Miller and Richard Gawthrop, from Sandusky, Ohio, settled on Section 32, and A. C. Cory settled on Section 1. In December of the same year (1833), Mrs. Sarah De Vault, with five children, settled on Section 32, where she pre-empted 160 acres, and Samuel Street settled on Section 29 in the same year. Early in the spring of 1834, Judge Aaron M. Perine settled on the present site of Milford. Later in the same year, came Samuel Stephenson and Alexander Thompson. And during the years 1834 and 1835, the following pioneers joined the settlement: James and Samuel Chipman, Joel Long, Henry Doolittle, John Egbert, Samuel Sackett, Elijah Jones, Bentley Jarrett, James Jarrett, Andrew Edgar, William Mackey and David Maxwell.

The early settlement was formed in the southern part of the township, on Little Turkey Creek Prairie. And having no timber to fell, the settlers proceeded at once to plant crops; and the soil of the locality being very rich, they were rewarded with a good harvest. All united in constructing a fence around the prairie, and had it inclosed by the time their crops were well up.

EARLY BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES.

Rachel Felkner, daughter of William and Mary Ann Felkner, was the first white child born in the township. She was born May 15, 1833.

The great social event of the day was the celebration of the marriage ceremony of Fred Summey and Miss Adeline Trimble, in October, 1834. This was the first marriage in the township, and a very sumptuous feast was prepared for the guests.

THE SCHOOLS.

In the fall of 1835, the first schoolhouse in the township was erected on Section 29. John G. Woods was the first teacher.

Since the introduction of the free-school system, a radical change for the better has been apparent, and the course of studies is of a more advanced order. There are eight districts in the township in which school is taught each year. The number of scholars enrolled is 539.

The Milford Graded School.—In the fall of 1878, a substantial brick school-building was erected in the village of Milford. The dimensions of the building are 38x72 feet, two stories high, with basement. It was organized as a graded school soon after its completion, and the following teachers placed in charge of the several departments: C. P. Hodge, Principal and Teacher of the High School; Miss Loisa Felkner, Teacher of the Intermediate Department; Miss Jennie McDonald, Teacher of the Primary. The school is thoroughly organized, ably conducted, and comprises in its course of studies, all that is essential to a good practical education. The curriculum of the High School includes geometry, trigonometry and Latin. The number of pupils in attendance is 225. (The foregoing was furnished by F. McAlpine, Esq., who has our thanks.)

THE CHURCHES.

The Christian Church was organized at Milford, December 15, 1866. Rev. Marshall was the first Pastor, and the following gentlemen were chosen officers of the Church: Elders—H. P. Stanley and Jacob Felkner; Deacons—Jonathan Weaver and C. D. Felkner.

In 1867, they erected their present house of worship at Milford, where services have been conducted regularly. The present number of members is 102, and the Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. L. M. McDermot.

Methodist Episcopal.—In 1866, the Methodist Episcopal denomination erected a frame church at Milford, 36x60 feet, in which services are regularly held. The Methodists were undoubtedly the pioneer denomination in the township, and organized at an early day in its history; but the facts regarding such organization are a matter of memory alone, and cannot be obtained with sufficient accuracy to warrant their insertion here.

The German Baptist Denomination have a house of worship in course of erection on Section 14.

Concord Church was erected in the eastern part of the township in 1847 and 1848, and devoted to the use of all denominations. It is now occupied by the Methodists.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The First Road.—The road from Logansport to Goshen, passing through Leeburg and Milford, was the first road surveyed through the township.

The First Mills.—In 1837, John Egbert erected a saw-mill on Turkey Creek, about one mile east of Milford, and, in 1839, built a grist-mill at Milford, on the same stream. The latter is still in operation, having been remodelled at various times, but the saw-mill has long since fallen to ruins.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Milford Lodge, No. 478, I. O. O. F., was organized March 4, 1875, by D. D. G. M., D. R. Pershing, of Warsaw, with the following charter members: Simon Miller, Levi Kehn, Milton B. Groves, Preston F. Miles, Davis Gibson and Frank McAlpine. The first officers were: Simon Miller, N. G.; Levi Kehn, V. G.; Frank McAlpine, Secretary; Davis Gibson, Treasurer.

The Lodge now has eighteen members, and is in good working order. The present officers are as follows: Dewitte C. Hostetter, N. G.; John Montgomery, V. G.; Milton B. Groves, Secretary; Simon Miller, Treasurer.

THE VILLAGE OF MILFORD.

Milford was laid out on Section 8, April 10, 1836. Judge Aaron M. Perine was its original proprietor.

The First Store in the village was kept by Chipman, Chipman & Doolittle, who carried on an extensive trade in the line of general merchandise.

The First Hotel was kept by Judge A. M. Perine. This was not formally opened until after the organization of the village; but, from his earliest residence in the township, the Judge's house was always open to the wayfarer for a moderate compensation.

The First Blacksmith.—Samuel Sackett was the pioneer of this trade. He erected his forge at Milford in 1836.

The First Physician.—Dr. Joseph Chamberlain located at Milford in 1839, and was the first who came to minister to the physical infirmities of its population.

In the years which have passed since its organization, Milford has maintained its position as a prosperous village. The completion of the Cincinnati, Wabash & Michigan Railroad, in 1870, added largely to its prosperity, and has proven a benefit to the village in many respects.

Its principal business men at present are as follows: George Hons, M. N. Felkner and Kelly & Shiller, dry goods; C. C. Reynolds, A. Becknell & Son and F. P. Groves, drugs; M. N. Felkner, Peter Smith and T. W. Quackenbush, groceries; Charles Sparklin, restaurant; Peter Smith, boots and shoes. Physicians—Thomas Cammick, M. Bolan, Irvin Becknell, Levi Keene, Dr. Paul and Dr. Gilpin. Attorneys—Higbee & Worth, William Dennis and Isaac Hall. Flouring-mills—Weaver & Scott. Saw-mill—John Robinson.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

Jefferson Township, in the northwestern portion of Kosciusko County originally included all of Town 34 north, Range 5 east of the Second Principal Meridian, but its territory was reduced by the organization of Scott Township, in 1848. Prior to its settlement, it was covered by a heavy growth of timber, part of which still remains undisturbed. In the central part, a marsh extends the entire length of the township, varying from a half-mile to a mile in width. With this exception, the soil is very fertile and the farms fine. The township was organized March 8, 1838.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first white settler in the township was Jacob Brumbaugh, who, with his family, came from Elkhart County, Ind., October 1, 1836. He erected the first log cabin in the township. During the ensuing winter, they cleared a tract of land, and, in the following spring, planted a crop.

Later, in the fall of 1836, Mr. Brumbaugh was joined by John Leatherman, Andrew Sheely, James Martin, James Simpson and George Platter, with their families. This settlement was formed on Sections 1 and 2, north of the large marsh, and near the line of Elkhart County. During the summer of 1837, the first settlement south of the marsh was formed by David and Samuel McCibben, Joseph Alexander and Isaac Bliven, with their families. The marsh formed an impassable barrier between the two neighborhoods, and for several months, neither were aware of the fact that there were other residents in the township beside themselves; but, in later years, roads were surveyed and communication established between the opposite extremities of the township.

FIRST ELECTION.

The first township election was held at the house of David McCibben, in April, 1838. David McCibben was Inspector. There were five votes cast, and it was subsequently learned that four of the number were illegal, as the voters had not resided in the township a sufficient length of time to be qualified. Thus the single vote of Isaac Bliven elected the ticket, consisting of a Justice of the Peace, Constable, two Road Supervisors, three Overseers of the Poor, and one Inspector of Elections.

EARLY BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

John Sheely, son of Andrew and Polly Sheely, was the first white child born in the township.

The first death was that of a child of Isaac Hall, but before the time appointed for its funeral, Nancy Crevisen died. Both were interred in the cemetery on the farm of Jacob Brumbaugh.

THE SCHOOLS.

The first school was taught in 1840, in a log cabin on Section 11. James Martin was the teacher. It was a "subscription school," and was not superior to the average school of that period for thoroughness; yet to it are some of the residents of this township indebted for all the education they have acquired.

The township is divided into seven school districts, and a free school established in each district. The present number of scholars enrolled is 451.

THE CHURCHES.

The German Baptist Church.—Early in the spring of 1837, religious services were inaugurated in the township, by Elders John Miller and David Cripe, of the German Baptist Church. The meeting was held at the house of Jacob Brumbaugh, and at the same time and place, a congregation was organized by that denomination, consisting of William Brumbaugh and wife, and John Leatherman and wife. Meetings were conducted at the houses of members of the church until 1854, when the schoolhouse was adopted as a place of meeting, their membership having increased largely. Elder John Leatherman was the Pastor in charge, from the organization of the church until his death, in 1867.

Rev. Edmund Miller - Member of the Board of Supervisors